



From Tragedy *To Belief*

John 4:46-51

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## John 4:46-51

- **John 4:46-47**

<sup>46</sup>So He came again to Cana in Galilee, where He had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. <sup>47</sup>When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to Him and asked Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.

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## John 4:46-51

- ◆ “Royal official” = connected to royalty
- ◆ Only 4 chapters have passed in John, but Jesus was in Galilee for 1 1/2 years
- ◆ He did a LOT of miracles there!
- ◆ Christ meets us at the point of our desperation & unbelief & pushes us to a deeper, life-changing, life-sustaining belief
- ◆ What does this man believe?
- ◆ Not much - but *it* and his desperation drive him to Christ!

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John 4:46-51

- **John 4:48 (English Standard Version)**
  - 4<sup>8</sup>So Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe."

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## John 4:46-51

- ◆ Jesus challenges him with a harsh statement
- ◆ He wants Jesus to fix his son; he's using Christ
- ◆ What about you?

# From Tragedy *To Belief*

## John 4:46-51

- **John 4:49-51 (English Standard Version)**
- <sup>49</sup>The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." <sup>50</sup>Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. <sup>51</sup>As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering.

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## John 4:46-51

- ◆ The man is about to lose everything, & he asks again out of desperation and humility
- ◆ This is our reality!
- ◆ It's natural & normal & necessary to come to Christ because you are in desperate need
- ◆ He didn't have any deep religious/spiritual reasons to come to Christ
- ◆ If you're self-sufficient & have no struggles or worries, you won't come to Christ

# From Tragedy *To Belief*

John 4:46-51

- **John 4:50 (English Standard Version)**
  - <sup>50</sup>Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way.



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## John 4:46-51

- ◆ Christ pushes harder here, putting the man in a catch-22
- ◆ Christ is pushing him beyond signs and miracles to, “Do you believe I can do this?”
- ◆ From unbelief to tragic need to belief
- ◆ Christ doesn't go to Capernaum because He's driving him to saving and sustaining belief

# From Tragedy *To Belief*

## John 4:46-51

- ◆ “Believe” is in John 100 times
- ◆ Believe = Firmly convicted that what God has revealed about Christ is true so that you'll surrender to Him
- ◆ What do you need to believe?
- ◆ Belief is one of the primary purposes of our tragedies
- ◆ God is moving heaven & earth & tragedy & desperate need to move you to surrendered belief!

# From Tragedy *To Belief*

## John 4:46-51

- ◆ What drives one German to stand up to Hitler?
- ◆ Dietrich Bonhoeffer believed and staked his life on Easter and the Risen Christ!
- ◆ This same Jesus went to the cross, took our sin/death/sickness & dies our death
- ◆ He came back from the dead 36 hours later - meeting our most desperate needs!

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## John 4:46-51

- **1 Corinthians 15:12-18** (English Standard Version)

<sup>12</sup>Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup>But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. <sup>14</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. <sup>15</sup>We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup>For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. <sup>17</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup>Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

# From Tragedy *To Belief*

## John 4:46-51

- ◆ What's keeping you from life-altering belief in Christ?
- ◆ Your current, recent, past and future tragedies are the very thing Christ is using to draw you to Himself!
- ◆ To expose your desperate need
- ◆ To bring you to belief
- ◆ This is your catch-22 today!

# From Tragedy *To Belief*

John 4:46-51

- **Romans 10:9 (English Standard Version)**

<sup>9</sup>because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.



**APRIL 30 / 7 PM / MATT PRINE'S**

RSVP by emailing Matt Prine at  
[mprine@thesanctuaryfellowship.com](mailto:mprine@thesanctuaryfellowship.com)

# *Helping Hands*

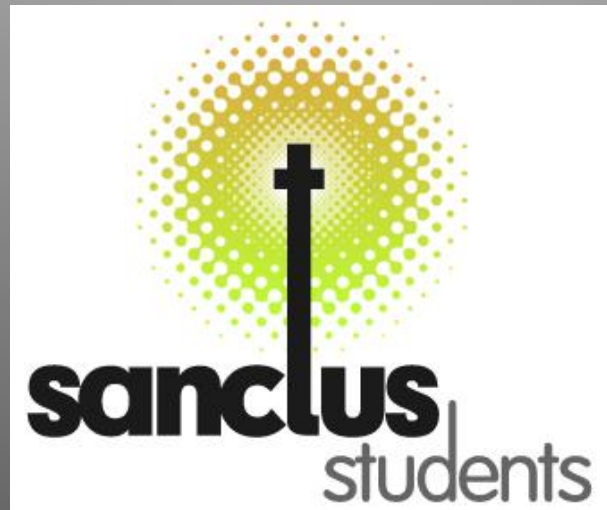


## **Rose-Rich Food Drive to Benefit Helping Hands**

Beginning May 1st, we can minister to our community through the Helping Hands ministry.



# Sanctus Summer Mission Trip Rio Grande Valley ~ June 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>



Serving our world...

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[thesanctuaryfellowship.com](http://thesanctuaryfellowship.com).