

# Lesson 124 The Nobleman's Son

## I. Scripture Text

John 4:43-54 Now after two days he departed thence, and went into Galilee.

44 For Jesus himself testified, that a prophet hath no honour in his own country.

45 Then when he was come into Galilee, the Galilaeans received him, having seen all the things that he did at Jerusalem at the feast: for they also went unto the feast.

46 So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum.

47 When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death.

48 Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.

49 The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die.

50 Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way.

51 And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth.

52 Then inquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.

53 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.

54 This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judaea into Galilee.

## II. Bible Story

### Introduction

Jesus went to Galilee, the northern part of Israel, which was his home area. Rumors and stories were spreading everywhere about the way he healed the sick, made the blind to see, caused the crippled to walk, and even forgave sin. They all hoped that now he would work some miracles in their part of the country.

He traveled through Galilee and arrived at the town of Cana, where he had turned the water into wine. There he decided to stay for a while.

About 15 miles away, in the city of Capernaum, there lived a nobleman, a

government official, whose little son was very, very sick. The little boy was so sick that everyone knew he would soon die, for at this point they knew that only God could make him well. The nobleman was terribly worried and distressed because he could not help his son. The nobleman had heard about Jesus and about his power to do wonderful things; so when the news came that Jesus was in Cana of Galilee, the nobleman began to have hope. Perhaps Jesus would use his great power and do what no doctor could do: bring health again to his little boy. The nobleman knew what he was going to do. He would ask Jesus to heal his son.

### CC 2-1 the nobleman asks Jesus to heal his son

About one o'clock in the afternoon, as Jesus had finished teaching in the marketplace of Cana, a well dressed nobleman, in great haste, came with his robe covered with dust, for he had traveled the 15 miles from Capernaum as fast as he could.

The nobleman, like many other people, believed in Jesus as one who could perform their needed miracles. He asked Jesus to come and heal his son. But Jesus knew this was not the kind of the they needed. He had not come into the world just to work miracles for people in trouble. He wanted them to trust him as their Messiah and their savior. Jesus said to him and the people around him, "Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe."

The nobleman believed that Jesus could do something if he could only get him to come in time to where his son was. The nobleman knew that his son was on his bed with a high fever, and that at any moment it might be too late. But Jesus did not seem to feel any urgency or to be in a hurry. The nobleman said to him, "Sir, come down ere my child die."

Jesus looked at the nobleman with love and compassion and told him, "Go thy way; thy son liveth." The nobleman knew that what Jesus said was true. He believed the word of Jesus.

He started on his way home.

### **CC 2-2 to sermons run to meet the nobleman**

As the nobleman hurried along the road toward home, his servants met him, crying out the good news, "Thy son liveth." Joyfully, the nobleman asked them when he started to get better. They told him when it was and the nobleman realized that that was the same hour that Jesus had told him that his son would live.

### **CC 2-3 The nobleman's son is well**

The nobleman raced home with great joy, and as he neared the house, his little son probably came running out to greet him. What a happy, joyful reunion that was! The little boy was completely well! Now the nobleman believed that Jesus truly was more than just a man who could do wonderful miracles. He believed that Jesus is the promised Messiah, the son of God, the savior of the world. The nobleman was saved that day; he was born into the family of God; and so radiant was his testimony that his family, his servants, and his entire household believed in Jesus as savior, also.

## **III. Activity 1**

Age 3 through Grade 4

### *Materials needed:*

- ☐ a copy of page 124a for each student
- ☐ a copy of the boy from page 124b for each student
- ☐ a strip of paper, 2" x 8½" for each student
- ☐ stapler
- ☐ razor knife
- ☐ crayons

Before class, cut a slice in page 124a on the line at the father's feet and by the house on the opposite side of the page. Have the students color in the page and the figure of the boy (for younger students, have the boy figure trimmed before class). Staple the boy figure to the middle of the strip of paper and insert the strip into page 124a. Discuss with the students how it must have felt for the father to have his son

healthy and how thankful he was to God for healing him.

## **IV. Activity 2**

Grade 5 through Grade 7

Have the students finish the banner they were working on from the previous lesson.