

Small Group Discussion Guide

Series: The Book of John Passage: John 4:43-54 – Jesus Heals the Royal Official’s Son

Opening Prayer:

Take a moment to pray, asking God to open hearts and minds to His Word. Invite the Holy Spirit to guide the discussion.

Icebreaker Question:

- Have you ever experienced a moment where you had to trust someone’s word before seeing the results? Share your experience.
-

Scripture Reading:

Read John 4:43-54 aloud as a group.

Context Overview:

- Jesus is returning to Galilee after spending time in Samaria.
 - The people in Galilee welcome Jesus, but their belief is based on the signs and wonders they had seen.
 - A royal official approaches Jesus, desperately seeking healing for his dying son.
 - Jesus challenges the people’s faith, but the official chooses to trust Jesus at His word.
 - The healing occurs at the exact moment Jesus declares, “Your son will live.”
 - The royal official and his household believe in Jesus as a result.
-

Discussion Questions:

Understanding the Passage:

1. Why do you think Jesus said, “A prophet has no honor in his own country” (v. 44)? How does this relate to the way people responded to Him?
2. What do you notice about the royal official’s approach to Jesus? How does his attitude reflect desperation and faith?
3. Jesus rebukes the crowd in verse 48 by saying, “Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will never believe.” What does this tell us about the nature of true faith?
4. How does the royal official respond to Jesus’s words in verse 50? What can we learn from his reaction?

5. What is significant about the timing of the healing (v. 53)? What does this reveal about Jesus's power and authority?

Applying the Passage: 6. Have there been times in your life when you struggled to believe without seeing immediate results? How did you respond? 7. How does this story challenge the way we view faith and trust in God's promises? 8. In what areas of your life is God calling you to trust Him more deeply, even when you don't have visible proof of His work? 9. The royal official's faith impacted his entire household. How can your faith influence those around you?

Faith in Action:

- Take time this week to reflect on a promise of God from Scripture and choose to trust Him, even if you don't see immediate evidence.
 - Share a testimony with someone about a time you trusted God and saw Him work in your life.
 - Spend intentional time in prayer, asking God to strengthen your faith and help you trust Him in all circumstances.
-

Closing Prayer:

Ask God to deepen your faith and to help you trust Him even when you don't see the outcome immediately. Pray for one another, lifting up any specific needs or situations where faith is required.

Memory Verse: *"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."* – Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)