

# John 4:49

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die.

## Analysis

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The nobleman's persistence ('Sir, come down ere my child die') shows both admirable faith and lingering limitation—he still thinks Jesus' physical presence is necessary. His address 'Sir' (Greek: kurie, can mean 'Lord' or 'sir') and repeated request demonstrate humble urgency. God honors persistent prayer even when our theology is incomplete.

## Historical Context

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Parental desperation transcended social barriers—this royal official humbled himself before an itinerant teacher. His repeated plea echoes many biblical examples of persistent faith (the Syrophoenician woman, the importunate widow).

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does Jesus distinguish between persistent faith and lack of trust in His power?

2. What does this nobleman's example teach about bringing our urgent needs to Christ repeatedly?

## Interlinear Text

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λέγει πρὸς αὐτὸν ὁ βασιλικός Κύριε κατάβηθι πρὶν  
**saith** **unto** **him** **G3588** **The nobleman** **Sir** **come down** **ere**  
G3004 G4314 G846 G937 G2962 G2597 G4250

ἀποθανεῖν τὸ παιδίον μου  
**die** **G3588** **child** **G3813** **my** **G3450**

## Additional Cross-References

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**Mark 5:23** (Parallel theme): And besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.

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