

Unit Title : **FAITH**
Lesson 2 : **SOLDIER'S FAITH**
Bible Story : **Jesus Heals a Centurion's Servant**
Lesson Scripture : **Luke 7:1-10**

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

By the end of this session, the student will be able to:

1. know that God wants us to help others;
2. learn how to ask for what they need with respect and humility;
3. know that Jesus' power is not limited by time and distance. He can heal without even being present;
4. to recite the memory verse.

BIBLE REFERENCE

[Luke 7:9-10 \(NIV\)](#)

"When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel." Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well.

WORDS TO REMEMBER

Capernaum– *an ancient site in Northern Israel, on the Sea of Galilee; center of Jesus' ministry in Galilee*

Centurion (soldier) - *an officer in the army of ancient Rome who was responsible for 100 soldiers*

Servant - *a person who performs duties for others, especially a person employed in a house on domestic duties*

PRE-SESSION ACTIVITY

Play a game, sing a song or give them activity to introduce the new lesson.

(Activities may vary depending on age level and purpose of the lesson either for Sunday school or outreach ministry.)

SING A SONG: MY GOD IS SO BIG

My GOD is so big and so strong and so mighty

There's nothing my GOD cannot do

My GOD is so big and so strong and so mighty

There's nothing my GOD cannot do

A. PREPARATION and MOTIVATION

Teacher, review the past lessons.

1. Who is Rahab?
2. Why did Rahab hide the spies? *she believed their God would be victorious and wanted to be saved*
3. What did the spies report to Joshua? *that the people of the land were afraid of them*
4. How many spies went into Jericho? *two (2)*
5. What reward did God give Rahab? *her family was saved and she became an ancestor of Christ*

B. INTRODUCTION

Faith is the key that unlocks the power of God. Faith in its highest form removes all worldly chains and just rests in the truth that if it is His will, there is nothing that can hinder God from performing a miracle in one's life. Ethnicity, background, and prestige all fall away in the eyes of our Savior whose only view is that of an opened heart filled with belief.

Background Study:

A Centurion (Gentile) Army Leader of a hundred men comes to Jesus. As a Gentile, he has no claim on the Lord but he provides us a wonderful example of faith in action. He heard about Jesus and the miracles that followed his ministry. **Being a soldier, he understood power and authority.** He knew that Jesus had the power and the authority to do anything. The Centurion just needed to hear the word and he would believe and act on that word. He didn't need any sign or confirmation. He returned home fully expecting to see his servant healed.

C. LESSON

Read today's story aloud from the Bible, or by showing pictures, or tell the story in your own words. *(Instruct the kids that whenever they hear the word "centurion", salute with their right hand).*

The Centurion & Faith That Impresses God

One day Jesus was in a town called Capernaum. There was a centurion, a Roman army officer, who had a servant who was very sick and about to die. The centurion heard about Jesus and sent some men to ask Jesus to come and heal his servant. The men came to Jesus and pleaded with Him to heal the centurion's servant, so Jesus went with them.

Before Jesus even arrived at the house, the officer sent some men to say to Him, **"Don't even go to the trouble to come to my house, because I am not worthy of such an honor. Just say the word and my servant will be healed."**

When Jesus heard this, He was amazed. He turned to the crowd of people that was following Him and said, "I haven't seen faith like this in all of Israel!" The officer's friends turned and went back to the centurion's house. When they arrived, they found the servant completely healed.

Points:

- The centurion, a man in authority is placing himself under the authority of Jesus.
- The centurion reminds us that "man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7)
- Jesus is not as impressed with titles, degrees, and achievements we have. He is impressed with those who really do humbly believe Him.

MEMORY VERSE**Hebrews 11:1**

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

1. What did the centurion ask Jesus to do?
2. How did the centurion show his faith to Jesus?
3. What happened to the sick servant?
4. Why do you think Jesus was so impressed with the centurion?

LIFE APPLICATION

Just like the faith of the centurion in this story, our faith can unlock the power of God in our lives. The Bible is God's Word for our generation. You can be just like the Centurion and take God's Word as the final answer and solution to every need you will ever face. God does not lie and every Word from God is true.

ACTIVITY

FAITH RELAYS: Divide children into teams. The teacher will ask a series of questions and each question will be one relay. Example: Ask children - Do you have FAITH that you can hop on one foot to the finish line and back? Continue to give children relays to run to show their FAITH in what they can do, as time allows.

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, help us to remember that no matter what obstacles we may face, our faith in you is the key that unlocks your mighty power. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.