

THE FORGOTTEN JESUS PODCAST

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Season 06, Episode 01

The Faith Required for Healing

Matthew 4:12-13; John 4:43-54

Discussion

1. How does the royal official's status as a high-ranking servant in Herod's court add depth to his journey of faith?
2. Why do you think Jesus responded, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe" (John 4:48)?
3. What can we learn from the royal official's persistence in seeking Jesus despite his position and circumstances?
4. Compare and contrast the faith of the royal official with the Galileans who welcomed Jesus because of His signs (John 4:45).
5. How does the "rule of first use" provide deeper meaning to words like "faith" and "worship" in Scripture?
6. In what ways does the royal official's faith grow throughout the passage (John 4:46-54)?
7. How does this healing point to Jesus' authority and divinity?
8. How does the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy in Matthew 4:12-13 establish the authority of Jesus' ministry?
9. What do we learn about the connection between faith and action in the royal official's response to Jesus' words?
10. Why is it significant that the royal official's entire household came to believe in Jesus?

Application Questions

1. In what areas of your life is Jesus calling you to have a steadfast faith?
2. How can you demonstrate allegiance to Jesus in both your words and actions this week?
3. What obstacles might prevent you from seeking Jesus as fervently as the royal official did?
4. How can you encourage someone else to trust Jesus with their needs and challenges?
5. Are there any “signs” you are waiting for before fully trusting Jesus? How can you step out in faith today?
6. How does reflecting on the “rule of first use” deepen your understanding of biblical faith?
7. What steps can you take to align your lifestyle with worship as obedience to God?
8. In what ways can you involve your family or household in growing together in faith?
9. How can you rest in the authority of Jesus when facing difficulties or uncertainties?
10. What practices can help you respond to God’s promises with immediate faith and action, as the royal official did?

Prayer Prompt

Spend time in prayer as a group, focusing on these themes:

- Thank God for His authority and power to heal and restore.
- Ask for a faith that is steadfast and unwavering, regardless of circumstances.
- Pray for opportunities to demonstrate your allegiance to Jesus in your daily life.
- Lift up any personal or group prayer requests, asking God for healing and guidance.

Additional Resources

1. **Scripture References for Deeper Study**
 - Isaiah 9:1-2: Prophecy about Galilee and the Messiah’s ministry.
 - Genesis 22:2, 22:5; Exodus 17:12: First uses of “love,” “worship,” and “faith.”
2. **Books**
 - *The Harmony of the Gospels* (CSB) – a study resource for comparing Gospel accounts
 - *The Forgotten Jesus* by Robby Gallaty – insights into understanding Jesus in His Jewish context
3. **Podcasts and Sermons**
 - Explore past episodes of *The Forgotten Jesus Podcast* for additional context.
4. **Small-Group Activities**
 - Conduct a trivia session on the rule of first use and its biblical applications.

- Share testimonies of how God has grown your faith in challenging seasons.

