



HILLCREST

LIFE GROUPS

Sermon Discussion Guide

Carry the Fire

John 4:36-54

Sunday, March 21, 2021

www.hillcrest.church

Get to Know You

What is the longest walk/run/hike that you have ever taken?

Study the Book

Read John 4:46-54

The Spark of Faith (vv. 46-47)

Has anyone had an experience like Isaiah (Isaiah 38:17) or David (Psalm 119:71) where good came from pain?

Why do you think it sometimes takes a crisis for us to listen to or seek God?

The Flame of Faith (vv 48-50)

How do we see Jesus create dissonance in His response to the official in this story as well as characters in other stories in the Gospel of John?

What is unique about this miracle that shows Jesus's amazing power?

How did the man respond to Jesus in verse 50?

How is this response in direct contrast to Jesus's statement concerning "you people" in verse 48?

The Blaze of Faith (vv. 51-53)

This story is a picture of our life with Jesus. This man went up from Capernaum to Cana to speak to Jesus and we go up to Jesus in our prayers to speak to Jesus about our trials and struggles. But for now, Jesus doesn't come down with us to set everything right. Instead, he sends us back down into life with a promise. And just as verse 50 says this man "took Jesus at his word," we have to take Jesus at his word that all our sorrows will be mended, all our injustices will be set right, all our sacrifices will be rewarded, and all our shame erased. Right now we're in the years of taking Jesus at his word on these things. But one day our faith shall be sight. Jesus will rend the heavens and come down (Isaiah 64:1) and we'll see for ourselves the fulfillment of all he promised.

Pastor Tom

What evidence do we see that the official's faith turned from a flame to a blaze?

Group Application and Discussion

What are some things that indicate someone's faith is ablaze?

How would you encourage someone who does not feel their faith is as strong as it used to be?

Personal Reflection and Application

Where currently is your faith? Pray and ask God to embolden your faith.