

## Day 7: Intercession for Faith Formation

*At Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. Jesus therefore said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went his way. As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was living. So he asked them the hour when he began to mend, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." 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. John 4:43-54*

### Meditation

Do you approach the Lord Jesus with expectant faith for healing, pardon, and transformation in Christ-like holiness? Jesus' miracles are signs that manifest the presence of God and the coming of his kingdom of power and glory. When a high ranking official, who was very likely from King Herod's court, heard the reports of Jesus' preaching and miracles, he decided to seek Jesus out for an extraordinary favour. If this story happened today the media headlines would probably say: "**High ranking official leaves capital in search of miracle cure from a small-town carpenter.**"

It took raw bold courage for a high-ranking court official to travel twenty miles in search of Jesus, the Galilean carpenter. He had to swallow his pride and put up with some ridicule from his friends. And when he found the healer carpenter, Jesus seemed to put him off with the blunt statement that people would not believe unless they saw some kind of miracle or sign from heaven. Jesus likely said this to test the man to see if his faith was in earnest. If he turned away in irritation or with discouragement, he would prove to be insincere. Jesus, perceiving his faith, sent him home with the assurance that his prayer had been heard.

It was probably not easy for this man to return to his family with only an assuring word from Jesus that his son would be healed. Couldn't Jesus have come to this man's house and laid his hands on the dying child? However, without a moment's hesitation the court official believed in Jesus and took him at his word. He began his journey back home with renewed faith and hope.

Jesus' miraculous healings show his generous kindness and extravagant love - a love that bends down in response to our misery and wretched condition. Is there any area in your life where you need healing, pardon, change, and restoration? If you seek the Lord with trust and expectant faith, he will not disappoint you. He will meet you more than half way and give you what you need. The Lord Jesus never refused anyone who put their trust in him. Surrender your doubts and fears, your pride and guilt at his feet, and trust in his saving word and healing love. To grow in faith, the first steps are to surrender our life to Jesus and trust God.

### Prayer

Lord Jesus, come to me. Come with your Holy spirit and restore my faith. I surrender all obstacles to faith that have been part of my life. I repent of all my sin and say "yes" to you my Lord. Set my heart on fire with a faith that is ready for adventure