



LIFE GROUP LESSON 6 – John 4-6

★ *Indicates key questions to use if you are meeting every other week. Full text of John 4 is at the end of this lesson.*

FOUR SIGNS OF JESUS

This week we looked at four miracles Jesus did in John 4-6: the healing of the official's son, the healing of the invalid by the pool, the feeding of the 5000, and Jesus walking on the water.

★ **Question: Have you ever experienced a miracle in your own life? How did it affect your life and your faith?**

Read John 4:45-54 (the healing of the official's son)

Question: Why do you think Jesus issued the rebuke of verse 48 but then went ahead and healed the man's son anyway?

★ **Question: Are you sometimes tempted to seek the gifts – signs and wonders – rather than the Giver? Why do we fall into that trap?**

Read John 5:1-15 (the healing of the invalid by the pool)

★ **Question: Did this man "deserve" to be healed? God seemed to pick him out of many people to heal – why do you suppose he chose him?**

Consider this statement: "Miracles come at the will of Jesus, through the power of Jesus, in the timing chosen by Jesus, for the glory of Jesus."

★ **Question: How does that statement affect how you might pray for someone's healing or for some other miracle?**

Read John 6:1-15 (the feeding of the 5000)

Question: Look at some of the details in this story. What are some things we learn about Jesus from what He did here?

Read John 6:16-21 (Jesus walking on water)

★ **Question: Jesus did something here that no one expected or asked for. How might Jesus be at work in your life in ways you're not asking for or expecting?**

FOR ADDITIONAL APPLICATION

Question: Think about the purpose of Jesus' signs – so that we might believe. How does reading about these miracles strengthen your faith in a practical way?

★ **Question: Do you tend to be more of a miracle seeker/believer or a miracle doubter/avoider? (We tend to lean toward one or the other!) How might your faith be increased and brought into better balance?**

FOR PRAYER

As you share prayer requests today, practice praying for each other's needs in such a way that acknowledges that He alone has the power to work miraculously, that confesses complete faith in Him, and that also leaves the outcome in His hands.

John 4:43-54

Jesus Heals an Official's Son

⁴³ After the two days he left for Galilee. ⁴⁴ (Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honor in his own country.) ⁴⁵ When he arrived in Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him. They had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, for they also had been there.

⁴⁶ Once more he visited Cana in Galilee, where he had turned the water into wine. And there was a certain royal official whose son lay sick at Capernaum. ⁴⁷ When this man heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea, he went to him and begged him to come and heal his son, who was close to death.

⁴⁸ **“Unless you people see signs and wonders,”** Jesus told him, **“you will never believe.”**

⁴⁹ The royal official said, “Sir, come down before my child dies.”

⁵⁰ **“Go,”** Jesus replied, **“your son will live.”**

The man took Jesus at his word and departed. ⁵¹ While he was still on the way, his servants met him with the news that his boy was living. ⁵² When he inquired as to the time when his son got better, they said to him, “Yesterday, at one in the afternoon, the fever left him.”

⁵³ Then the father realized that this was the exact time at which Jesus had said to him, **“Your son will live.”** So he and his whole household believed.

⁵⁴ This was the second sign Jesus performed after coming from Judea to Galilee.

John 5:1-15

The Healing at the Pool

Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. ² Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. ³ Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. ⁴ ⁵ One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, **“Do you want to get well?”**

⁷ “Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”

⁸ Then Jesus said to him, **“Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.”** ⁹ At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, ¹⁰ and so the Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat.”

¹¹ But he replied, “The man who made me well said to me, **‘Pick up your mat and walk.’**”

¹² So they asked him, “Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?”

¹³ The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

¹⁴ Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, **“See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.”** ¹⁵ The man went away and told the Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had made him well.

John 6:1-24

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), ² and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick. ³ Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. ⁴ The Jewish Passover Festival was near.

⁵ When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, **“Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?”** ⁶ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

⁷ Philip answered him, “It would take more than half a year’s wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!”

⁸ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up, ⁹ “Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?”

¹⁰ Jesus said, **“Have the people sit down.”** There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). ¹¹ Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

¹² When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, **“Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted.”** ¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

¹⁴ After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.” ¹⁵ Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

Jesus Walks on the Water

¹⁶ When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, ¹⁷ where they got into a boat and set off across the lake for Capernaum. By now it was dark, and Jesus had not yet joined them. ¹⁸ A strong wind was blowing and the waters grew rough. ¹⁹ When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus approaching the boat, walking on the water; and they were frightened. ²⁰ But he said to them, **“It is I; don’t be afraid.”** ²¹ Then they were willing to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading.

²² The next day the crowd that had stayed on the opposite shore of the lake realized that only one boat had been there, and that Jesus had not entered it with his disciples, but that they had gone away alone. ²³ Then some boats from Tiberias landed near the place where the people had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. ²⁴ Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

-- The New International Version, (2011). Zondervan.