

STORY

The Centurion's Servant - Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10

TEACHER PRAYER

Dear Lord, You promise to hear those who call upon You in truth. In our times many have attacked Your Word as unreliable and not to be completely trusted. Yet, as we see Your hand working throughout history for the benefit of all nations, we know that Your Word is true and backed by Your ultimate power and authority. Strengthen the faith of those who hear this lesson that they may, as the Centurion did, trust with humble faith the power and reliability of Your Word. For the message of salvation in Jesus is in Your Word and needs to be trusted by all. You have promised that Your Word will never be destroyed, but also warned that it can depart from those who despise it. I pray that Your Word may truly be respected and believed by me and those with whom I share it that You may continue to bless us through that Word and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

VOCABULARY

Centurion - a Roman commander of about 100 men, this one commanded the garrison at Capernaum

Gnashing - grinding of teeth, normally in frustration or anger

Gentile - any person who is not of Jewish ancestry

Israel - a small country east of the Mediterranean Sea, the region in which Jesus conducted His ministry

OUTER AIM

Jesus heals a Centurion's servant

INNER AIM

God gives faith to trust in Him.

BACKGROUND

(Rupprecht Bible History References Vol.2, pp. 179-186)

We walk by faith not by sight. If you can see something or have proof of its existence, you do not need faith. Faith comes into play in those spiritual areas which are not subject to scientific proof.

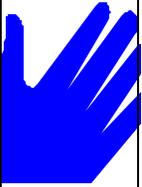
(Hebrews 11:1) "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." In this episode we have an example of genuine "faith."

Luke 7:1

- ▶ This event took place after Jesus had preached the "Sermon on the Mount."
- ▶ Again we find Him in Capernaum where He had been well received.
- ▶ Capernaum - (village of Nahum) was on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee. (Matthew 4:13) It was in the "land of Gennesaret," [(Matthew 14:34) comp. John 6:17,21,24] It was of sufficient size to be always called a "city," (Matthew 9:1; Mark 1:33) and had its own synagogue, in which our Lord frequently taught, (Mark 1:21; Luke 4:33,38; John 6:59) The only interest attaching to Capernaum is as the residence of our Lord and his apostles, the scene of so many miracles and "gracious words." It was when he returned thither that he is said to have been "in the house." (Mark 2:1) - Smith's Bible Dictionary

v. 2

- ▶ The local Centurion or Roman commander had a servant whom he loved dearly..



▶ The servant was sick (Matt: paralyzed and dreadfully tormented) and about to die.

v. 3

▶ The Centurion was Roman, a Gentile, a non-Jew, asking a favor of an important Jew, Jesus.

▶ So he sent some of the Jewish Elders to ask that Jesus go out of His way to heal his servant.

vs. 4-5

▶ The Jewish messengers respected the Roman commander, for he had treated the Jews well and even built a synagogue for them.

▶ They pleaded that Jesus would also respect the centurion for those reasons and honor his request.

v. 6

▶ Jesus for His own reasons consented to heal the servant (Matt 8:7) and went with the messengers towards the Centurion's house.

▶ But before arriving, the Centurion sent friends again to Jesus.

▶ The Centurion felt unworthy (knowing he was ceremonially unclean) of having Jesus come to his house and didn't want Jesus to expose Himself to the discomfort of becoming "contaminated" by contact with Gentiles.

v. 7

▶ So unworthy did the Centurion feel that he didn't feel respectable enough to come himself to Jesus.

▶ But he believed in Jesus' power to simply say the word, and his servant would be healed.

v. 8

▶ He understood authority, for he was a soldier accustomed to the "chain of command" system.

▶ When he was given or gave a command, that order was carried out without question.

▶ The Centurion trusted that Jesus held absolute authority over sickness in the same way. He knew that Jesus could heal the sickness by giving an order if Jesus would but wish to do so.

v. 9

▶ Even Jesus marveled that a Gentile would display such a faith in Jesus and His authority.

▶ So He pointed it out to the crowd around Him, emphasizing that He hadn't found such a faith among the Israelites.

▶ The centurion had showed his faith 1) in his love for his servant 2) in his humble feeling of unworthiness before Jesus and 3) his confidence in Jesus' power to heal with a simple command.

Matthew 8:11-12

▶ Jesus adds this warning: Many Gentiles from the ends of the earth will believe in Jesus and so enter heaven with the Forefathers of the Jews.

▶ But the Jews who reject their promised Messiah will be cast out of heaven into outer darkness, that is, Hell, where they will be tormented for their sins and unbelief.

Matthew 8:13 (Luke 7:10)

▶ Jesus' reply to the Centurion quantifies the miracle of healing by the faith shown. And indeed the servant was healed at Jesus' command, without His presence or a special sign.

STUDENT PRAYER

Jesus Christ, My Savior, thank You for bringing Your word also to us and to people of every nation. Help us to trust Your Word with humble and courageous hearts that we may lay hold of all Your precious promises. For we know that You have the power and the Love to do all that You have promised. So, when we call upon You, we know that You will answer. With Jesus as our

Savior we know that we will be saved. And when we pray, we know that Your answer will be what is best for all whom our prayer touches. We come to You, Jesus, in whom we trust, Amen.

PRESENTATION

Briefly review previous story as time allows. Make links to the new story when possible.

Tell the story: Teachers, be encouraged to tell the story in your own words while remaining faithful to the scriptural account. When scripture records the story in more than one place, you may want to harmonize the accounts (including extra details found in each account.) Let the students know where they can find the additional details in the Bible.

Discuss the story: While reviewing the major events of the story, discuss the possible applications to the students' lives. Ask questions that make them think about the story and show that they understand the story.

1. Why did the soldier come to Jesus? (*His servant was very sick.*)
2. What did the soldier believe Jesus could do? (*Heal the servant.*)
3. The soldier was humble and had a strong faith. What did he believe Jesus could do? (*Heal the servant without coming into his house.*)
4. How are you like the soldier? (*We believe Jesus will help and save us.*)

APPLICATIONS

1. The centurion trusted Jesus' Word, that it would accomplish whatever Jesus wanted it to. That same powerful word of God created the world, keeps the stars in their courses, sends the seasons, and assures us of salvation in Jesus. We should trust it as confidently and humbly as the Centurion did. We should not need any more proof God's Word is truth and profitable for life and salvation. To deny part of the Word of God threatens all of it and ultimately destroys our assurance of salvation in Jesus Christ.
2. An additional point to be made in connection with Jesus' powerful Word is that He can and did heal a deadly earthly disease by simply saying the word. What a comfort that can be to young and old alike when they or a family member or friend are afflicted with any disease of any severity. Our Lord can care for our well-being in any way He may choose.
3. How thankful we can be that Jesus wants all people to be saved, not just one particular race or nation. We are a part of those who have "come from the east and the west" to sit at His table. God's Word is able to create faith in the hearts of people from all nations. That is why God sends us with His Word to all nations.

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Lower

Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Middle any of the above and...

Psalms 130:3-5 - If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You, That You may be feared. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, And in His word I do hope.

Psalms 50:15 - Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."

Upper any of the above and...

Psalm 46 all.

Psalm 107:19-20 - Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, And He saved them out of their distresses. He sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions.

Isaiah 55:10-11 - "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."

HYMN CHOICES

"Lord, as Thou Wilt, Deal Thou With Me" (TLH 406)

"When in the Hour of Utmost Need" (TLH 522: 1-2, or all)

"My God, My Father, Make Me Strong" (TLH 424)

The Centurion's Servant

Matthew 8:5-15; Luke 7:1-10



The Story

Have you ever seen a soldier? A soldier is a man who is in the army. Did you know there were armies in Jesus' time, too? Today we will hear about a very special army leader, a centurion, from the Roman army. He knew he needed Jesus to help his servant.

One day, Jesus went high up on a mountain and preached a very important sermon to the people gathered there. He taught them many wonderful things about how much God loves everyone.

After Jesus came down from the mountain, he went to a city called Capernaum. At this city an centurion, who was in charge of one hundred other soldiers, came to Jesus for help. This army commander was an important man, but he believed that Jesus had much more power than he did (and more power than any other man does). And he was right! He was right because Jesus is the very Son of God.

Do you know why the army leader came to Jesus? Did he need help to win a battle with his army? No, he needed Jesus' help because his servant was very, very sick. He did not want his servant to die, or

even be sick. He believed Jesus could help.

The army leader came to Jesus and said, "Lord, my servant can't walk, and he is in a lot of pain." Jesus said, "I will come and heal him."

The army leader showed how much he believed Jesus and how humble he knew he was before Jesus. He said, "Lord, I command many soldiers and they do what I say. But You are much more important and powerful than me. I do not deserve the honor of You coming to my house. I know that if You just say a word, my servant will be better again."

Jesus was very surprised by how strongly the commander believed in Him. This man - from the Roman army - had a very great faith. Many people from Israel, Jesus' own country, did not even believe in Him.

Jesus helped the army leader and his servant. He told the centurion that he could go home and he would find his servant healed just as he had believed.

The servant did get well, right at that very time.

Activity - Cut out the words at the bottom of page 3 and use them on page 4.

Passage

Psalm 50:15 "Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."

Hymn - TLH #428 v. 1, 6

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,
Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation,
Great and free.

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;
Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever
And for all.

Prayer

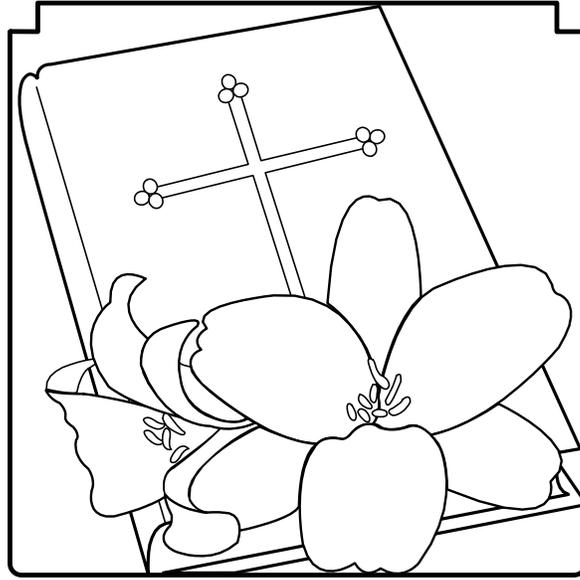
Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for sending Jesus to help when we are sick, and in every time of need. We are so happy to learn how much You love us, and that You are always ready to help us with everything in our lives. Help us to believe as strongly as the Roman army leader did. Help us, we pray, to be especially happy that Jesus is our Savior from sin so that we know we will be in heaven forever. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen!

Thee,

I am trusting

Lord Jesus

Activity - Glue the cut out words from page 3 in place. Color the pictures.



I am trusting

Thee,

Lord Jesus



The Centurion's Servant

Matthew 8:5-15; Luke 7:1-10



The Story

Did you know that there were armies in Jesus' day, just like there are armies today? One day in a city called Capernaum a leader from the Roman army came to Jesus for help. Do you know why he came to Jesus? He believed that Jesus could help him with a problem. His problem had to do with his servant. His servant had become very sick. He could not walk because he was paralyzed, and he was in a lot of pain.

It was good that this army commander called a centurion had come to Jesus for help. This centurion was the leader of one hundred men. While a centurion is an important man and gives orders to other people, he is not as important and powerful as Jesus. No man is as important and powerful as Jesus. This is true because Jesus is the very Son of God.

The people of the city liked this Roman centurion because he cared about the people. He even built a church or synagogue for them in which to worship.

This centurion came to Jesus and said, "Lord, my servant is very sick. He is paralyzed, and he is in a lot of pain." Jesus told the army

leader, "I will come and heal him."

Now we see how much the centurion believed in Jesus, and how humble he was in the presence of Jesus. He said, "Lord, I am not worthy enough to have you come to my house. I am under the authority of those above me in the army, and I am the leader of some who follow my orders. But I know you only have to speak a word, and my servant will be healed."

Jesus was surprised by how strongly this man believed in Him. This Roman centurion had a very strong faith in Jesus the Savior, while many people from Israel, Jesus' own country, did not believe in Jesus at all.

It is a good thing the Roman army leader believed in Jesus and came to Him for help. Did Jesus help him? Yes, He did! Jesus said to the man, "Go on your way; and just as you have believed it would happen, your servant shall be healed." The servant did recover from his sickness, right at that very time.

Jesus heals a Centurion's servant.

Activity - Word Search - Find the words from the Word Box in the puzzle below.

SYNAGOGUE
CAPERNAUM

HEALED
HUMBLE

SERVANT
FAITH

CENTURION
PARALYZED

C A P E R N A U M H
E D A K S W G H Y U
N V R H E A L E D M
T Y A P R V O Y L B
U P L E V X P P K L
R S Y N A G O G U E
I Q Z O N E B L S W
O W E P T N F M E O
N E D R X T E E C R
P I P F A I T H G T

Review - Now use the words in the Word Box to answer these questions.

1. Jesus came to the city of _____.
2. A _____ was a soldier in charge of 100 men.
3. His _____ was sick and _____.
4. This soldier built the people a church or _____.
5. The soldier was _____ before Jesus.
6. Jesus said he had great _____.
7. The servant was _____ at that very hour.

Passage

*Psalm 50:15 "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you,
and you shall glorify Me."*

Circle the words that tell what God promises to do for us when we need help.
Underline the words that tell how will we show our thanks.

God gives faith to trust in Him.

Hymn - TLH#428 v. 1, 2, 6

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,
Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation,
Great and free.

I am trusting Thee for pardon;
At Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy
Trusting now.

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;
Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever
And for all.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

We thank You for teaching us in Your Word about how much Jesus loves us, how powerful He is, and how willing He is to help us. It is comforting to know that He will help us and be with us when we are sick, and in all our times of need. We ask that Your Holy Spirit will ever make our faith stronger so that we will always strongly believe in Jesus like the Roman army leader did. Thank You especially for sending Your Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior from sin, so that we know that we will be in heaven forever because He has gained eternal salvation for us. This we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen!

The Centurion's Servant

Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10

What religion are these children?

Are you a member of the Jewish religion?

If you are not a Jew, what are you?

Today we will hear about a faithful Gentile soldier.



Prayer

Dear Father in Heaven,

Help us to learn from Your Holy Bible the lesson today.

Make our faith grow stronger through the study of that Word. Thank You for giving us faith to trust in Your Son, Jesus, for the forgiveness of sins. Amen.

The Story - Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10

Matthew 8: 5 - Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, {6} saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented."

{7} And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."

{8} The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. {9} "For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

{10} When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! {11} "And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. {12} "But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." {13} Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

Luke 7:1 - Now when He concluded



all His sayings in the hearing of the people, He entered Capernaum. {2} And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear to him, was sick and ready to die. {3} So when he heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to Him, pleading with Him to come and heal his servant. {4} And when they came to Jesus, they begged Him earnestly, saying that the one for whom He should do this was deserving, {5} "for he loves our nation, and has built us a synagogue."

{6} Then Jesus went with them. And when He was already not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to Him, saying to Him, "Lord, do not trouble Yourself, for I am not

worthy that You should enter under my roof. {7} "Therefore I did not even think myself worthy to come to You. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. {8} "For I also am a man placed under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

{9} When Jesus heard these things, He marveled at him, and turned around and said to the crowd that followed Him, "I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!" {10} And those who were sent, returning to the house, found the servant well who had been sick.

Outer Aim Jesus heals a Centurion's servant.

Review - Use the story to answer the following questions.

1. What city did Jesus enter?
2. What was the centurion's request?
3. Why was this Gentile liked by the Jews of the city?
4. Why did the centurion not want Jesus to come into his home?
5. How did Jesus describe the faith of this centurion?
6. What happened to the servant?

Word Search - Find the words from the Word Box in the puzzle below.

GENTILE SYNAGOGUE	CAPERNAUM WORTHY	HEALED SERVANT	FAITH CENTURION	JEWS PARALYZED
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C A P E R N A U M P
E D A K S W G H Y E
N V R H E A L E D S
T Y A P R V O Y L K
U P L E V X P P K N
R S Y N A G O G U E
I Q Z O N E B L S W
O W E P T N F M E O
N E D R X T E E C R
P I P F A I T H G T
O L M O T L E R L H
B C O S J E W S Q Y

Bible Passages - Use the Bible passages to do the activity below.

*Psalm 50:15 "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you,
and you shall glorify Me."*

Circle the words that tell what God promises to do for us when we need help.
Underline the words that tell how will we show our thanks.

*Psalms 130:3-5 "If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?
But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared.
I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I do hope."*

Underline the word that means sins. Circle the word for what Christ has done for us. Put a box around what helps us wait for the LORD.

What God's Word Tells Us - Use the words in the box twice. Use them once to fill in the blanks about the centurion and then use the words to fill in the blanks about Christians.

confident	love	humble
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How the centurion showed his faith...

... _____ for his servant.
... _____ before Jesus.
... _____ of Jesus' power
to heal.

How a Christian shows his/her faith...

... _____ for our neighbor.
... _____ before Jesus.
... _____ of Jesus' power
to save us.

Hymn TLH #518 v. 1, 7

If thou but suffer God to guide thee
And hope in Him thro' all thy ways,
He'll give thee strength, whate'er betide thee,
And bear thee thro' the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
Builds on the Rock that naught can move.

Sing, pray, and keep His ways unswerving,
Perform thy duties faithfully,
And trust His Word' though undeserving,
Thou yet shalt find it true for thee.
God never yet forsook in need
The soul that trusted Him indeed.

Prayer

Jesus Christ my Savior,

Thank You for bringing Your Word to us and to people of every nation. Help us to trust Your Word with humble and courageous hearts that we may lay hold of all Your precious promises. We know that You have the power and the love to do all that You have promised. When we call upon You, we know that You will answer in a way that is best for all. Because of what Jesus has done for us, we know we will be saved. We come to You, Jesus, in Whom we trust!
Amen!

The Centurion's Servant

Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10

Do you know what religion has these items?

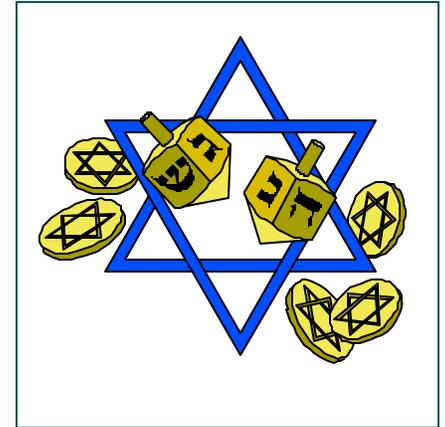
Do you know the name for those people who are not Jewish?

Which group, Jew or Gentile, is more likely to go to heaven? (Be careful here.)

Today we will hear about a faithful Gentile soldier.

Prayer

Dear Father in Heaven, Help us to learn from Your Holy Bible the lesson today. Make our faith grow stronger through the study of that Word. Thank you for giving us faith to trust in Your Son, Jesus, for the forgiveness of sins. Amen.



The Story - Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10

Matthew 8: 5 - Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, {6} saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented."

{7} And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."

{8} The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. {9} "For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

{10} When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found

such great faith, not even in Israel! {11} "And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. {12} "But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." {13} Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.

Luke 7:1 - Now when He concluded all His sayings in the hearing of the people, He entered Capernaum. {2} And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear to him, was sick and ready to die. {3} So when he heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the



Jews to Him, pleading with Him to come and heal his servant. {4} And when they came to Jesus, they begged Him earnestly, saying that the one for whom He should do this was deserving, {5} "for he loves our nation, and has built us a synagogue."

{6} Then Jesus went with them. And when He was already not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to Him, saying to Him, "Lord, do not trouble Yourself, for I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof. {7} "Therefore I did not even think myself worthy to come

to You. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. {8} "For I also am a man placed under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

{9} When Jesus heard these things, He marveled at him, and turned around and said to the crowd that followed Him, "I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!" {10} And those who were sent, returning to the house, found the servant well who had been sick.

Outer Aim - Jesus heals a Centurion's servant

Review - Use the words from the story to fill in the crossword puzzle.

Across

- 1. What city did Jesus enter?
- 4. The centurion's ____ needed help.
- 7. The centurion was not a Jew, but a ____.
- 8. Jesus ____ the servant without even seeing him.

Down

- 1. A captain of 100 men.
- 2. The servant was ____ and needed help.
- 3. We breath ____.
- 4. The centurion built a ____ for the Jews in which to worship.
- 5. Jesus said the centurion had great ____.
- 6. Not Gentiles.

1		2				3		
				4				
							5	
								6
				7				
					8			

Inner Aim - God gives faith to trust in Him.

What God's Word Tells Us - Use the words in the box twice. Use them once to fill in the blanks about the centurion and then use the words to fill in the blanks about Christians.

confident	love	humble
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How the centurion showed his faith...

... _____ for his servant.
... _____ before Jesus.
... _____ of Jesus' power to
heal.

How a Christian shows his/her faith...

... _____ for our neighbor.
... _____ before Jesus.
... _____ of Jesus' power to
save us.

Hymn TLH #518 v. 1, 7

If thou but suffer God to guide thee
And hope in Him thro' all thy ways,
He'll give thee strength, whate'er betide thee,
And bear thee thro' the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
Builds on the Rock that naught can move.

Sing, pray, and keep His ways unswerving,
Perform thy duties faithfully,
And trust His Word' though undeserving,
Thou yet shalt find it true for thee.
God never yet forsook in need
The soul that trusted Him indeed.

Bible Passages - Use the Bible passages to answer the questions

*Psalm 50:15 "Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you,
and you shall glorify Me."*

What does God promise to do for us when we need help? (Circle the words in the passage.)
How will we show our thanks? (Underline the words in the passage.)

† † †

*Psalms 130:3-5 "If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is
forgiveness with You, that You may be feared.
I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I do hope."*

Underline the word that means sins.
Circle the word for what Christ has done for us.
Put a box around what helps us wait for the LORD.

† † †

*Isaiah 55:11 "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth;
it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please,
and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."*

Underline what God's Word will not do.
Circle the two things God's Word will do.

† † †

Prayer

Jesus Christ, My Savior, thank You for bringing Your Word to us and to people of every nation. Help us to trust Your Word with humble and courageous hearts that we may lay hold of all your precious promises. For we know that You have the power and the love to do all that You have promised. When we call upon You, we know that You will answer in a way that is best for all. Because of what Jesus has done for us, we know we will be saved. We come to You, Jesus, in Whom we trust! Amen!