

SERMON NOTES: AMAZING FAITH

Series: Luke: The Gospel of Knowing For Sure

Date: September 13, 2015

Text: Luke 7:1-10

Theme: Assurance in Crisis. A faith that saves is rooted in humility and trust in the authority of Jesus' Word.

3 Perspectives of Faith

1. The Jewish Leaders: He is worthy

a. _____ standards of worth

2. The Centurion: I am not worthy, but say the Word

a. Proper self-_____

b. Faith in _____

3. Jesus: When God is amazed

a. _____ Man

b. Morally _____ Man

c. Ethnic _____

4. The Nature of Amazing Faith

The centurion demonstrated a _____ and trusting _____ in the authority and power of God's _____.

SMALL GROUP HOME WORK:

These questions will help prepare you for your Small Group session this week – so bring your answers with you to your Small Group meeting.

RELATE:

Who is someone in your lifetime that has had faith in you? How did you know they had faith in you?

REFLECT:

1. Circle the number of times the words “when” and “for” appear in the text. How are they used by Luke to structure the story?
2. Notice the two times the centurion “sends” people to do his bidding. How does this set the tone for the coming discussion about authority?
3. The Jewish leaders go to find Jesus. In verse 5 they give very interesting reasons why Jesus should help this Roman officer. Someone read verse 5 again. What do their reasons tell us about the centurion? The Jewish leader's spiritual beliefs?
4. How does this Roman's understanding of leadership and power shape how he relates to Jesus?
5. Scripture records only two occasions on which Jesus was “amazed” (Mark 6:6; Luke 7:9) what was it about the centurion that so amazed Jesus?
6. Read the account of the healing of a Syrian by Elisha in 2 Kings 5:1-27. How are these two stories similar?
7. Why do you think Jesus is not recorded as speaking the servant's healing?

RESPOND:

If you were to explain “faith” to a five-year-old, how would you do it?
What does this story teach us about faith in the midst of crisis?