**Faith**

***46****So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill.****47****When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.****48****So Jesus said to him, “Unless you[*[*c*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+4&version=ESV#fen-ESV-26194c)*] see signs and wonders you will not believe.”****49****The official said to him, “Sir, come down before my child dies.”****50****Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way.****51****As he was going down, his servants[*[*d*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+4&version=ESV#fen-ESV-26197d)*] met him and told him that his son was recovering.****52****So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour[*[*e*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+4&version=ESV#fen-ESV-26198e)*] the fever left him.”****53****The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live.” And he himself believed, and all his household.****54****This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee. (John 4:46-54, ESV)*

 Believing in Christ means trusting His word.

 Greetings dear brothers and sisters as we speak today about one of the pillars of our spiritual life – namely, faith. What is faith, and how does it show up in everyday life. If we investigate the dictionary, we find that it is defined in several ways. First, it is an agreement with a statement for which there is not complete evidence. It is also defined as a firm trust in another (person or thing) rather than a trust in one’s own knowledge, logic, or judgment. It is an earnest and trustful confidence. In theology, it is the perception of a spiritual being and the vision that one has based on that spiritual perception.

 When we look at one of Christ’s healings, it is obvious that we are talking about the man believing Christ when speaking about faith matters. Jesus already had a perfect relationship with the Father through the Holy Spirit, so He did not need a proof outside of Himself. He was a proof to Himself already. Therefore, today we are going to be explaining the official’s faith. Again, believing in Christ means trusting what He says (whether in written Scripture or in the middle of a God-moment). Let us see how this occurs…

 Having genuine faith means having an absolute trust in Jesus. When we look at the passage in question, we notice that the official heard about Jesus, especially that He had come to his city. His son was close to death, and it seems that the man had run out of options for his boy. It is true that his faith or trust in Jesus was limited since he thought it necessary for Jesus to be at his house in-person. Jesus, despite showing His preference that people not base their faith solely on His miracles, released the healing command, without going out of his way, thus stretching the official’s faith, if the latter would believe Christ’s command.

 At that moment, the official had a decision to make; he could believe what Jesus said and return home, or he could continue to badger Jesus and press Him to come to his house. The first would show a trust in Jesus’ words, while the second would show doubt, especially towards Jesus’ person and power. The man chose correctly and trusted in Jesus’ word without immediately seeing the miracle. Once he understood that his son’s healing had been caused by Jesus’ command, that temporary trust that he had for the moment was transformed into a lasting family creed.

 Often, we do not realize how much faith and trust we have in mundane, everyday realities. For example, we trust that we are going to be breathing every day. We trust that when we’re driving a car, that all the cars behind us will also stop at the red light just like we did. When we eat, we believe or trust that our body is going to digest the food. We don’t think twice about such things. We don’t think hard about whether our brain or heart is going to function today – because we have absolute trust in these things.

 Our faith-life is even more indispensable than even our physical health. When we trust God’s word, it is no longer a requirement for us to see the result of what we are seeking immediately, because we have surrendered the circumstances of the fulfillment of that desire to God and have trusted our life-path to Him. When we have the Lord’s promise of salvation within us, and we sin, we do not need to doubt Him as to His forgiveness when we come to confess our sin. Rather, we have absolute trust that His blood is enough for our forgiveness. It is the same principle when He says to “go and trust me” regarding your specific problem, your financial troubles, your sickness, your fears, your worries, your spiritual dryness, your enemies’ persecutions, or other difficulties.

 The Lord is calling us to trust Him, which is the core of what a Christian’s faith is. It is not necessary for us to immediately receive the Lord’s intervention in our desired manner and timing. If we want to turn our faith into a practical one, let each of us show trust in our Savior in all dimensions of life. Having genuine faith means having an absolute trust in Jesus.

 May the Lord strengthen that trust in us, and may we understand Who He is even more, so that we may trust in Him more. May the Lord Bless you all. Amen.