

August 9, 2017

“Becoming the Person God Wants You to Be Through Faith”

2 Peter 1: 5-7

David Self

- I. **The Example of an Outsider** (Mt. 8:5-10, 13) *“I assure you: I have not found anyone in Israel with so great a faith.”* (10)
 - A. **Ask with Humility** *“When He entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, 6 “Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible agony!” 7 “I will come and heal him,” He told him.”* (5-7)
 1. An Extraordinary **Fondness** (5-6) - Servants were slaves and slaves were property. The Centurion’s compassion for his slave is highly unusual.
 2. An Extraordinary **Attitude** - The Roman officer’s attitude was not the usual arrogance displayed by an occupying army. He asked with humility.
 - B. **Acknowledge His Authority** *“Lord,” the centurion replied, “I am not worthy to have You come under my roof. But only say the word, and my servant will be cured. 9 For I too am a man under authority, having soldiers under my command. I say to this one, ‘Go!’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come!’ and he comes; and to my slave, ‘Do this!’ and he does it.”* (8-9) Jesus “marveled” because the Centurion trusted the power of His word not just His touch.
 - C. **Anticipate an Answer** *“Hearing this, Jesus was amazed and said to those following Him, “I assure you: I have not found anyone in Israel with so great a faith!” 13 Then Jesus told the centurion, “Go. As you have believed, let it be done for you.” And his servant was cured that very moment.”* (10-13)
- II. **Our Lessons on Faith**
 - A. **Faith is available to everyone** (Romans 10:13)
 - B. **Faith must be in the right Person** (John 14:6) Notice that saving faith is not mere intellectual assent nor is saving faith temporary in nature.

C. Faith is both challenged and built during difficult times (Romans 8:28)

D. Faith is essential to our relationship with God (Hebrews 11:6)

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