

A Simple Bible Study on "Believing"

John 1:7; 1:12; 1:50; 2:11; 2:22-23; 3:12; 3:15-16; 3:18; 3:36; 4:21; 4:39; 4:41-42; 4:48; 4:50; 4:53; 5:24; 5:38; 5:44; 5:46-47; 6:29-30; 6:35-36; 6:40; 6:47; 6:64; 6:69; 7:5; 7:31; 7:38-39; 7:48; 8:24; 8:30-31; 8:45-46; 9:18; 9:35-36; 9:38; 10:25-26; 10:37-38; 10:42; 11:15; 11:25-27; 11:40; 11:42; 11:45; 11:48; 12:11; 12:36-39; 12:42; 12:44; 12:46-47; 13:19; 14:1; 14:10-12; 14:29; 16:9; 16:27; 16:30-31; 17:8; 17:20-21; 19:35; 20:8; 20:25; 20:27; 20:29; 20:31.

Chapter 4 (4:21; 4:39; 4:41-42; 4:48; 4:50; 4:53)

TITLE: Believing Through the Testimony of Others

John 4:21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father.

- Who else was witness of this scene? The disciples following Jesus, and maybe bystanders?
- Exactly [WHY] is she [NOT] believing? Jesus acknowledged she was not.
- Who is not believing? the woman at the Well of Sychar, even though she "worshiped"
- Who else was witness of this scene? only Jesus until disciples came
- Exactly [WHY] is she [NOT] believing? not worshiping according to truth
- Did she later believe? Yes! Where in the Bible?: end of this chapter
- What happened after she believed? many in her town did the same, after she told them
- Is omnipotence the only reason she believed (v.22)? no, her heart of 'worship' aided her faith

Joh 4:39 And many of the Samaritans of that city **believed** in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I *ever* did."

John 4:40-42 So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. (41) And many more **believed** because of His own word. (42) Then they said to the woman, "Now we **believe**, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard *Him* and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

- How did *the people of that city* hear about believing? her testimony
- What can be said about humility in this passage and *believing*? very helpful to bring one to salvation
- Why did the people say they *believed* apart from her? they heard Jesus own words, and it was apart from her words
- Why was it easier for these to believe? perhaps because they were sinners, not like Nicodemus may have been [he never openly confessed Jesus](ch 3)

John 4:48-53 Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you *people* see signs and wonders, you will by no means **believe**."

(49) The nobleman said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies!" (50)

Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your son lives." So the man **believed** the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way. (51) And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told *him*, saying, "Your son lives!" (52) Then he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." (53) So the father knew that *it was* at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives." And he himself **believed**, and his whole household.

- Why are *signs and wonders* not a requirement for believing? _____
 ___Jesus implies people should believe without seeing them___
- What does this passage teach about faith "from a distance" *believing*?
 ___The nobleman believed before the miracle happened, because he believed *it was at the time* Jesus spoke to him, or he wouldn't have asked. Better to believe without miracles thus.___
- Why could this be called a more significant way to *believe*?
 ___it is harder to believe *before it is seen*.___
- What does *his whole household* indicate about his *believing*? _____
 ___His faith was strong, his life admired and respected, so his family followed___
- What other questions can you think of that could be asked about *believing*?
 List them below and give an answer that can be shared next time:
- ___How could Jesus know that many more would believe on Him if He stayed 2 more days?___ Answer:___He was Omniscient___
- _____
- _____
- _____

Could you explain salvation to someone like Jesus did to this woman or this nobleman?

Yes, now I understand that

1 God knows all about me and every person living.

2 Jesus forgives, but only those who are willing to admit they cannot save themselves.

3 It involves no work since all the "work" has already been done by Jesus (sinless and God has proved He accepted Jesus' sacrifice) SO I can believe He'll save me by crying out from my heart, tthe I receive a gift which I am unable to work for.

4 I call on a specific day (the time and day I call upon Him) and that becomes my 'Day of Salvation'.