

The Government Official who Believed Without Seeing!

John 4:43-53



1. The government official living in Capernaum had a young son that he dearly loved. But one day, the young boy became very sick. His father became very concerned about him. He was afraid that he was going to lose his special little boy. The doctors could not do anything to help. It looked like the young boy was going to die.

2. The little boy's father had heard about Jesus who had healed many sick people in the land of Israel where he lived. He believed in his heart that Jesus could help his son. Then he heard that Jesus was coming into his area of Galilee. The boy's father began to think of taking his son to Jesus. But he realized that his son was too sick to travel anywhere.

3. So the concerned father decided that he needed to go and bring Jesus back to his home. He wanted Jesus to come and heal his son. Then someone told him the good news that Jesus was coming to the town of Cana, 15 kilometers away. So he traveled to Cana to look for Jesus.



4. When he found Jesus, he begged Him to come at once to his home in Capernaum and heal his son who was about to die. When Jesus heard the worried father's request, He asked him a question: "Do you think you can believe before seeing me do something amazing for your son?"

5. He did not answer Jesus' question, but instead he "pleaded, 'Lord, please come now before my little boy dies.' Then Jesus told him, 'Go back home. Your son will live!' And the man believed Jesus' words." NLB* Then with faith in his heart, he turned around and started his journey back to his home. He went alone, without taking Jesus with him!



6. "While he was on his way, some of his servants met him with the news that his son was alive and well. He asked them when the boy had begun to feel better and they replied, 'Yesterday afternoon at one o'clock his fever suddenly disappeared!'

Then the father realized it was the exact same time that Jesus had told him, 'Your son will live.' And the officer and his entire household believed in Jesus." NLB*

John 4:43-53

(Intermediate Level)

*Quotation of John 4:49-53 was taken from The Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright 1996.

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Comprehension Questions: The Government Official who Believed Without Seeing!
John 4:43-53

- A. Who are the main characters in this story?
- B. What was the problem in the government official's home?
Why did he not take his son with him?
- C. What did the father decide to do to get help for his son?
Why did he not take his son with him?
- D. What was Jesus doing that led people to believe in Him?
- E. What was the boy's father going to ask Jesus to do for him?
What did he do when he saw Jesus?
What other verb in our story has the same meaning?
- F. When Jesus heard the father's request, what did Jesus ask him?
What did Jesus want to see in the heart of the sick boy's father?
- G. What did the father do next?
Why did he do that?
- H. Who gave the father a report about his son?
From listening to what they said, what was the boy's illness?
- I. What news did they tell the father about his little boy?
When did this happen?
- J. What change happened in the little boy's family after Jesus healed him?



Something to Think About and English Conversation Practice:

1. Why did the father beg and plead with Jesus to come to his house?
2. How do you think the little boy was healed?
3. How would you feel if you were a member of the little boy's family?
4. What does it mean to "believe without seeing"?
5. What does this story teach us about Jesus? (What was He like?)
6. What does this story teach us about faith in God - believing in Him when you can't see Him?

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