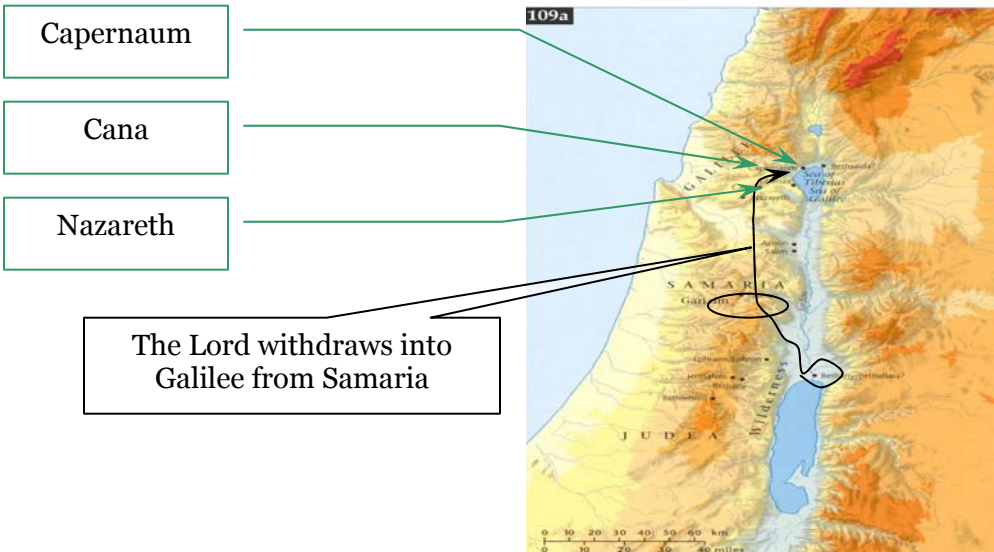


It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (**1 John 1:9**).

Matthew 4:12-17

12 Now when Jesus heard that John had been taken into custody, He withdrew into Galilee;



13 and leaving Nazareth, He came and **settled** in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali.

“Settled” – κατοικέω - KATOIKEO

- This indicates that He moved His family from Nazareth and moved into a new home in Capernaum after He returned from Samaria.

In vv. 14-16 we see that it was the Father’s will for Him to move . . .

14 *This was to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet (Isaiah 9:1-2)*

15 “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

16 “The people who were sitting in darkness saw a great Light, and those who were sitting in the land and shadow of death, upon them a Light dawned.”

POD: As the humanity of Christ was malleable to go where the Father wanted Him to go, so we as believers must be malleable to follow His lead as our Exemplar.

What happened when He was settled in Capernaum?

17 From that time Jesus began to preach and say,

- Two present active infinitives - -
 - κηρύσσω - KERUSSO
 - “to proclaim with authority & conviction as a herald”
 - λέγω - LEGO
 - “to tell people in conversation”

Proclaiming is what you do in front of a crowd.
Telling would be in a more personal setting.

This is the same message that John communicated before he was incarcerated.

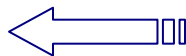
“Repent, for (γάρ – “because” – the reason why) the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

“Repent” – μετανοέω - METANOEO

- Present active imperative meaning “to change your mind”

Divine position
 Faith alone!
 (trust in the work of Another)

Pharisaical position
 Keeping the **Law** in order to enter the Kingdom
 Resting on the heritage of being descendents of **Abraham**



REPENT – Change your mind

“Is at hand” – ἐγγίζω - ENGIZO

- Perfect active indicative meaning “On the brink of being instituted/established”
 - Perfect tense emphasizes the present state produced by a past action.
 - Present state is the kingdom being on the brink of being instituted.
 - Past action is the arrival of the promised Messiah who is promised to rule from David’s throne (**2 Sam. 7:12-13**).

2 Samuel 7:12-13 - Davidic Covenant

¹² “When your days (David’s days) are complete and you lie down with your fathers (reference to physical death), I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom (the Kingdom of Heaven).

¹³ “He shall build a house for My name, and **I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.**

The King is present, this descendant of David, and that is why the kingdom is on the brink of being established.

What’s the prerequisite for entering His kingdom?

- Spiritual regeneration- being born again (**John 3:5**).
- Regeneration requires faith alone in Him alone as He is revealed (**John 3:16-18**).

Once He & His family moved into a home in Capernaum, He began the Galilean ministry.

He began doing what God wanted Him to do in Galilee!

He started off on His own.

The five disciples went home to their families & professions after they traveled through Samaria.

He is on His own for the beginning of the Galilean ministry and He travels back to Nazareth (His hometown).

Luke 4:14

14 And Jesus (emphasizing the humanity of Christ) returned to Galilee (through Samaria, stopping in Sychar) in the power of the Spirit,

ἐν τη δυνάμει του πνεύματος - EN plus DUNAMIS

- Preposition ἐν plus the dative δύναμις
 - “Power or strength”
 - Corrected translation - “**by means of the strength/power**”
- Possessive genitive πνεύμα - PNEUMA
 - Reference to God the Holy Spirit
 - The *possessive genitive* owns the noun to which it stands related - - DUNAMIS.
 - Therefore, God the Holy Spirit is providing the power on which the humanity of Christ is depending upon to do the will of the Father.

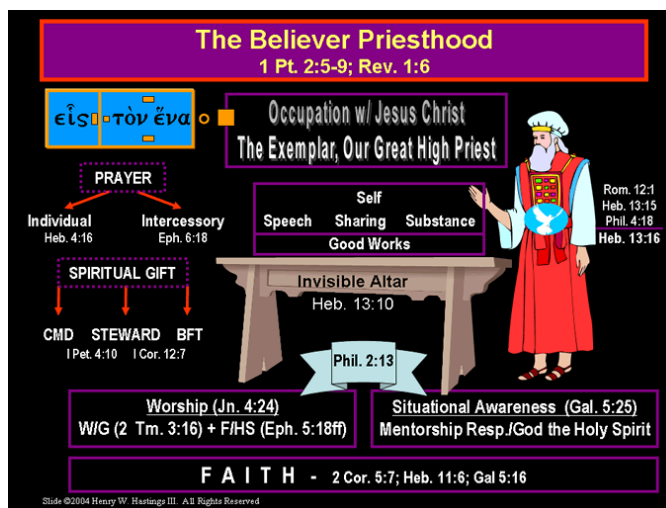
1. **POD** - No ministry should be attempted in one’s own ability or strength.

Ministry – Executing the responsibilities of the Church Age Believer Priesthood.

Doing what God wants you to do is NOT a weight on your shoulders.

“My yoke is easy and My burden is light.” **Matthew 11:30**

This is your ministry!



Trusting in yourself means you do not need prayer! How foolish!

Functioning in the study of the Word – executing your spiritual gift – all requires Divine enablement.

2. **POD** - The believer must depend upon God the Holy Spirit to provide the strength required to fulfill God’s will for his life.

Jesus Christ set the example by depending on God the Holy Spirit.

3. **POD** - Learning to depend upon God the Holy Spirit for the required strength and ability to fulfill the will of God in its entirety is a **learned process**.

The process is learned throughout your lifetime in the experiential classroom of life.

Once you have identified the Spirit’s ways with you, from within, you are well on your way toward perfecting the Mentorship of God the Holy Spirit in your life.

So, the Lord is now heading for His hometown of Nazareth from Capernaum and must go through Cana to get there.

- He was actually stopped in Cana. Someone had been running after Him for about 25 miles and they caught up to Him.

John 4:46-

46 Therefore He came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a **royal official** . . .

“Royal official” - βασιλικός – BASILIKOS

- A “royal official” in Herod’s government
- He had money, a royal heritage, and power.
- He lives in Capernaum.

. . . whose son was sick at Capernaum.

47 When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and was imploring *Him* to come down and heal his son; for he was at the point of death.

- The official is pleading with Him to go to Capernaum.
 - This is a desperation in pleading that only a father can have for a son who is facing death.
- PROBLEM - It’s God the Father’s will for His Son to visit Nazareth.
 - Being unconditionally surrendered to the Father’s plan, He is unable to return to Capernaum.

Does the Lord need to return to Capernaum in order to heal this young man? NO! He does not.

Principle for the pastor-teacher - There may be some very important people that desperately need you to minister to them or their family members sometime in your ministry. If it interferes with the work that the Father has for you, you’re going to have to pass.

48 So Jesus said to him,

“Unless you *people* see

- 2nd Person plural ε δὲν
 - Corrected translation - **“Unless *y’all see* signs and wonders, you will not believe.”**

Why did people believe during the Passover week in Jerusalem when He cleansed the temple?

- **“Observing the signs He was doing.” John 2:23**
- In **Matthew 16:4** it states, **“An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign . . .”**
- The Lord always departs from those who seek after a sign.

Obviously there are people with this royal official -

- Corrected translation - **“Unless *y’all see* signs and wonders, you will not believe.”**

The official is pleading with the Lord in this situation. Recall v. 47 -

When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and was **imploring** *Him* to come down and heal his son;

“Imploring” – The imperfect active indicative - **ἔρωτάω - EROTAO**

- Very strong motion picture - “*to request or implore*”
- He has exhausted every possible course of action one could take as a father in the ancient world to help his son back to health.
- He’s begging Christ with the desperation of a father who loves his son and has nowhere else to turn.
- He has caught up with the Lord in Cana.

And in vs. 49 . . .

49 The royal official said to Him,

“Sir (**κύριος – KURIOS or LORD**), come down before my child dies.”

50 Jesus said to him, “Go; your son **is living.**”

- Here is the exercise of His divine attributes of Omniscience, Omnipotence & Omnipresence without anybody knowing it or seeing it.
- All of this was done in accordance with the Father’s will!

The official did two things:

- The man **believed** the word that Jesus spoke to him . . .

“Believed” – The aorist active indicative - **πιστεύω - PISTEUO**

- “*To believe, to trust or to depend*”

. . . and started off.

Πορεύου – POREUO – “Go”

- Imperative command “**Go**; your son is living.”

ἔπορεύετο - EPORETO

- Imperfect middle indicative “And **he was going**”

He does what the Lord commanded him to do!

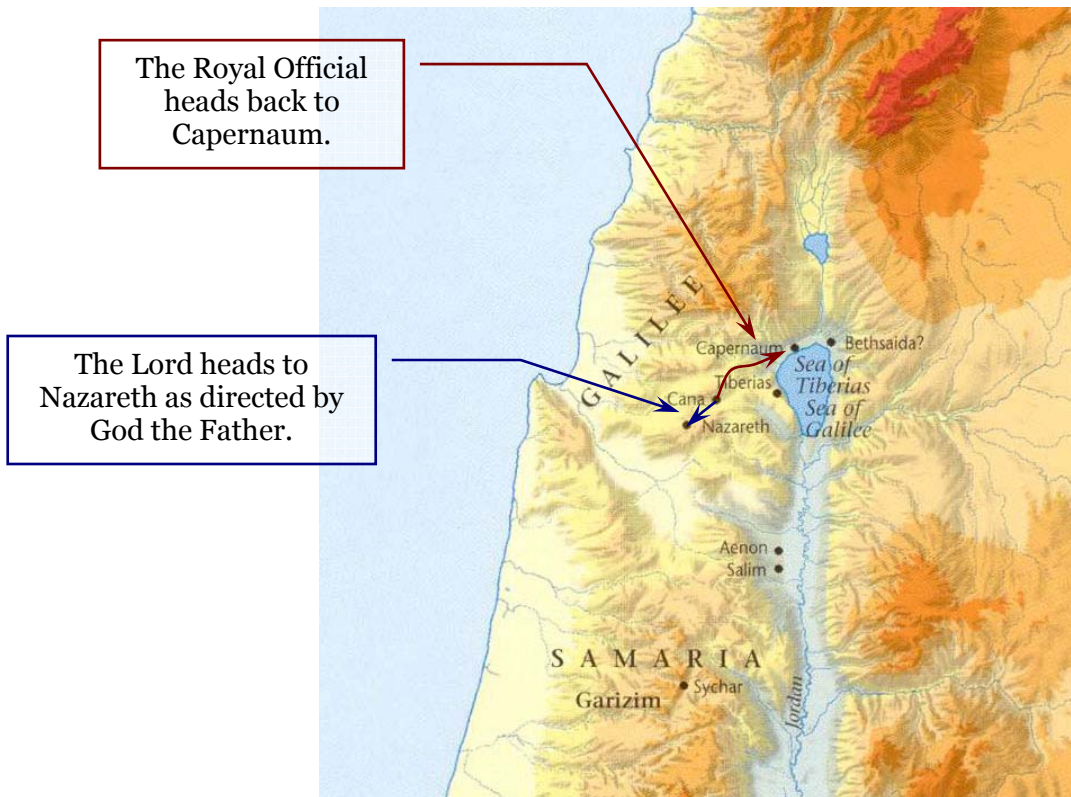
That was a result of His faith (or trust) and dependence in the Lord’s word.

The Lord spoke and the official believed what He said.

- How does the Lord speak to us today?
 - Through what we learn in His word
 - When we learn something from the word of God we need to do what the official did – believe.
- What occurred after the official believed?
 - He returned to Capernaum.

POD - Faith, trust and dependence in what we learn from the word of God results in action.

51 As he was now going down (25 miles down to Capernaum) . . .



... *his slaves met him* ...

- **His slaves met him**, because the son had recovered.
 - That happened at the same time the Lord said - **“Go; your son *is living*.”**
 - The son was healed instantaneously and simultaneously at the Lord’s statement.
 - The exercise of the Lord’s Divine attributes –
 - Omnipotence – the power to heal
 - Omniscience – the knowledge of who the boy was and where he lived.
- The slaves are so excited they take off for Cana to tell their master about the news.

... saying that his son was living.

52 So he inquired of them the hour when he began to get better. Then they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.”

53 So the father knew that *it was* at that hour in which Jesus said to him, **“Your son lives”**. . .

... and he himself **believed** and his whole household.

“Believed” - πιστεύω - PISTEUO

- The aorist active indicative meaning *“To trust or to depend”*
- The man had already believed in the word of the Lord, did he not?

Note verse 50 –

50 Jesus said to him, **“Go; your son *is living*.”** The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started off.

- Now he knows that the Lord Himself fulfilled his request from Cana.
- He has learned more about his Savior.
- We learn more about our Savior each time we study about Him.

***What happens to your faith each time you learn about your Savior?
Doesn't it grow stronger?***

Who's the action officer of our prayer requests?

- Jesus Christ - **John 14:13** "Whatever you ask in My name . . ."
- He's the One who actually fulfills the prayer request. He's the one that you ask.
Why? ". . . so that the Father may be glorified by means of the Son."
- Does He need to be HERE to answer the prayer request? No!
 - Did He need to be in Capernaum to heal the boy? No!
 - Jesus Christ is immutable – the same yesterday, today, and forever.

What happens when He fulfills your prayer requests from that throne room, billions of light years away?
Your faith grows and is strengthened.
In light of what has been taught in prayer – you should expect things to happen when you pray!

That's what happened with this royal official -

- His faith grew . . . the second occurrence of **PISTEUO**.

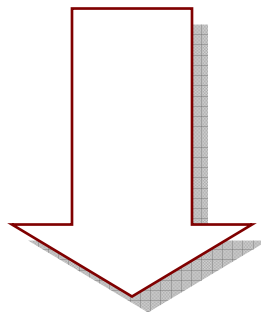
POD: The fulfillment of our prayer requests serves to encourage us and strengthen our faith as we walk with the Lord *in dependence on the Mentorship of God the Holy Spirit*.

Verse 53 states,

. . . he himself believed **and his whole household**.

- His slaves believed.
 - Did the slaves know anything about Jesus Christ fulfilling his request? NO
 - The official did!
 - How did his slaves come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ?
 - HE INTRODUCED them to his Savior and told them what Jesus Christ did for him.

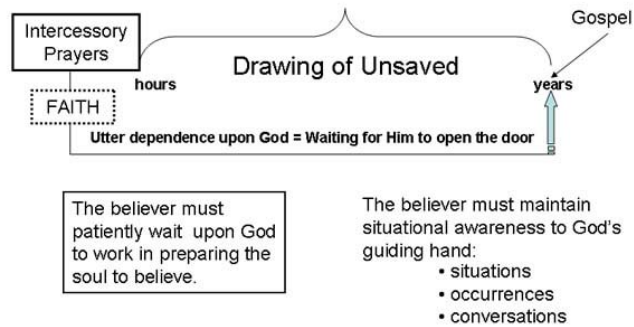
Have you ever been led to tell someone about how you prayed and what Jesus Christ did?
When people are willing to listen about what your Savior has done for you, God has just opened up the door
to Carpe Occasio as an ambassador for Him.



Dynamics of Personal Evangelism

A Cooperative Work with God

God's Preparatory Work



All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.