

“From Grief to Belief”
Changed Lives – Part 1
John 4:43-53
August 19, 2012

“Affliction may be the black horse mercy rides to your door.” Charles Spurgeon

1. WHEN GRIEF STRIKES - FIND JESUS.

“So Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman whose son was sick at Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and implored Him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.” John 4:46-47 (NKJV)

❖ Tough Truth #1: Everyone experiences trouble.

“People are born for trouble as readily as sparks fly up from a fire.” Job 5:7 (NLT)

‘I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.’ John 16:33 (NIV1984)

“But now, O Jacob, listen to the LORD who created you. O Israel, the one who formed you says, ‘Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are Mine. When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. . .’” Isaiah 43:1-3a (NLT)

❖ Tough Truth #2: Anything that drives you closer to Jesus is a blessing.

❖ Tough Truth #3: God will answer prayer His way.

“Then Jesus said to him, ‘Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.’ The nobleman said to Him, ‘Sir, come down before my child dies!’” John 4:48-49 (NKJV)

2. WHEN GOD SPEAKS - BELIEVE JESUS.

“The nobleman said to Him, ‘Sir, come down before my child dies!’ 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.” John 4:49-50 (NKJV)

“And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told him, saying, ‘Your son lives!’ 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.’” John 4:51-52 (NKJV)

3. WHEN GRACE SUMMONS - ACCEPT JESUS.

“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.’ 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.” John 4:52-53 (NKJV)