

# Hearing – Believing - Seeing.

Matthew 8: 5-13 *5 When Jesus entered Capernaum, a Roman commander came to him. He asked Jesus for help. 6 "Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home and can't move. He is suffering terribly." 7 Jesus said, "Shall I come and heal him?" 8 The commander replied, "Lord, I am not good enough to have you come into my house. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. 9 I myself am a man under authority. And I have soldiers who obey my orders. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes. I tell that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." 10 When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. He said to those following him, "What I'm about to tell you is true. In Israel I have not found anyone whose faith is so strong. 11 I say to you that many will come from the east and the west. They will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of heaven. They will sit with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. 12 But those who think they belong in the kingdom will be thrown outside, into the darkness. There they will weep and grind their teeth." 13 Then Jesus said to the Roman commander, "Go! It will be done just as you believed it would." And his servant was healed at that moment.*

Jesus was in Capernaum. The Centurion (Commanding 100 men) heard that Jesus was in town. I am sure the Roman Commander had heard a lot about Jesus and the miracles that Jesus did among the people. Although a Roman he favoured the Jews and built them a synagogue. He knew there was something in Jesus that was different, and being a Gentile he believed in Jesus.

We see the inclusiveness of Jesus irrespective of where you come from or your heritage, no one is excluded from Jesus. Jesus said in John 6:37 I will never send away anyone who comes to me. The message says that Jesus will hold on and never let go. What an amazing Jesus who accepts everyone just as they are. Whatever social class or background you may come from does not matter to Jesus, when you call upon Him, He will answer.

**1 This Centurion HEARD that Jesus was in town.** I believe he had an expectation that something good would come out of Jesus, that somehow Jesus could make things better not for him though but for the servant he loved very much.

Look at the response from Jesus to this man, "*shall I come and heal him?*" How does faith come? *Rom 10:17 So faith comes from hearing the message. And the message that is heard is the message about Christ.* Faith? faith is "being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." we are assured of, we have a belief in the one true God the God of Gods even though we don't see him.

I believe this Roman Centurion heard of Jesus and on hearing his faith was stirred. Even today we are called to preach the gospel that faith in Jesus will be stirred up so that people could believe and receive. *Rom: 10:8-10 it says the word is near you even in your mouth the word of faith that we preach, that when you say Jesus is Lord believing in your heart and that God raised Jesus from the dead you will be saved.*

This Centurion experienced Gods salvation right there by simple faith in Jesus. Is our faith stirred when we hear the name of Jesus? Is there an Earnest expectation, a deep desire for the miraculous when we hear the name of Jesus?

**2. He BELIEVED that Jesus had the words of eternal life.** Vs 8 Just say the word! my servant will be healed. Jesus marvelled at such faith and commended this gentile for his faith in Jesus to heal his servant. *John 15 :7 tells us that if we abide in Jesus and His word abides in us, we can ask what we desire and it will be done for us.*

Do we really believe the word of God? Do we believe according to *Heb 4:12-13 (msg) God means what he says. What he says goes. His powerful Word is sharp as a surgeon's scalpel, cutting through everything, whether doubt or defence, laying us open to listen and obey. Nothing and no one is impervious to God's Word. We can't get away from it—no matter what.*

Do we believe this about Gods word? If we do believe Gods word then we would read it diligently. His word will change us from the inside out. His word will heal us, will be lamp to our feet and a light to our path, will give us direction, will keep us from sin or from missing the mark of God's standards... his best in our lives.

What are we believing today?

- Ourselves?
- humanistic ideas,
- philosophies,
- what's in news papers,
- what's on TV,
- magazines, other forms of literature?
- In cults?
- In religious activities? in religious societies?

Or do we truly believe that Jesus is the Son of God who took the form of man, lived on the earth walked among people, and died a cruel death for the sins of the world and arose again from the grave and is seated at Gods right hand interceding for us?

*1Tim 2:5-6 There is only one God. And there is only one go-between for God and human beings. He is the man Christ Jesus. 6 He gave himself to pay for the sins of all people.* Do we believe that Gods word has the power to change whatever we are believing for right now?

**3 He SAW the miraculous power of Jesus at work.** He believed the word of Jesus and he saw his servant healed *"Go! It will be done just as you believed it would."* And his servant was healed at that moment.

What are we believing Jesus for right now?

- For your health?
- For finances?
- For a difficult time you are facing right now?
- For your spouse's salvation?
- Children's salvation?
- Family members?

It takes faith believing that with God all things are possible. It takes faith to come to God, to please God. Today you can experience Gods amazing power in your life to set you free from what ever is holding you back. You heard the word today, now believe that Jesus is able to change your situation and expect to see that being fulfilled in your life. You hear the word of faith, believe and see – miracle.

Jesus Loves you and desires to have a relationship with you. He desires to give you a life full of joy and purpose.

Jesus can change the past you cannot change by walking into those places of sin and failure and wipe your slate clean, your past cleaned and removed. Jesus is the same today as he was yesterday and forever His love for you will never give up or run dry or fail you. Jesus knows the worst about you and yet he believes the best why? Because He sees you not as you are but as His child when he gets through with you. He is an amazing friend! Jesus has a great future for you. You can trust Him. His plans are for good and not for evil to give you a future and a hope ( joyful expectation/ anticipation about the future) . Jesus listens to your every prayer. Do you want to know this Jesus? Are you willing to do what Jesus says just because He's said it?

Prayer: Dear Lord Jesus, I am sorry for the things I have done wrong in my life. I ask Your forgiveness. Thank you for dying on the cross for me to set me free from my sins. Come into my life Jesus. I believe you are Jesus my Lord and Saviour. Lord fill me with your Holy Spirit and be with me always . Amen