

Gospel of John 4: 39 – 54

New American Standard Version

1 From that city many of the Samaritans believed in Him
2 because of the word of the woman who testified, “He told
3 me all the things that I *have* done.” So when the Samaritans
4 came to Jesus, they were asking Him to stay with them; and
5 He stayed there two days. Many more believed because of
6 His word; and they were saying to the woman, “It is no
7 longer because of what you said that we believe, for we
8 have heard for ourselves and know that this One is indeed
9 the Savior of the world.” After the two days He went forth
10 from there into Galilee. For Jesus Himself testified that a
11 prophet has no honor in his own country. So when He came
12 to Galilee, the Galileans received Him, having seen all the
13 things that He did in Jerusalem at the feast; for they
14 themselves also went to the feast. Therefore He came again
15 to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And
16 there was a royal official whose son was sick at Capernaum.
17 When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into
18 Galilee, he went to Him and was imploring *Him* to come
19 down and heal his son; for he was at the point of death. So
20 Jesus said to him, “Unless you *people* see signs and
21 wonders, you *simply* will not believe.” The royal official *said
22 to Him, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” Jesus *said
23 to him, “Go; your son lives.” The man believed the word that
24 Jesus spoke to him and started off. As he was now going
25 down, *his* slaves met him, saying that his son was living. So
26 he inquired of them the hour when he began to get better.
27 Then they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the
28 fever left him.” So the father knew that *it was* at that hour in
29 which Jesus said to him, “Your son lives”; and he himself
30 believed and his whole household. This is again a second
31 sign that Jesus performed when He had come out of Judea
32 into Galilee.

Observation – *What does it say?*

Interpretation – *What does it mean?*

Application – *What does it mean for me?*

Circle the actions or words of others to Jesus.

Underline the actions or words of Jesus to others.

How would you characterize the circled items?

How would you characterize the underlined items?

What parts of this passage (if any) seem unusual or difficult? Why did John include these?

If you were reading the story of the royal official for the first time what would surprise you?

If you have ever “implored” (line 18) Jesus to do something, how did your experience compare to the royal official’s?

Questions for further thinking:

- *What is the logic of lines 10-12? If Jesus knew a prophet had no honor, why did He go into Galilee?*
- *What is the difference between the use of the word “believe” in line 23 and line 30?*
- *Why did John make a point of mentioning the number of signs (line 30-32; cf. John 2:11)?*
- *John seems to frequently include time and geographical references. Are these important?*