

BEFORE THE MIRACLE
CAME **THE WORD.**

JUST SAY "The Word"

FAITH THAT TRUSTS CHRIST'S AUTHORITY



HE HEARD
ABOUT JESUS



HE RECOGNIZED
HIS AUTHORITY



HE HUMBLLED
HIMSELF



HE TRUSTED
HIS WORD



HE EXPERIENCED
HIS POWER



WALKING ON WATER
BIBLE CHURCH

LUKE 7:1-10

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Luke 1:1-10

- Now when He concluded all His sayings in the hearing of the people, He entered Capernaum.
- ² And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear to him, was sick and ready to die.
- ³ So when he heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to Him, pleading with Him to come and heal his servant.
- ⁴ And when they came to Jesus, they begged Him earnestly, saying that the one for whom He should do this was deserving,

Luke 1:1-10

- ⁵ “for he loves our nation, and has built us a synagogue.”
- ⁶ Then Jesus went with them. And when He was already not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to Him, saying to Him, “Lord, do not trouble Yourself, for I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof.
- ⁷ Therefore I did not even think myself worthy to come to You. But say the word, and my servant will be healed.

Luke 1:1-10

- ⁸ For I also am a man placed under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does *it*.”
- ⁹ When Jesus heard these things, He marveled at him, and turned around and said to the crowd that followed Him, “I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!”
- ¹⁰ And those who were sent, returning to the house, found the servant well who had been sick.

Introduction/Review

- Jesus has just finished teaching about what genuine discipleship looks like.
- He has talked about **loving enemies**, refusing **hypocritical** judgment, recognizing **trees by their fruit**, and the danger of calling Him “**Lord, Lord**” without **actually doing what He says**.
- Jesus ended the sermon with two builders.
- One **hears His words and obeys them**.
- The other **hears His words and does not obey them**.

BEFORE THE DEMONSTRATION CAME INSTRUCTION

- Luke 7:1 — “Now when he had ended all his sayings...”
- Luke 6: Jesus **TEACHES** the people.
- Luke 7: Jesus **DEMONSTRATES** His authority.
- Before we see what Jesus **does**, Luke emphasizes what Jesus **said**.
- The power of Christ must never be separated from the Word of Christ.

The Modern Temptation

- We want **miracles** without doctrine.
- We want **manifestation** without instruction.
- We want God to **move**, but don't always want God to **teach**.
- We want God to change our **circumstances** without allowing His Word to change **us**.
- **Don't become more interested in seeing God's HAND than hearing God's WORD.**

Consider the Centurion

- **Luke 7:2** “And a certain centurion’s servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die.”
- A centurion was a Roman military officer, typically responsible for approximately one hundred soldiers. He represents **Rome—the occupying power**.
- His servant is sick. And not merely sick: “**Ready to die.**”
- The Greek describes him as being in extremely serious condition.
- But notice Luke’s additional detail: “**who was dear unto him.**”

FAITH GROWS THROUGH HEARING

- **Luke 7:3 — “And when he HEARD of Jesus...”**
- Compare: **Romans 10:17**
- “Faith cometh by hearing, and Hearing By the Word of God”
- The centurion’s faith did not emerge from nowhere.
- **HE HEARD → HE BELIEVED → HE CAME TO CHRIST → HE TRUSTED CHRIST’S WORD**
- He understood that he need Christ to do what he acknowledged he cannot do.

The Danger of “**SELF**” Sufficiency

- Sometimes God allows us to encounter situations beyond our ability
- Self-sufficiency can become an enemy of faith.
- As long as I believe **I can handle everything**, I have very little reason to depend upon Christ.
- Sometimes God permits us to reach the end of ourselves so that we discover that **the end of our ability is not the end of His authority.**
- **Faith begins where self-sufficiency ends.**

RELIGION LOOKS AT MERIT - FAITH LOOKS AT GRACE

- **Luke 7:4–5** - “And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this
- Notice the Jews argued from the **Centurion’s merit**
- He built us a synagogue; He loves our nation. Look what **he’s done**
- Sometimes we can feel deserving because of how we have served.
- God doesn’t “owe us” ANYTHING...

The Humility of the Centurion

- **Luke 7:6–7** - Jesus begins traveling toward the man's house. But before He arrives, the centurion sends friends with another message:
- “Lord, trouble not thyself: **for I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof:**
- Wherefore **neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee...**”
- Here is a Roman officer saying to a Jewish teacher: **“I am not worthy for You to enter my house.”**

The Humility of the Centurion

- Here is a Roman officer saying to a Jewish teacher: **“I am not worthy for You to enter my house.”**
- The man with earthly authority humbles himself before the One possessing heavenly authority.
- Notice what great faith does **not** produce:
- Arrogance. Entitlement. Spiritual pride. Self-importance.
- An **accurate assessment of Christ produces an honest** assessment of ourselves.
- **Great faith has a high view of Christ and a humble view of self.**

Just Say the Word!

- By verse 7: “**But say in a word, and my servant shall be healed.**”
- **The Word of God is the breeding ground for faith in God.**
- The centurion understood:
- Christ didn’t have to **come into the house.**
- Christ didn’t have to **touch the servant.**
- Christ didn’t need a **ceremony.**
- Christ didn’t need physical **proximity.**

THE AUTHORITY OF CHRIST'S WORD

- Great faith says, **“Jesus, Your Word is enough!”**
- Not Your Word and Tradition
- Not Your Word and plus WORKS
- Not your word and the words of the Pope
- But Speak Your Word ONLY!!!!

Authority Explained

- **Luke 7:8** “For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.”
- The Centurion understood that all those under his authority have to follow his word..
- So Everything under Christ’s authority must follow His Word.
- The Centurion recognized who actually possessed the authority

The Authority of Christ

- Sickness is under His authority. Sickness has to Obey Christ
- Disease is under His authority. Disease has to Obey Christ
- Demons are under His authority. Demons have to obey Christ
- Nature is under His authority. Nature has to Obey Christ
- Death itself is under His authority. Death has to obey Christ
- **Faith grows when our understanding of Christ's authority grows.**

Jesus Marvels at a Man

- And what amazes Him? Not his wealth.
- Not his military accomplishments.
- Not the synagogue he helped build. Not his generosity.
- But Rather..... His faith.
- “I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.”
- Religious privilege does not automatically produce faith.
- God is not impressed by our pedigree, or our familiarity with religion; He desires genuine faith in Christ.

Christ Heals the Centurion Servant

- “And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.”
- No dramatic ceremony. No physical touch. No elaborate ritual.
- Jesus speaks.
- They return home. **The servant is healed.**
- The centurion was right. Christ’s Word was enough.

Three Characteristics of Great Faith

- **1. Great faith recognizes its own unworthiness.**
- **“I am not worthy.”**
- Faith doesn’t come demanding.
- It comes depending.
- **2. Great faith recognizes Christ’s authority.**
- **“I also am a man set under authority.”**
- The centurion knew that Jesus was not merely another religious teacher.
- **He possesses authority.**

Three Characteristics of Great Faith

- 3. Great faith believes Christ's Word is sufficient.
- "Say in a word."
- That's the heart of the passage.
- Jesus, **You don't have to prove anything else...**

Your Word is Enough.