

Series: Life to the Full; Sermon: **Your Son Will Live**

Delivered by: **Dr. Josh Moody**, senior pastor; Date: **November 19, 2017**

Bible text explored: John 4:46–54

⁴⁶So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. ⁴⁷When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. ⁴⁸So Jesus said to him, “Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe.” ⁴⁹The official said to him, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” ⁵⁰Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. ⁵¹As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. ⁵²So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” ⁵³The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live.” And he himself believed, and all his household. ⁵⁴This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee. [ESV]

Review and application:

1. The first two of seven miraculous signs on which John focused in his Gospel (v. 46a and 54) occurred in the inland village of Cana. How is Wheaton, like Cana, a specially graced community?
How can we avoid a community pride that leads to blindness?
How can we make the most of the ways we’ve been graced?
2. What imminent danger (vv. 46b-47) did the official from the lakeside village of Capernaum face?
What potential dangers loom on your horizon?
Faced with desperate situations, to what or whom do you turn?
3. Pastor Moody called Jesus’ reply to the official’s plea (v. 48) strange. What may he have intended to convey to other Galileans overhearing their exchange? (See *John 4:43-45*.)
For the official, how may Jesus’ response have been like a father backing off to induce a child’s first, faltering steps?
4. What faith (vv. 49-50) did the official’s request show he already had?
What added step of faith did Jesus’ response require?
What action by the official confirmed his remarkable faith?
5. What (vv. 51-53) validated Jesus’ power to confer immediate life?
What response did this distance healing evoke?
6. This sign illustrated the compassionate power of God’s Word as uttered by the Son. But, Pastor Josh admitted, not every sick child is healed. Can we be confident that the temporal, physical life granted to some, points to eternal, spiritual life available to all?
7. How can we leverage the extraordinary power of God’s Word . . .
. . . in relating to our families?
. . . In relating to other relatives, colleagues, and acquaintances?
8. Pastor Josh said, “Faith is not a magic key that unlocks [the response of] a reluctant God; it is a channel of power.” When have you felt compelled to engage in urgent, protracted prayer pleading?
When have you sensed freedom to suspend asking for an outcome God is determining?