

## John: As I Have Loved You

### Week 10: At His Word

#### Passage: John 4:43-54



#### Read John 4:43-54

Our passage now takes us to Jesus' home area of Galilee. **Verse 44** states that **"Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honor in his own country."** *What is at the heart of this statement? How might this statement relate with people that grew up around the church? What pitfalls are there with familiarity? Have you experienced this and how did/do you wrestle with it?*

The royal official in the passage seeks Jesus' out not for directly personal reasons, but on behalf of his son that is sick and close to death. Throughout the gospel accounts we see that people seek Jesus out for a variety of reasons. Often there is a deep need or desire at the root of what they are looking for. *When you look back over your time as a believer, what was it that brought you to Jesus? As you have grown and matured, has that central need or desire changed? Why do you continue to seek him today?*

In our passage the royal official has the benefit of seeing Jesus face to face and hearing his voice. Although many of us have heard stories of Jesus speaking to people in dreams or visions, that is not the typical way that God talks with us. *What are the primary ways that God speaks to us? How have you personally experienced this in your life? What is an important way we can test what we "hear" to know that it is from God and not from ourselves?*

The turning point in our passage for the royal official is **vs 50**. There is a shift that happens in his heart and he takes Jesus at his word. *Take some time to think up different statements that Jesus makes in the gospel accounts and say them out loud to each other. Which statements are particularly comforting? Which are the ones that can be difficult for people to accept? Would you say that you take Jesus at his word? How would the world around you see that?*

*Close your time in prayer. Praise God for being such a loving, gracious, and merciful God. Thank Him for meeting us where we are, but not leaving us there. Ask Him to give you the strength to continue to "work out your faith in fear and trembling as He works in you to will and to act according to His purposes." (Phil 2:12b-13)*