



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Blessed are those who walk by Faith

SPEAKER

SP Chua Seng Lee

THEME Christmas in BBTC

DATE

15 December 2024

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Following last week's sermon where SP Chua Seng Lee talked about "what we see matters", this week, he focused on "How We See" pertaining to our faith. In the gospel of John, it was written that Jesus had said that unless believers see signs and wonders, they would not believe (John 4:46-49). In fact, the overall theme of the Gospel of John is about faith. Every single miracle was carefully selected to help us learn to believe without seeing. As such, SP used the miracle of the healing of the royal official's son (John 4:46-49) to show how faith for the royal official, which began as flawed faith, would progress to a faith that is pure, resulting in eternal salvation for his household.

LESSONS FROM THE OFFICIAL'S JOURNEY OF FAITH

1) Flawed Faith that is conditional

The royal official believed that Jesus could heal his son but his faith was limited to:

- a) Physical touch – He believed that Jesus needed to be there to physically touch his son so that he can be healed (John 4: 49)
- b) Death – Jesus has to be there before his son dies (John 4:47)

His faith was mixed with human expectations that limited God's power. Let us consider our own faith - Do we set limits on what Jesus can do and are we also limiting the power of God in our lives? SP reminded us that we serve a "Limitless God."

2) From Flawed Faith to Pure Faith

When Jesus said to him "Go, your son lives" (John 4:50), the official believed. God's word is all we need because Scripture says that faith comes from hearing and hearing by the word of Christ (Romans 10:17).

- a) The official believed His Word. He moved from a flawed faith to pure faith. His journey was an act of Faith. It was suggested that that with his pure faith came a rested spirit when he set off to go home. (John 4:53).

3) From Pure Faith to Sharing Faith

With his belief, the progress from flawed faith to pure faith resulted in his sharing of God's goodness to the whole household (Sharing Faith). The household believed even though they did not meet Jesus. As none of us would have met Jesus when he was on earth, we should also believe having not seen (John 20:29). SP encouraged us to not underestimate our efforts in sharing our faith based on the written and spoken word of God.

CONCLUSION

The scriptures have been written so that all may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and that believing, we may have life in His Name (John 20:30-31). Consider how we have lived our lives. Are we walking by faith or by sight? Like the official, do we start with flawed faith but end up having faith without seeing?

Flawed faith > Pure Faith > Sharing Faith > Faith Without Seeing

QUESTIONS

1. Recall an instance where, in obedience, you took a leap of faith and watched God come through for you. What helped you take that step and how did you feel throughout the process?

2. Like the royal official, we may unwittingly put limitations on what God can do. What are the assumptions that God is challenging us to give up on through this sermon? (With our work, our family life, our children, our parents, our relationships?)

3. Sharing our faith does not come easy to some of us, but it is in our submitting to God and watching Him come through for us that we have faith stories to share. Work your faith story that you shared earlier into your testimony. Share with one another how you might use this story to help reveal our God to others.