## **Unexpected Faith**

#### Luke 7:1-10

## **Getting Started**

Why does God honor faith? What helps your faith to grow?

## **Key Ideas for Discussion**

- 1. We live in a fallen and broken world. (v.1-2)
- 2. Our world's most basic religious and moral presuppositions are wrong. (v.3-5)
- 3. Salvation & Restoration only come through humble repentance and faith in Jesus. (v.6-10)

Takeaway Truth: Jesus is for Everyone.

## **Exploring the Text**

- What was a Roman Centurion? Take time to research the typical dynamics between Roman officials and the Jews. What was unique about this Centurion?
- Based on what you read in Luke's passage, how would you describe the people who came to Jesus on behalf of the Centurion?
- Why would it be surprising for a Roman Centurion to ask assistance from Jesus? What does this say about him?
- We never read in the gospels of Jesus entering a Gentile's home. Do you think he would have entered the Centurion's? Why or Why not?
- ❖ What is remarkable about the miracle itself?

## **Digging Deeper**

- Clearly the Centurion is a humble man. Does humility mean dumping on ourselves or not acknowledging our abilities? What does it mean?
- ❖ Alexander Maclaren writes, "The more we know ourselves to be sinful, the more we shall cleave to Christ, and the more we cleave to Christ, the more we shall know ourselves to be sinful." Neil Anderson writes, "If you think of yourself as a sinner, guess what you will do: you'll live like a sinner; you'll sin." Who is right biblically? Why is it important? Which perspective do you see in this passage and why?
- What do the Centurion's decisions and instructions say about what he believes about Jesus?
- How did the Centurion's opinion of himself differ from other's opinions of him?
- Why did Jesus marvel at the faith of the Centurion?
- Define/Explain the word "faith".

## Apply It

- Where are you tempted to find your "worthiness" in what the world recognizes as good?
- ❖ Who gives you your worth? Do your thoughts, attitudes, and behaviors align with the answer to the first part of this question? If not, why?

\* How does the story of Jesus healing the Centurion's servant help you turn to Jesus when you face difficult circumstances or need help?

## Think About It

The elders were thinking in terms of merit. They believed that someone who lived a good life was worthy to receive blessing. This is the way most people think; it is a basic presupposition of our fallen nature. (Philip Ryken)

#### WORSHIP RESOURCE

#### February 18, 2024 | First Sunday in Lent

#### **HOUSE OF THE LORD**

## Words and Music by Phil Wickham and Jonathan Smith, 2020

We worship the God who was. We worship the God who is. We worship the God who evermore will be. He opened the prison doors. He parted the raging sea. Our God, He holds the victory.

There's joy in the house of the Lord. There's joy in the house of the Lord today. And we won't be quiet. We shout Your praise. There's joy in the house of the Lord. Our God us surely in this place. And we won't be quiet. We shout Your praise.

We sing to the God who heals. We sing to the God who saves. We sing to the God who always makes a way. He hung upon that cross then he rose up from that grave. My God's still rolling stones away.

We were the beggars. Now we're royalty. We were the prisoners. Now we're running free. We are forgiven, accepted, redeemed by His grace. Let the house of the Lord sing praise.

# WE CROWN YOU (ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME) Words by Edward Perronet, 1779 / Music by Oliver Holden, 1793 Additional chorus by Paxson Jeancake, 2015

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate, fall; bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the Fall. Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all. Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.

We crown you, we crown you Lord of all. (2x)

O that with yonder sacred throng, we at his feet may fall. We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all. We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.

#### THERE IS ONE GOSPEL

#### Words and Music by Jonny Robinson and Rich Thompson, 2022

There is one Gospel on which I stand for all eternity. It is my story, my Father's plan, the Son has rescued me. Oh, what a Gospel, oh what a peace. My highest joy and my deepest need. Now and forever, he is my light. I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

There is one Gospel to which I cling, all else I count as loss. For there, where justice and mercy meet, he saved me on the cross. No more I boast in what I can bring, no more I carry the weight of sin. For he has brought me from death to life. I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

There is one Gospel where hope is found, the empty tomb still speaks. For death could not keep my Savior down, he lives and I am free. Now on my Savior I fix my eyes, My life is his and his hope is

mine. For he has promised I too will rise. I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

And in this Gospel, the church is one, we do not walk alone. We have his Spirit as we press on to lead us safely home. And when in glory still I will sing of this old story that rescued me. Praise to my Savior, the King of life. I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

#### LIVING HOPE

#### Words and Music by Brian Johnson and Phil Wickham, 2017

How great the chasm that lay between us, how high the mountain I could not climb. In desperation I turned to heaven and spoke Your name into the night. Then through the darkness Your loving kindness tore through the shadows of my soul. The work is finished, the end is written. Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Who could imagine so great a mercy? What heart could fathom such boundless grace? The God of ages stepped down from glory to wear my sin and bear my shame. The cross has spoken, I am forgiven. The King of kings calls me His own. Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever. Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Hallelujah! Praise the One who set me free! Hallelujah! Death has lost its grip on me. You have broken every chain; there's salvation in Your name. Jesus Christ, my living hope!

Then came the morning that sealed the promise. Your buried body began to breathe. Out of the silence, the roaring Lion declared the grave has no claim on me. Jesus Yours is the victory.

#### DAILY READINGS | BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP

SUNDAY | Ps. 84; Daniel 9:3-10; Hebrews 2:10-18; John 12:44-50 MONDAY | Ps. 6; Genesis 37:1-11; 1 Cor. 1:1-19; Mark 1:1-13 TUESDAY | Ps. 25; Genesis 37:12-24; 1 Cor. 1:20-31; Mark 1:14-28 WEDNESDAY | Ps. 5; Genesis 37: 25-36; 1 Cor. 2:1-13; Mark 1:29-45 THURSDAY | Ps. 27; Genesis 39:1-23; 1 Cor. 2:14-3:15; Mark 2:1-12 FRIDAY | Ps. 105; Genesis 40:1-23; 1 Cor. 3:16-23; Mark 2:13-22 SATURDAY | Ps. 43; Genesis 41:1-13; 1 Cor. 4:1-7; Mark 2:23-3:6

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.



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