



Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - March 3, 2013

Sermon

Conversations with Jesus-
Who did Jesus talk with
and what does this teach
us?

A Centurion

Luke 7:1-10

by Bob Shank

Things I want to remember
about this sermon...

Monday 3/4/13

Luke 7:1-2

A centurion was a Roman soldier responsible for 100 soldiers under him. He was a military leader. In this story we hear that the centurion's slave, who was highly valued, was sick and about to die. This all happened in the town of Capernaum, which stood on the shore of the Galilee Sea and was the place where Jesus spent a lot of his time. Does anything impress you about this centurion?

Tuesday 3/5/13

Luke 7:3

Remember, this centurion is a Roman soldier. He was instructed to keep the peace in Israel where he was stationed. Certainly, he made relationships with the people there and heard enough about Jesus to believe that he could heal his slave. So he sent some Jewish elders to Jesus, asking Jesus to come and heal his slave. What lengths do you go through to bring Jesus into your situations?

Wednesday 3/6/13

Luke 10:4-5

When the Jewish elders came to Jesus, they relayed the message to him, but they also added that the centurion was reliable and worthy. After all, he loved the Jewish people and built a synagogue for us, they added. Here was a Roman Centurion who was worthy, and remember, the people of Jesus' time did not have many good things to say about anyone in association with the Roman government! They were always around and there were always taxes to pay. Yet, this centurion was loved and deemed to be worthy of Jesus' time and healing. Who would Jesus talk with today in our modern times?



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Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

Think of 100 people I have association with and pray for them this week.

Consider if Jesus would take the time to talk to our government officials or soldiers today.

Who would Jesus talk to today?

Thursday 3/7/13
Luke 10:6-8

Two things are happening in these verses: First, these words show the great faith of this centurion. He believed Jesus could heal even at a great distance while he was still out of sight. Second, he didn't want Jesus to defile himself to be unclean by entering a Roman (Gentile's) home. Jesus' word was enough for the centurion. Do you remember when a person's word was enough? Times certainly change, don't they. Is your word good enough? Do you back up your word with action?

Friday 3/8/13
Luke 10:9

Jesus was amazed at the centurion's words. Amazed! Jesus then turned to the crowd that was following him and said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." Wow, what if there were some Pharisees in the crowd? Or what if there were regular, active church-goers in the crowd? Wouldn't they find this offensive? How could a Roman soldier have more faith than they? This example of faith is huge and Jesus clearly points it out!

Saturday 3/9/13
Luke 10:10

The very last verse of this pericope backs up the intentions of this story. They went to the house and found the slave was in good health! It was a miracle! Jesus did not have to go to the house himself. The faith of this centurion was strong and Jesus' word of healing worked even from a distance. Faith is required for healing. Faith is not easy because many questions often come into our minds, but faith is necessary. Are you growing your faith? How? What can you do to grow your faith to be more like this faithful centurion?