

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of February 21-27, 2021

“GROWING FAITH: FROM CANA TO CAPERNAUM”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

Share something crazy that you did for someone or a situation out of desperation.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read John 4:46-54.

1. What do we know about the official who came to see Jesus in Cana? What did the man know about Jesus based on what he said? In this situation, we see a man who is willing to do whatever it takes to save his son. When you find yourself in crisis situations, what things are you willing to do?
2. What was the official's request of Jesus? Do you think it was reasonable? Would you have done that? Why or why not?
3. In verse 48, Jesus seems to rebuke the official and others (by using the plural “you”) for relying on signs to believe. How did the official respond? Would you have responded this way? Why or why not?
4. Read Psalm 46:1. What kind of help does God provide us during trouble? Describe a time you were aware of him being present. How did you experience his presence/ How did it affect your strength or confidence or joy?
5. Based on your experience, how would you answer this question: “How do we walk by faith when we are thus far blind to the solution?”
6. The official then asked Jesus a second time to come down and heal his son. What does this reveal about the official's understanding of the conditions of healing? In his opinion, when and where does it need to happen? Is he right? Do you ever think

like that when praying? Do you demand that Jesus does things your way? How can you apply the actions of the official to your prayer life?

7. How do you respond when God answers prayer? While this story has what we would call a “good ending,” how can you believe even when God's answers are not what you would choose?

8. [NEXT STEPS]

We are called to trust and follow Jesus for who he is, not just for what he can do for us.

- I will be persistent in my prayers, yet humble.
- I will trust that Jesus has the right answer and the right timing for my prayer.
- I will praise God for his sovereignty in my circumstances.
- I will pray for my unsaved loved ones.
- I will commit myself to following Jesus no matter what life may bring.

Don't forget to:

- Go through the devotionals everyday this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.
- Commit 30 minutes a day for God's intervention in this fight against the COVID virus.

CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Ask God to help you this week to trust your daily circumstances to him.
- Take the time to pray for our nation, for peace and for the gospel to prosper during this time of the pandemic.
- Pray for those who are hurting, going through fear, worry and anxiety in the group.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends and loved ones.