

GOSPEL PEARLS

Seek with faith

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At that time Jesus left [Samaria] for Galilee. For Jesus himself testified that a prophet has no honour in his native place. When he came into Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, since they had seen all he had done in Jerusalem at the feast; for they themselves had gone to the feast. Then he returned to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. Now there was a royal official whose son was ill in Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, who was near death. Jesus said to him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe."

The royal official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." Jesus said to him, "You may go; your son will live." The man believed what Jesus said to him and left. While the man was on his way back, his slaves met him and told him that his boy would live. He asked them when he began to recover. They told him, "The fever left him yesterday, about one in the afternoon." The father realized that just at that time Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live," and he and his whole household came to believe. Now this was the second sign Jesus did when he came to Galilee from Judea. (John 4: 43-54)

In moments of great difficulty, the devil makes us feel the full weight of our ingratitude towards God and the shame of resorting to him only in times of need. In this context, what Jesus says regarding the many who believe only after they see signs and wonders, seems harsh. However, it is actually an invitation by Jesus to seek to believe with faith. When seeking the truth, faith allows our hearts to glimpse the existence of a Will and Love that exceeds human desires.