



THE POWER OF JESUS' WORDS
JOHN 4:46-54

The Power Of Jesus' Word

- **Psalm 33:1 NIV**, “Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him.” - Why?
- **Psalms 33:4 NIV**, “For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.” – Faithful to what?
 - “His word and His work are inseparable, for His words are never empty.” (Derek Kidner)
 - “His word never returns to Him empty – it accomplishes that which He pleases.” (G. Campbell Morgan)
- How do we know this is true?

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- **Psalms 33:6-9 NIV**, “6 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. 7 He gathers the waters of the sea into jars (*heaps*); he puts the deep into storehouses. 8 Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the people of the world revere him. 9 For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.”
- The word of God is powerful, trustworthy, accomplishes its purpose

The Power Of Jesus' Word

- **John 1:1-3 NIV**, “1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.”
 - John proclaimed that the God of creation, the ultimate mind of the universe, had taken on human form in Jesus Christ
 - All the attributes of God are found in Jesus Christ without any missing or limited

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- **John 1:14 NIV**, “14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”
 - Is it any wonder that Isaiah prophesied He would be called “Wonderful”?

The Power Of Jesus' Word

- How do you begin to describe or tell about the Wonderful Savior so simple man would understand just a small part of Him and what He did and believe?
 - It really takes the entire Bible, Old Testament and New
 - It takes the first four books in the New Testament to try and describe our Wonderful Savior as He walked this earth
 - And the rest of the New Testament to give us a hint of what He has done in our lives and what He promises to do

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- The Apostle John gives us his purpose in writing his book in **John 20:30-31 NIV**, “30 Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”
 - Believe what?
 - Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God
 - Resulting in life

The Power Of Jesus' Word

- The first miracle John records is what God desires to do in the heart of every person who believes through the ministry of Jesus – to transform us into His image
 - To take our finite, sinful nature and transform us into that which pleases God, allowing us to be accepted by Him
 - Before we can accept this, we need to know if Jesus has the power to accomplish it

Scripture

- **John 4:46-54 NIV**, 46 Once more he visited Cana in Galilee, where he had turned the water into wine. And there was a certain royal official whose son lay sick at Capernaum. 47 When this man heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea, he went to him and begged him to come and heal his son, who was close to death.
 - 48 “Unless you people see signs and wonders,” Jesus told him, “you will never believe.” 49 The royal official said, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” 50 “Go,” Jesus replied, “your son will live.”

Scripture

- **John 4:46-54 NIV**, 50 The man took Jesus at his word and departed. 51 While he was still on the way, his servants met him with the news that his boy was living. 52 When he inquired as to the time when his son got better, they said to him, “Yesterday, at one in the afternoon, the fever left him.”

Scripture

- **John 4:46-54 NIV**, 53 Then the father realized that this was the exact time at which Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live.” So he and his whole household believed. 54 This was the second sign Jesus performed after coming from Judea to Galilee.

The Power of Jesus' Words

- Last week I gave you three questions to answer as we talk through these Scriptures
 - What kingdom values or truths does this text or miracle reveal?
 - With those truths in mind, how should my beliefs change?
 - How then should my actions change?

The Power of Jesus' Words

- Jesus is coming from His experience with the Samaritans
 - **John 4:42 NIV**, 42 They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world.”
 - What miracle did Jesus do in Samaria to cause them to believe?

The Power of Jesus' Words

- Now Jesus is coming back to His own people who do not believe His words without some sign or miracle or physical proof
- So, John records a miracle of the power found in the person of Jesus Christ and the truth of His word

The story begins with a man who had a need neither he nor anyone else could fulfill

- The Greek indicates this man was an important figure in the royal government – what does this tell us?
 - He had power, authority, status, connected
- He also had great need, a greatly loved son that was sick unto death
- He had tried everything mankind had to offer to heal his son, and nothing helped, so he became desperate

The story begins with a man who had a need neither he nor anyone else could fulfill

- He had heard of Jesus and that Jesus was back in the area
- He heard Jesus was a prophet of God proven by the miracles or wonders Jesus did, or so he had heard, but never actually seen
- Out of his great need, he walked the 18-25 miles one way from Capernaum to Cana with just a hope of getting Jesus' attention

The story begins with a man who had a need neither he nor anyone else could fulfill

- With a steady pace he could have made the journey in about 6 to 7 hours plus the time it took to find Jesus and get near Him
- He didn't come in his authority or status or power but in his need with great humility

The story begins with a man who had a need neither he nor anyone else could fulfill

- **Vs. 47,** He begged Jesus to “come and heal his son”
 - He had some hope in the stories he had heard about Jesus
 - “Please make the 6-7 hour trip back with me, place your hands on my son and heal him”

The story begins with a man who had a need neither he nor anyone else could fulfill

- Jesus' response in **verse 48**, "Unless you people see signs and wonders," Jesus told him, "you will never believe."
 - Who is Jesus saying this to?
 - Where had Jesus just come from?
 - How did they response?
- Believe what I say and not just what I do
- The man repeated his desire to Jesus

The story begins with a man who had a need neither he nor anyone else could fulfill

- Jesus tests the man's faith in His word by telling him in **verse 50**, "Go, your son will live."
 - "I'm not going back with you but by My word, power, authority your son will live."
 - What is the father to do?
 - I could keep begging; I could run home tonight in fear and danger, or I can simply believe what Jesus said

Verse 50, The man took Jesus at his word and departed

- All this man had was the statement of Jesus that his son would live
- What did he believe about Jesus?
 - Jesus was a prophet and saw in the future his son would get better and live
 - **Verse 52, “So he and his whole household believed”**
 - He believed something different about Jesus than before

Verse 50, The man took Jesus at his word and departed

- It sounds like he immediately left Cana, went hurriedly home, and was told before he got there the condition of his son
 - Let's just select an imaginary day of the week the man left Capernaum for Cana – Monday
 - So, Monday morning, early he got up and walked to Cana

Verse 50, The man took Jesus at his word and departed

- **Verse 52,** When he inquired as to the time when his son got better, they said to him, “Yesterday, at one in the afternoon, the fever left him.”
 - This would have been Tuesday, so he spent the night in Cana then traveled back
- If he had not of trusted Jesus, he probably would have chanced the walk back on Monday evening into the night but because Jesus said he would live, he was comfortable spending the night in Cana – Are you comfortable with the promises, words, power of Jesus?

Verse 50, The man took Jesus at his word and departed

- The father began with *“Jesus is a great prophet”* faith, He was giving him accurate and authoritative information like a doctor after surgery
- If Jesus had touched the boy or at least asked God to heal him, you could add *“Miracle Worker”* faith
- What kind of faith in Jesus do you have?
 - Prophet faith, Miracle worker faith, Great teacher faith
 - This isn't the faith the Apostle John is leading us to

God being gracious led this man to saving faith

- The man's servants were excited because the boy seemed to have been miraculously healed
 - There is a sense of the "*unexpected and sudden*" in the words here
 - They expected him to die but something happened yesterday and 1:00 in the afternoon
 - It was not a gradual fever going down but seems to have been so dramatic they noticed the exact time

God being gracious led this man to saving faith

- The father wondered how his son could be well in such a short period of time and he inquired when did it happen?
- At 1:00 the exact time Jesus told him his son would live
- He realized Jesus was not just predicting his son's recovery
- He understood it was Jesus' authority over the sickness that allowed the immediate healing at such a great distance
- He understood the words of Jesus were powerful

God being gracious led this man to saving faith

- **Hebrews 4:12-13 MSG**, 12-13 God means what he says. What he says goes. His powerful Word is sharp as a surgeon's scalpel, cutting through everything, whether doubt or defense, laying us open to listen and obey. Nothing and no one can resist God's Word. We can't get away from it—no matter what.

God being gracious led this man to saving faith

- We must adopt a higher view of the Word of God than we often do
- We must approach it as more than a repository of accurate and eternally true information
- God's Word performs His will
- His Words create faith (**Rom. 10:17**), causes spiritual rebirth (**1st Pet. 1:23**), they cleanse (**Eph. 5:25-26**), they defeat the Enemy of our souls (**Eph. 6:17**)

God being gracious led this man to saving faith

- The father realized Jesus was not just a prophet, great teacher, not even a miracle worker
 - He didn't have it all figured out, but he knew Jesus had authority over life and death and only God has that
- Did it have an impact on his family?
 - **Verse 53**, "So he and his whole household believed."
 - Believed what?
 - They simply believed Jesus - His word, His work, His power, His authority over life and death

The Power Of Jesus' Word

- So, what do you believe about Jesus?
- Have you moved from prophet faith, moral teacher faith, or miracle worker faith to saving faith?
- Have you moved from saving faith to following faith?
- Do you really know that Jesus is the Son of God, the promised Messiah?
- Have you accepted Him like the father in our story and his whole family?

The Power Of Jesus' Word

- Fathers are you leading your family to faith in Jesus Christ like this father did?
- Questions from earlier
 - What kingdom values does this text or miracle reveal?
 - With those truths in mind, how should my beliefs change?
 - How then should my actions change?



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