

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
Pastor: Pastor Dwight Benoit
Superintendent: Ordained Minister Samuel O. Simon
Lesson # 6 July 05, 2022, to July 10, 2022

Unit II: The Word: The Agent of Creation

Subject: Never Too Far Away

Text: John 4: 46 - 54

Key Verse:

“So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house (John 4: 53, KJV).”

Lesson Pointers:

- 1) Desperate Hope (John 4: 46 – 50)**
- 2) Confirmed Faith (John 4: 51 – 54)**

Introduction:

Why is it so important for one to believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of GOD? Well, I am glad you asked. Believing that Jesus Christ is GOD’S Son is the prerequisite for receiving salvation and eternal life. In John’s gospel believing is the main theme and it occurs in the verb form, *posteuo* (believe), one hundred times. You see, believing in Jesus Christ for salvation is critical because failure to believe leads to eternal condemnation. The chief sin is for one to refuse to believe GOD. Hebrew 11: 6 says, “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to GOD must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.” The very flat refusal to believe or accept GOD’S validity and authority with no evidence will lead one to hell. Believing in Jesus Christ is simply a matter of faith, believing without seeing with physical eyes, and believing in HIS name and HIS power.

Lesson Pointer # 1

- Desperate Hope (John 4: 46 – 50)**

Now Jesus Christ had finished HIS ministry in Samaria, Jesus Christ and HIS disciples arrived in Galilee. Here Jesus Christ said that “a prophet has no honor in his own country” to a people of HIS own kind who would reject HIM (John 4: 43, 44). The people of HIS (Jesus Christ) own country would not believe to be, led to faith in HIM, but they had witness Jesus Christ’s miracle work, and only look on Jesus Christ as a miracle worker. They did not have faith in Jesus Christ but was curious to see what more HE (Jesus Christ) would do (John 4: 45). So, Jesus Christ came to Cana of Galilee and turned water into wine. The Galileans responds was not in belief, but only desired to see more miracles (John 4: 46). Also, there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick in Capernaum. The nobleman’s son was near death because of his illness; hearing that Jesus Christ was in Cana the nobleman traveled some twenty miles from Capernaum to beg Jesus Christ to come with him to his house and heal his son (John 4: 47).

The nobleman's plea, though lacked true faith and was, only motivated by the reputation of Jesus Christ as a worker of miracles. The nobleman belief was, misguided because he thought that Jesus Christ's power was, limited by distance, and that Jesus Christ had no control over death (John 4: 48). Undeterred by Jesus Christ's response, the nobleman persisted and made his request again (John 4: 49). Now, despite the strong rebuke of unbelief around Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ responded to the nobleman's plea and performed the miracle of healing (John 4: 50). By granting this nobleman's request, Jesus Christ showed the necessity of unquestioning faith that does not have to see miracles to believe in HIM (Jesus Christ) and HIS power. Jesus Christ said to the nobleman that your son lives, caused a dilemma for nobleman because he was thinking that if Jesus Christ would have gone to Capernaum, that he would achieve the desired result in Cana. Jesus Christ was saying that you can believe in faith without having to see a sign. You see, believing without seeing honors HIS name, acknowledges HIS omnipotence, and merits HIS praise (John 20: 29).

Never too Far Away!

Lesson Pointer # 2

- **Confirmed Faith (John 4: 51 – 54)**

Now the nobleman's son was, healed at the, moment Jesus Christ spoke the word. The nobleman believed and delayed his return, back to Capernaum unto the next day. On his way, he met his servants, who were coming to tell him that his son had fully recovered (John 4: 51). The nobleman asked his servants at what time was his son begun to improve, and his servants said unto him that his son completely recovered yesterday at the seventh hour (John 4: 52). This seventh hour was the exact time that he encountered Jesus Christ and made his plea for his son. This fact confirmed the nobleman's faith in Jesus Christ and led to his and his whole household's salvation (John 4: 53). What the nobleman and we learn from this is that Jesus Christ's power is not, limited to or by distance; the power of the word of Jesus Christ is unhindered and unrestricted. All we are to do is to believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of GOD the promised Messiah (John 4: 54). Our task as faithful followers of Jesus Christ are to demonstrate our trust in the LORD Jesus Christ by living confidently and righteously before those who have not accepted the salvation that Jesus Christ offers. You see, we are never too far away to experience Jesus Christ's compassionate love and power to save and to sustain us, no matter how big or bad our sins are.

Never too Far Away!

Lesson Nuggets

- 1) Without faith it is impossible to please GOD (Hebrew 11: 6)
- 2) Believe in and on Jesus Christ and not the miracles (John 4: 46, 47)
- 3) Only believe and have faith (John 4: 50, 53; Acts 11: 14; 16: 14 – 15)