

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

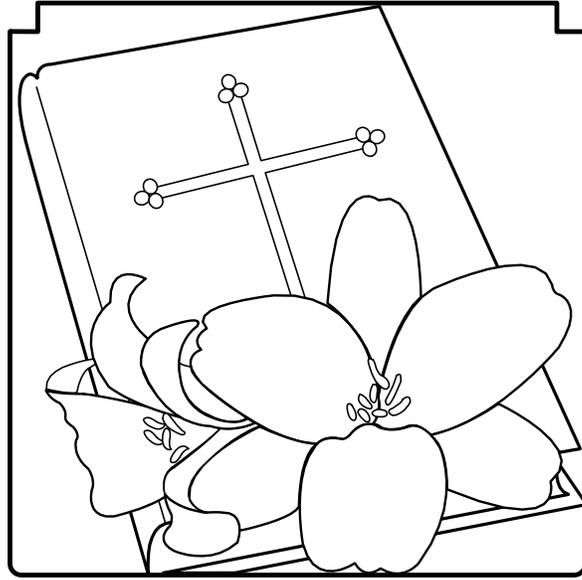
Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for sending Jesus to help when we are sick, and in every time of need. We are so happy to learn how much You love us, and that You are always ready to help us with everything in our lives. Help us to believe as strongly as the Roman army leader did. Help us, we pray, 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

