

## The Gospel of Luke

### Amazing Faith

Luke 7:1-10

Suggested Memory Verse: Psalm 141:3-4

1. **The Setting: The Story's Relation to Jesus' Sermon** (Luke 6:20-49)

There are many dangers in Bible study. The Christian must be careful see all that God has given to us, but also to see only what God has given to us. In this account, Luke gives an example of someone who not only hears Jesus' message, but acts upon it (cf. Luke 6:47).

2. **The Centurion's Character** (vs.2-5)

The Jewish elders of Capernaum testified to the content of the centurion's character and his love of the Jewish people. He had not only expressed rhetoric favorable to the Jews, but he had also contributed to the building of the synagogue.

3. **The Centurion's Humility** (vs.6-7a)

Though he was a person of some importance and wealth in his community, the centurion did not presume that his request was worth Jesus enduring ceremonial defilement upon entering his home (cf. John 18:28), nor did he feel that his status and wealth entitled him to benefit from Jesus' miracle.

4. **The Centurion's Confidence in Jesus Authority** (vs.7b-8, 10)

Many disciples had faith that Jesus could heal their diseases (cf. John 11:21) and even the enemies of Jesus counted on Jesus' ability to do miracles (cf. Luke 6:7; Matt 27:14). The centurion's faith in Jesus is unique because of the sheer confidence that he expresses in Jesus' power to heal his servant.

5. **Jesus is Amazed by the Centurion's Faith** (v.9)

Throughout His life, Jesus was the source of amazement for many people, but this is one of only two times where Jesus was amazed at something (cf. Mark 6:6). The things He said (Luke 2:47; John 7:15) and did (Matt 8:27; 9:33) often filled those who looked on with wonder. Unlike the centurion, many people who observed His miracles and were even astonished by them did not respond with faith in Jesus (cf. Luke 4:23).