



Who is Jesus? The Gospel of John – Week 11

Preacher – Sandy Mason | Text – John 4:43-54

Summary:

Jesus's returns to where his ministry really began – Cana in Galilee. As he arrives, he is met by an official with a great need: his son was dying. In desperation, the man begs Jesus for help, and Jesus heals the boy. This passage points to the nature of evidence and belief, and reveals how evidence alone ('signs and wonders') cannot be the sole basis for satisfying, lasting faith. In other words, although he can and does perform miracles, Jesus makes it clear that faith that rests on miracles alone can never be adequate.

Discussion:

1. What was the most important take-away for you from this week's message?
2. Why does Jesus say that a prophet has no honor in his hometown? What did he mean? How does this fit in light of the fact that he is returning to Galilee?
3. What led the official to come make a request of Jesus (v. 47)? **Application:** What has led you to seek the Lord's help in the past? Do you go to him often or do you wait until the situation is dire?

4. What does Jesus mean when he says “Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe...”? Wasn’t the man already asking him to help? What do you think Jesus is getting at?

5. How is the man’s response to Jesus in v. 49 related to Jesus’ statement in v. 48? It seems like they’re talking past each other – do you think they are? If not, why not?

6. **Application:** When you are going through the struggles of life, especially the worst ones, do you call out to Jesus in desperation? What has this looked like in your life? How has the Lord responded to your cry?

7. How is the ‘belief’ in v. 50 different from the ‘belief’ in v. 53? How does one develop into the other?

8. Why do you think it’s significant that Jesus performed this second “sign” at Cana in Galilee? Where did he perform his first “sign” (cf. 2:1-11)? How are these special signs related? What do they tell us about Jesus?

9. **Application:** What was the man’s response to the sign Jesus performed? How does your response to Jesus’ person and work compare to this?

10. How would you ‘title’ this section? In other words, how would you restate the main purpose John had (as the author) in writing this passage?