



Lesson Six

Jesus Makes a Sick Servant Well

Heart Preparation & Bible Background

In Luke 7:9 we are told that the centurion was a man of “great faith.” This means that the Roman army officer was eager and ready to reach out and accept what Jesus had to offer. He went after it because he believed in Jesus’ authority, in this instance, Jesus’ power to heal.

That is what faith does: it points us to the Savior, the One who saves us from sin. We cannot make faith come alive in our hearts and minds. We cannot manufacture *great*—or for that matter, *any* amount of faith. It is a gift from God that opens our hearts to receive Christ and trust him alone for salvation.

God requires that his people have faith, and we must rely on him to give us a heart that believes, a heart that focuses, not on faith itself, but on Jesus. Having faith means reaching out in response to the One who calls us to trust him in the first place.

The centurion asked for Jesus’ help because he trusted the authority and power of Jesus. Likewise, the focus of our faith is Jesus, who he is and what he has done in our place to make us children of the heavenly Father.

Thank God for the faith he has given you. Ask that God will enable you and the children you teach, to grow in trust, keeping your eyes fixed on the Lord Jesus, the One who started your faith and the One who will make it perfect.

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:2)



Bible Truth

Jesus honors the great faith of a centurion by healing his servant.

Scripture

Luke 7:1–10 (see also Matthew 8:5–13)



Lesson Focus

Show faith that pleases God.

Goals for the Children

- State that Jesus made a sick servant well to show people he is God.
- State that Jesus did miracles so that people would trust him as God, their Savior.
- Ask for forgiveness of sin.
- Name ways to show trust in Jesus.



Memory Minute

Review John 14:9b

[Jesus said,] “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.”



A soldier's servant was healed by Jesus.

Luke 7:1-10

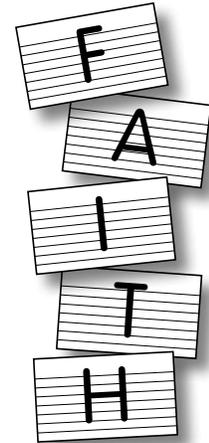


☆Let's Talk and Wonder

- SAY** Once there was an important soldier, called a centurion, who had a sick servant. He sent the leaders of the Jews to Jesus for help.
- SAY** I wonder what the centurion thought Jesus could do . . .
- SAY** The Jewish leaders found Jesus and asked him if he would heal the centurion's servant. So Jesus went with the men. When they were on their way to the centurion's house, his friends ran to meet Jesus with a message from the centurion. He had faith that Jesus could just say the word and his servant would be healed. Jesus didn't have to travel all the way to his house.
- SAY** Jesus told everyone he was amazed that the centurion had such great faith. When the centurion's friends hurried back to the house, they found that the sick servant had been made well. Jesus had healed him, just as the centurion knew he could!

☆Let's Do

- 1** Use **colorful markers** to print the letters **F-A-I-T-H** on **large index cards**, one letter per card. Go over the word with the children. Explain that Jesus gives us faith. It is a gift God gives us so we can reach out and receive what Jesus did for us when he died on the cross to save us.
- 2** Sit on the floor in a circle. Place the cards in the middle of the circle. Ask the children to say the letters with you and then say the word *faith*. Tell children to close their eyes. Remove one index card. Ask which letter is missing. After they identify it, return the card and continue playing the game, removing a different letter each time. At the end of the activity, talk about the miracle Jesus did and how the centurion put his faith in Jesus.



☆Let's Make and Sing

- 1** Make mini praise signs. Cut out a **heart shape** for each child. Write on each heart **Jesus is God my Savior**. Let children personalize their hearts with drawings and **stickers**. Cut two lines inside each heart. Slide a **drinking straw** through each heart.
- 2** Let children wave their mini praise signs as they sing "There Is Power in the Name of Jesus."



Preschool Vol. 2 CD
Songbook, p. 20



A soldier's servant was healed by Jesus.

Luke 7:1-10