

Gamma – Gospel of John

Book	Gospel of John
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Here we are moving into a few chapters in John where Jesus shows his glory by interacting with individuals. It is when Jesus interacts with individuals that you understand what he is about. Today Jesus is interacting with the Samaritan woman and the gentile. There is a big difference from the woman at the well from last week's Nicodemus. Nicodemus is a man who has got everything; riches, status, spirituality, political power and today we go to the opposite end, to the woman who has got nothing, absolutely nothing compared to Nicodemus and yet both of them need something, both of them need Jesus Christ.

John 4:1-4 (ESV) Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John **2** (although Jesus himself did not baptize, but only his disciples), **3** he left Judea and departed again for Galilee. **4** And he had to pass through Samaria.

CULTURAL BACKGROUND: Samaria is an area which is basically the former Northern Kingdom, the kingdom of Israel was divided into two and the Northern Kingdom was invaded by the Assyrians in 722 to 721 BC and it deported all the Israelites of substance and they put the Assyrians there, they intermingled and they became mixed, so therefore they were looked down upon, they were not really Jews as it were and here he encounters this outcast, the Samaritan woman. Samaritans are regarded as really-really low class.

The daughters of Samaria are menstruants from their cradle, which means they are always menstruating, they are always unclean. It is estimated there are only about 1000 of them left of this particular ethnic group. Hugely Jews would never go through, they would actually take a long road across. They will never go through, because they are very low class people. This is where the scene is now set, mount Ekbal and Mount Gerizim in the town of Sychar.

John 4:5-6 (ESV) So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. **6** Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

John 4:7-9 (ESV) A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." **8** (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) **9** The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)

Here John tells us of the ethnic differences, gender, a man doesn't speak to a woman alone in that culture. Not only that, they have got ethnic national divide because the Samaritans were looked down as outcast. The woman is alone, you never speak to alone and here you actually have a rabbi, a hierarchical figure, Jesus a miracle worker, a rabbi, how can he speak to just a mere woman who is basically an outcast. So this is a huge barrier and you can see at the well Jesus waits till everybody leaves and he goes and he speaks to the outcast of society, where nobody else will speak. Nicodemus comes at night to look for Jesus, Jesus purposely wait for this woman to come and this shows you the heart of God. The heart of God seeks for people who need him.

John 4:10 (ESV) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."

Jesus used the metaphor of living water. Old Testament background of water is basically life from God.

Jeremiah 2:13 (ESV) for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.

This is a prophecy against Israel, the people who have rejected God's life and actually seek their own idols and God describes them as having cisterns, the big caverns underneath the ground that actually leak and cannot hold water. So Jesus promises her running water, fresh water.

There is a vision of the final kingdom.

Zechariah 14:8-9 (ESV) On that day living waters shall flow out from Jerusalem, half of them to the eastern sea and half of them to the western sea. It shall continue in summer as in winter.**9** And the Lord will be king over all the earth. On that day the Lord will be one and his name one.

When this living water comes out, is a situation when God will come back again and he brings life to the whole land of Israel. This is the background when Jesus tells them, I am going to give you living water.

John 4:11-12 (ESV) The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? **12** Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock

So she misunderstands and then Jesus said to her,

John 4:13-14 (ESV) Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, **14** but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

Nicodemus's greatest need was to be born again, because he has got all this trappings of riches, all the things that the world could give him, he already has and that's the biggest barrier to God. For the woman, is a woman who is in need.

John 4:15 (ESV) The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

John 4:16-18 (ESV) Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." **17** The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; **18** for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.

Immediately, he syncs inside. Now when you think about woman with five husbands, some people look at woman with five husbands and some people look at man with five wives or three wives, we live in a very chauvinistic society, people think he is very lucky and he is very unlucky, but actually they are both the same. Now in those days, do you think a woman can divorce a man? No way. So this woman cannot divorce or the husband died. What are the odds of five husband dying, unlikely? So they must have divorced her five times. When people divorce you five times and the last fellow doesn't want to marry you, he just takes it for free, your self-esteem just goes very-very down. It is absolutely right and so this woman is like everybody else, is looking for commitment with somebody in life. Five times around she is looking for some commitment in life, she is looking for some satisfaction in life that she will be with somebody, she is looking for some chemistry, she falls in love five times. She is searching for something in her life, looking for contentment and it is the same thing with Hugh Hefner. He died at 91. He has got so many girlfriends, three wives, the latest wife is like 30 something years old, which is a huge difference. He had so many wives because he can't get on with the woman, not only single woman can fit him. He was always in a relationship because he was looking for some contentment, he was looking for commitment, he is looking for relationship, he is looking for love, he is looking for something.

In life we create expectations but we cannot fulfill them. Even if you think you married a perfect husband or the perfect wife, the trouble is, even the best marriages, if you don't

feed on Christ, you will feed on each other, you will lay upon each other such a great expectation that you will actually kill each other of. There is a hunger in our hearts that nobody can fill except Jesus Christ and this woman is a typical example of that.

Sir Ralph Ranulph Fiennes is a man who is extraordinary. He is the first man to circumnavigate the globe walking, walks across Antarctica in 93 days, did seven marathons in seven countries in seven days after having a heart attack three months prior to that. He ran across marathon through the Saharan Desert 156 kilometers at 70 something years of age and they asked him, what do you want to do in life. He said, I wish for a younger body, so I can explore outer space. Why, he has something missing in his life, it is always looking for something else to conquer. CS Lewis in his 1940's Radio Show said these words, *"Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exist. A baby feels hunger there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim there is such a thing as water. Men feels sexual desire there is such a thing as sex. And if I find myself within myself a desire which no experience in the world can satisfy the only probable explanation is that I was made for something in another world."*

So if you are looking for something that you can't find, that means there is something else outside this world, that's what the woman was looking for, Hugh Hefner is looking for, there is a lack of satisfaction and you blame other people. But Jesus offers eternal life, it is not necessarily just a life that last forever, never, but it is the quality of life that quenches the needs of the human soul. He offers you something that will give you purpose, love and peace of your conscience. We walk around ashamed, we walk around bearing the guilt because of our sin and what Jesus Christ offers us is that kind of love which no human being whether a husband or a wife or fiancée or boyfriend or girlfriend can ever offer. It is a burden too big to place upon the human being. He offers you that, he offers you love which is unconditional love and the peace of your conscience.

Now the key to spiritual thirst is where do I go to get right with God. The woman realizes that she has been missing something in her life and the first thing she ask Jesus Christ,

[John 4:19-20 \(ESV\) The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. **20** Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.](#)

A lot of people misinterpret, Jesus thought this woman would talk about her life, then she gets a little bit anxious and she is trying to deflect the topic and talk about worship, but she didn't deflect it because she realizes that her spiritual thirst, multiple husbands kicking her out, low self-esteem, she realizes the answer must lie somewhere in God, that's why she asked, the problem I have is this worship, where should I worship, should I worship with my people at Mount Gerizim or should I go to Jerusalem and worship. So therefore they are supposed to worship here, the Samaritans had their own style of worship, they worship at Mount Gerizim. They have their own bible containing Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy,

Leviticus and Numbers. It is a truncated Bible, it doesn't have Jude, Kings, Chronicles, Psalm, the whole lot, you know why, all these mention Judah and anything that mentions Judah they don't want. Anything that mentions David, they don't want. So what they have done is truncated the Bible and they are looking for this prophet to come again, the Messiah, which is mentioned in Deuteronomy 18. So she is asking, where should we worship, our people worship here, you guys worship in Jerusalem, how do I find God?

John 4:21 (ESV) Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

So there is a new worship coming, where actually it doesn't matter where you worship.

John 4:22 (ESV) You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

But there is a caveat here, it is not enough to say that you are very sincere and you want to worship God anyway you like. Jesus tells us as far as worship is concerned there is truth, you either worship according to the truth or you worship according to a lie and so therefore even though the worship will not be in Mount Jerusalem or in Jerusalem for historical fact, salvation is from the Jews, true worship was in Jerusalem. So therefore that puts paid to our idea in life, as long as I am sincere I just worship God anyway I like it is okay, that's not okay.

John 4:23 (ESV) But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.

This is a crux of our lesson today. The Father is seeking people to worship Him. Any human being that stands up and ask you to worship them, most of us will have a very low opinion, because you think you are worshipping them for their sake. Actually, when God says, The Father is seeking such people to worship Him, he wants to worship Him because they were designed to do so.

You become like what you worship. Imagine the people who love Elvis Presley, they sing like him, they dress like him, they act like him, they move like him. The recent contestant at America's Got Talent was Celine Tam. Her sister name was Dion. So they call her Celine Dion and her idol is Celine Dion. She sings like Celine Dion; she moves like Celine Dion because that what she wants to be. Human beings are designed to reflect.

Genesis 1:27 (ESV) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

We are created in the image, so therefore if we are made in the image we are supposed to reflect that image. We are supposed to reflect God, now instead if you don't reflect God,

Romans 1:21-23 (ESV) For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. **22** Claiming to be wise, they became fools, **23** and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

So if you don't worship God, you end up worshipping a celebrity. David Foster Wallace is the greatest American novelist in the modern century, who actually lived a very tumultuous life with drugs, sex, in fact he was a stalker, he stalks woman. He wrote beautiful things and he wrote things which were quite wise. He tried everything; he tried drugs, he tried woman, he tried all sorts of things and I want to read to you some of the things he wrote in News Week. He is a non-Christian,

Because here's something else that's weird but true: in the day-to day trenches of adult life, there is actually no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship. "All humans have been created to be reflecting beings, and they will reflect whatever they are ultimately committed to, whether the true God or some other object in the created order.

Then he writes,

If you worship money and things, if they are where you tap real meaning in life, then you will never have enough, never feel you have enough. It's the truth. Worship your body and beauty and sexual allure and you will always feel ugly. And when time and age start showing, you will die a million deaths before they finally grieve you

Because when you look down and you worship the thing at this kind of level, it will never satisfy you that's what David Foster Wallace writes. So it is we either worship at our level or we worship higher. When we worship downwards then we will be inward looking, looking for things that will create self-worth for us, you go through the life whole day and then something goes wrong and whole day is bad, bad mood the whole day.

You look at somebody and he has got lot of good features and one thing he said bad about you and then you hate the guy. We are trapped, we are crippled in our motions, if we are only looking downwards and basically lose our humanity. Now for someone who worships and praises God, praise unlocks praise of all other things. So if you are guy who is basically praising God, looking up to God then you basically are those who are most in love with God, they will find the world beautiful place. They are the ones who are always praising, looking at all the beautiful things God has done. So praise will actually change the way you look at others and yourself.

Paul and Silas were singing in the jail, worshipping God, they turned an ugly situation to a miraculous situation where there was an earthquake, all the chains fell off. So father is

seeking such people to worship Him for themselves. God wants us to worship Him because of us, because he loves us so much and he realizes when he makes us in the image of God and we start worshipping God that is our true potential and that's where we will find ultimate satisfaction, ultimate release from the world and ultimate joy. So we are always upwards, imagine we are created just a bit lower than angels and we are made to worship God.

HOW DO WE WORSHIP?

The word worship is *proskuneo* which is basically to "to do reverence or homage by prostration, giving respect to superiors, king and deities". The worship paradigm is always revelation and response. We always worship based on revelation and response.

[Revelation 1:16-17 \(ESV\) In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.](#)

[Rev 1: 17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead](#)

So there is a revelation of God and then you receive the revelation it impacts you and you fall down. It comes from the English word *weorthscipe* (Anglosaxon), which means attributing worth to something. In fact, the old English mayor they call, his *weorthscipe*.

Worship is the active response to God whereby we declare His worth.

Teri Horton was a truck driver, she went and bargained a purchase a picture for 5 dollars. She bought it to give it to a friend and put on the wall and they will play darts and through the darts. Later on when she actually consulted some art expert, it turned it to be a Jackson Pollock painting, which is a very famous painter and they offered 9 million dollars US. Then her attitude towards it suddenly changed. She keeps it in the best place, she will laminate it, the way she treats it is completely different. That's what worship is. Giving it its true worth. Now the timing,

[John 4:23 \(ESV\) But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.](#)

Now how do you worship Him? You worship the father in worship in spirit and in truth. Why, because

[24. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.](#)

So therefore he is not human, he is not material. So therefore when you worship Him, you must worship him with the medium that he understands. So therefore it is nonphysical, non-external, so it is not going to be Mount Gerizim, it is not going to be Jerusalem.

NATURE OF GOD

John 3:3 (ESV) Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

John 3:8 (ESV) The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Before you can even worship, the worship must be empowered by the Holy Spirit, you must be born again.

John 4:23 (ESV) But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.

Whenever Jesus mentions the hour he is talking about the cross. So there is a new worship which is to do with Jesus because he is here and is coming. Jesus also said in chapter 2

John 2:19 (ESV) Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

Which means Jesus is the new temple, Jesus is the new locus in which all worship must concentrate. So last time you worship Mount Gerizim, now you worship me. Jesus said,

John 14:6 (ESV) Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

So here worship empowered by the Holy Spirit and focused on the truth about God in Jesus Christ. So worship in spirit and truth, it is basically God-centered, made possible by the Holy Spirit, so you can only worship God if you speak the right language, which is the Holy Spirit and personal knowledge and conformity to Jesus-God's truth.

Carson writes, *"God-centered worship, made possible by the gift of the Holy Spirit, and in personal knowledge of and conformity to Jesus"*

If I would to draw you an illustration of what worship is, worship is like a wooden log, it is truth about God as shown to you by Jesus Christ. You take this word and then in order for this to worship there must be fire and the fire is God's spirit. So God's spirit takes God's truth that means when you take the Bible and you read it the Holy Spirit ignites feelings, ignites tears, confessions, joy and prayer, it ignites and that is called worship. It is a paradigm that we must understand. So therefore when you worship is not just out of all your sincerity, it is actually God's word that you use.

2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV) And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

Which means when we look at the glory of God, we are being transformed into him from one degree of glory to another, which means as Celine Tam looks at Celine Dion and the more she looks the more she sings the more she is like Celine Dion. The more we look at Jesus Christ, the more we become like Him. So when you actually want to grow in Christ, is it taking your Bible and learning all the rules and following all the rules? No, it is looking at Jesus Christ, understanding who He is and what He has done and the more you understand, the more you grow in love and more the fire comes up. If there is a Holy Spirit inside you, there will be fire. That's worship.

Imagine if you were to look up in the sky today, there are lights all over the place and you are thinking they are about like couple of trillion stars. Then you look at some dark areas like no star and one day they put up a telescope, it is called the Hubble telescope, it cost about 430 million and they put it up some years ago. It is described as greatest scientific instrument ever and what it does is that it focusses on the dark areas. When you focus on the dark areas, it actually sees that there are no dark areas. Once you put the telescope outside and is beyond the atmosphere, you can see everything and there are lights coming and they estimate there are about 10 trillion galaxies. That means there are more stars than grain or sand in the entire globe. They see this beauty and the more beauty you see, the more excited you get.

Now Jesus is our Hubble telescope, we can see the beauty of God by looking at Jesus Christ. The one that created these stars brings himself down and gets nailed to the cross, tells you the intensity of God's love for us and the greatness that he is and the more you look at Jesus and the more you see what he has done for us, the greater the fire in our souls. We are like a girl sleeping with her teddy bear. If we ask her to give us her teddy bear and we will give her a beautiful bungalow, she will say absolutely not, you touch I cry. We are like that, because we don't see the value of a beautiful bungalow. Only we come more adult and more greedy than we know, but at this age they are not developed and many of us are like that. We are hanging out to our little teddy, our careers, our money, the little bits that we have, the bit of fame that we have in life and we are hanging in that and we are hoping that this will feed our ego and this is what we worship. It is when we realize who Jesus is then our worship will really grow.

PROBLEM WITH MODERN WORSHIP.

I love you, Lord
And I lift my voice
To worship You
Oh, my soul, rejoice!

Take joy my King
In what You hear
Let it be a sweet, sweet sound
In Your ear

If you sing this song, it is good song, but the problem with this song is that it reflects the dimensions of your love, of your experience. So basically you are here, this is your love, your joy, but the trouble is you are limited, you see a little bit here and there. When you actually worship, you don't focus on songs like this, because God is much bigger. The real God is much bigger than the horizons of our experience. We actually are going to focus on God himself. So basically this is how we worship, no we should be worshipping on looking on the whole of who Jesus is, I cannot be the subject of worship. If you are subject of worship,

- My taste in music
- My opinion on sermon not boring or complicated
- Service not too long
- How I feel after the service.. feel good not guilty or bad
- My satisfaction
- My blessing

Some of us come to worship based on that because that is all your experience, you are not seeing the real big God. So when you worship, you have to come and worship based on spirit and truth, the truth about God in Jesus Christ. Paul writes,

[For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen \(Romans 11:36 ESV\)](#)

Which means if a boy wants to worship a girl, two things he can do. He will go and bring for her:

1. Body building club membership
2. Tickets to Terminator movie
3. Sports car
4. Comics

Do you think it is useful for her? So here is the situation where the boy is the subject and the girl is object. It means he is thinking of what the girl would like but it is limited by his experience. In his experience, comics is good, in his experience terminator movie is good, in his experience body building is good because he thinks it is good as it is good for him.

Now if you really love the girl and the girl is the subject and the object:

- You would read her own poetry she wrote
- You would buy her dresses in her fashion that she likes
- You would buy the shoes that she designed

- You would eat the food that she likes
- Her favourite diamond from her father's shop

Because she is the subject and she is the object then only can. That's the best kind of worship. When you are worshipping God, it cannot be limited to your experience, it must be limited to Him as a subject and object itself. It is also like having a birthday party. How do we worship God?

When we worship God it is like being invited to a birthday party and here we just respond, God initiates the party, God invites us, God is the host and it is God's birthday party. Worship is like that, initiated by God, enabled by God, invited by God and it is God's birthday. So therefore this is what it is called, worship in spirit and in truth. It is all about God, it is not about you. So therefore when you go to worship, we have to celebrate things His way.

God is a subject, which means when we worship him, it is based on His characteristics, His plans, His words, we worship His grace, His story and if God is object we adore, we praise, we sing, we pray, we proclaim, we confess, we offer thanksgiving and commitment and it doesn't matter how you feel. If how you feel is important means who is the subject, you. If God is the subject and God is the object, does it matter how do you feel? No, even you feel like half dead, you drag yourself there and you worship God.

If you bring to God your pain, your struggles, your sins and the things that you struggle with, you bring to God and you just plunk it there and worship and just let all hangout, God's spirit will deal you. That's what worship is. Imagine having a best friend and you are struggling with some personal problem, and you don't tell your best friend, you tell everybody else, that's what God feels. You need to bring to Him your pain and your sorrow and when you bring your pain and sorrow, God is honored. Your best friend would be honored if you brought your pain and sorrow to the best friend because you think that your best friend will resolve your pain because of trust.

So therefore God is the subject and we are object.

WORSHIP IS THE FUEL FOR MISSIONS:

John 4:28-33 (ESV) So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, **29** "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" **30** They went out of the town and were coming to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." **32** But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." **33** So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him something to eat?"

So here we actually have a woman running to town and telling everybody that Jesus told her about my previous life. That means there must be something that has liberated her spirit, that hiding behind the veneer of respectability of whatever self-respect she has left is unimportant, because there is somebody who loves me and only his love is important, only his love counts, nobody else's loves count. So therefore she doesn't mind being naked in front of you, you know why, because it is he who loves me and she tells the truth about the Christ. Can this be the Christ; her life is transformed. Now this tells us God's word, God's spirit, tears, confession, joy and pray and must come out to obedient lives and mission. We can't come to church, bring to God all our tears and God transform us, go home and same stuff every week, day in and day out and you never share your joy with your friends, you never share the gospel with your friends at all.

John 4:34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work.

John 4:35-38 (ESV) Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. **36** Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. **37** For here the saying holds true, One sows and another reaps.' **38** I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Here, he is looking at the harvest, so you will never live a satisfying life until you are involved in the food of life. This is to share the gospel. The gospel and Christian life are so interlinked that it is just like ice-cream. Ice-cream without the ice is like pudding or syrup water. True Christian life has to have worship and worship must translate into the joy of sharing this with your family and your friends and here when Jesus says, my food is to do the will of Him. Means every morning you wake you think about the food; you think about sharing how beautiful Jesus is that's what Christian life is about.

HIS INTERACTION WITH THE GENTILES

John 4:43-54 (ESV) **43** After the two days he departed for Galilee. **44** (For Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own hometown.) **45** So when he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the feast. For they too had gone to the feast. So 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. **47** When 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.

Galilean welcomed him as a miracle worker but they didn't honor him as a prophet or God himself. Then he interacts with this official.

48 So Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." **49** The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." **50** Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. **51** As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. **52** So 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." **53** The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household. **54** This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee.

He told them that a lot of people will only see and then they will believe. This man never saw, Jesus gave the word, his son was instantaneously healed. He took a day to travel to the son and find it out. This is the kind of faith that astonishing, the Jews always want a sign, here you have a gentile who doesn't even need a sign, all he need is the Word of God and at that moment Jesus spoke that word, the son was healed instantaneously at that particular time and it tells you the response to Jesus glory is obedience. You don't have to see and yet you believe.