

THE FAITH THAT GETS HEAVEN'S ATTENTION

MAIN TAKEAWAY

The Christian life is lived *by* and *through* faith. Jesus marveled at both amazing faith and unbelief. Amazing faith is to be used and applied—faith is belief plus action.

INTRODUCTION

In what ways does everyone have a form of faith? Why is God the safest to put your faith in?

What kind of faith gets Jesus' attention? Is this the kind of faith we can have?

Why do you think Jesus heals and ministers to people in a variety of ways?

UNDERSTANDING

READ LUKE 7:1-10

What is surprising about the faith of the Roman centurion? How does this show Luke's emphasis that the gospel is for everyone?

Where does sickness come from, and how can we respond with faith (James 5:13-16)? How might God allow sickness to keep us humble, teach us lessons, and prepare us for the future?

Faith is belief plus action—faith does things. Pastor Greg said, "A faith with no works is a faith that does not work." In what way is faith like a muscle?

Faith can make the difference between something happening and not happening. God is the one who works, but why does He choose to work through humans living by faith? How does this impact us?

What makes Jesus marvel, both positively and negatively (Luke 7:9; Mark 6:6)? How is the faith of the centurion an example to follow and the unbelief of Nazareth a warning to heed?

READ LUKE 7:11-17

Jesus was deeply moved by the widow's plight. What caused Jesus to be full of compassion? How does this reveal how God sometimes sovereignly intervenes?

How does this story illustrate how Jesus feels sorrow and compassion for those who have lost loved ones (see John 11:35)? How does this provide comfort?

We will see our loved ones again who died in faith. How does this future heavenly reunion give us encouragement to grieve with hope (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)?

APPLICATION

How do the differences between the stories of the centurion and the widow reveal how Jesus ministers to people personally and uniquely? How has Jesus brought healing and hope in your life, and how has it impacted your faith?

Pastor Greg explained that there is faith that moves mountains, faith that barely moves us, and faith that moves Jesus. What kind of faith do you have in this season of your life? How would you like your faith to increase?

How does Jesus' reaction of marveling at faith and unbelief shape your perspective of belief and action (Luke 7:9; Mark 6:6)? Does your faith get Heaven's attention?

PRAYER

Thank Jesus for His healing and compassion. Bring your needs to the Lord in prayer. Pray for help to have amazing faith (Mark 9:24)—the kind that gets Heaven's attention and makes Jesus marvel.