***John 4:47-50 When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and implored Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. 48Then Jesus said to him, “Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.”***

***49The nobleman said to Him, “Sir, come down before my child dies!” 50Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your son lives.” So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way.***

We’re with Jesus in Cana of Galilee this morning. Remember that Cana is where He turned water into wine at a wedding. Sychar, where we were last week, and Cana are about 48 miles apart. The people of Cana know Jesus and have heard of His miracles. And a certain nobleman from Capernaum, a member of King Herod’s court, being a man of status and worldly position, heard Jesus was there.

We meet this man here in verse 47. *When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and implored Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.* This member of Herod’s court travels the 16 miles from Capernaum to Cana. He implores or besought Jesus, he asks Jesus to come down and heal his son. But notice what it says next… for he was at the point of death. The man believed in Jesus enough to come and find Him. There’s a suggestion in the Greek that the man felt his position gave him favor, a right to ask Jesus. He’d heard the miracles and decided that he knew just how Jesus should heal his son. Jesus should come down to Capernaum. His son is at the point of death; yet, the word besought is a very weak word.

Many times, we seek Jesus and ask for miracles, but we try to tell Him how it must look. We seek healing in our lives, in the lives of our children, in situations that we cannot begin to fully grasp… telling Jesus how He should fix the situation. We limit our Unlimited Jesus by what we believe possible and how we believe it must happen.

Verse 48 *Then Jesus said to him, “Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.”* Jesus calls him on it. We just left Jesus last week with Samaritans believing His word, though we are told of no miracles, no healings, no signs, no wonders. He wasn’t just a source of physical healing, a Genie in the bottle to do wondrous things. They needed nothing but His word. They had Faith without seeing. In Mark 9:23, we encounter a father with a son who convulses, throwing himself into the fire or water. Jesus calls the generation a faithless generation, then says to the boy’s father - *If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.* Listen to the father’s response: *Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!* In our verse today, Jesus asks much the same – why will you not believe? Jesus is not condemning this man. He is simply pointing out that Faith is so much more than can be seen and belief is foundationally crucial.

We need to learn that again in our world, our churches today. God’s miracles aren’t always what we expect, when we expect, how we expect. They don’t always come wrapped in pretty paper, with satin bows. Sometimes, God’s miracles arrive in pain, hardship, and challenge. Trials and tribulations may be the vehicle bring God’s miracles to our souls. Miracles don’t always arrive in the sunlight, but sometimes come in our deepest, darkest night. Will we believe?

Verse 49 *The nobleman said to Him, “Sir, come down before my child dies!* Do you hear the new desperation? This man does not argue at all! He simply presses onward in desperation. Often, our Faith rises on a ladder of desperation. Comfort causes us to sit down. Ease causes us to lie down. Trials cause us to rise up. This man doesn’t understand how Jesus will do it, but we can rest assured he BELIEVES Jesus can do it. Jesus question, “will you believe?” is answered not in words, but the desperate cry of a parents heart. Jesus hears.

Verse 50 *Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your son lives.” So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way.* Go your way; your son lives. Jesus’ healing reached over the 16 miles and the son, lying at the point of death, is revived. As the Samaritans last week, the man believed the word. God is the great I Am. Our Faith doesn’t ***make*** Him who He is. It ***reveals*** who we Trust Him to be.

Like last week, what is the rest of the story: V 51-53 *And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told him, saying, “Your son lives!” Then he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” So the father knew that it was at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, “Your son lives.” And he himself believed, and his whole household.* His son was healed, from 16 miles away, with a word from a Savior that came from an eternity away. 1 pm in the afternoon yesterday, the fever left and your son lives. The true test of our trust is not found in comfort, the true Power of our God is not found in ease. His Power is found in our submission to His Sovereign Plan, whatever that might be, trusting that He alone knows best. Will we believe?

This week, let’s examine where we’ve limited the Unlimited in our lives, confining His miracles and blessings to the box we understand. May we grow in our Faith knowing *that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.* May we rest in this knowledge and place our Trust of Him.