

***“I am delighted to tell you about the signs and wonders that the most high God has done for me. “How great are his signs! How mighty are his wonders! His kingdom will last forever, and his authority continues from one generation to the next.””***  
**(Daniel 4:2-3, NET)**

## **JESUS HEALS AN OFFICIAL’S SON**

### **John 4:43-54 (ESV)**

<sup>43</sup> After the two days he departed for Galilee. <sup>44</sup> (For Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own hometown.) <sup>45</sup> So when he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the feast. For they too had gone to the feast. <sup>46</sup> 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. <sup>47</sup> 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. <sup>48</sup> So Jesus said to him, “Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe.” <sup>49</sup> The official said to him, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” <sup>50</sup> Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. <sup>51</sup> As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. <sup>52</sup> So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” <sup>53</sup> 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. <sup>54</sup> This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee.

### **DISCUSSION:**

1. What does “*a prophet has no honor in his hometown*” mean? If you have been in church a long time, is it possible to start to treat Jesus like a hometown boy?
2. In John 4:48 who is Jesus talking to: The official? A surrounding crowd? Both?
3. What is wrong with the kind of belief that is based only on seeing signs and wonders? How did Jesus require a deeper faith from the important official?
4. What did the sign Jesus performed reveal about Jesus’ mission and character? What response did it demand?
5. Did the official believe in Jesus “all at once” or gradually? What does this tell us about how we should expect people to come to faith in Christ?
6. The official “took Jesus at his word.” What promises of Jesus do we need to take at face value?
7. It was 20-25 miles between Cana and Capernaum, a long walk. What do you think the official was thinking on the way home?
8. Do you know of anyone who turned to Jesus in a crisis? Was that “crisis faith” the start of something deeper? What often happens to people who practice “fire alarm faith?”