

## ELEMENTS OF AMAZING

Luke 6:47 – 49, 7:1 – 10

September 3, 2023

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### MESSAGE NOTES

*Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and does them, I will show you what he is like: he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.” – Luke 6:47 – 49 (ESV)*

**“Faith is a conviction of God and the things of God.” – John Wesley, On Faith**

**“Faith is a firm and certain knowledge of God’s benevolence towards us.” – John Calvin, Institutes**

**“Faith is a firm and certain conviction of God’s goodness towards us, whatever the short-term outcome may be.” – Steve Matthewson**

*Now a centurion had a servant who was sick and at the point of death, who was highly valued by him. When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent to Him elders of the Jews, asking Him to come and heal his servant. And when they came to Jesus, they pleaded with Him earnestly, saying, “he is worthy to have you do this for him, for he loves our nation, and he is the one who built us our synagogue.”*

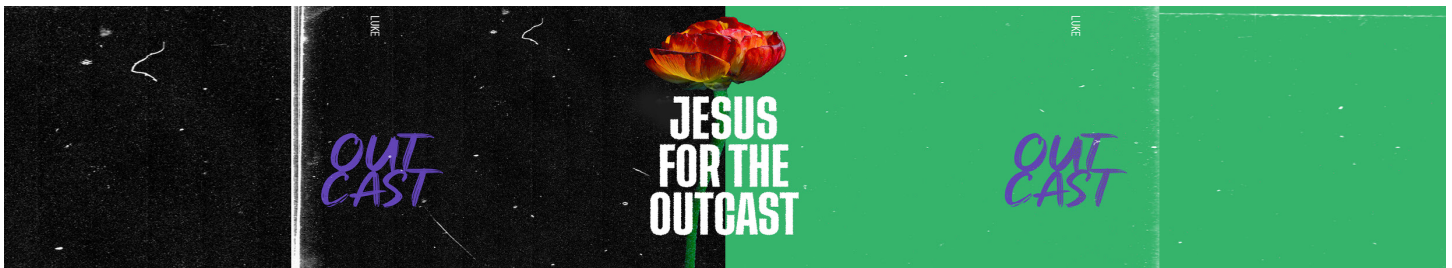
*And Jesus went with them. When He was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to Him, “Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. Therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed. For I too am a man set under authority, with 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.”*

*When Jesus heard these things, He marveled at him, and turning to the crowd that followed Him, said, “I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.” And when those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the servant well. – Luke 7:2 – 10 (ESV)*

- **Growing faith rests in the goodness of God’s authority**

*All these things My hand has made, and so all these things came to be, declares the Lord. But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word. – Isaiah 66:2 (ESV)*

*When Jesus heard these things, He marveled at him, and turning to the crowd that followed Him, said, “I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.” – Luke 7:9 (ESV)*



**“I want people to understand prayers are not always answered the way we want but it doesn’t change who God is. God always loves us. He always has best intentions and desires for us. This life is so short in comparison to eternity. Don’t mess up your eternity for a blip. One day we will be at the feet of God’s holiness and love.” – Randy Mitchell**

*And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him. – Hebrews 11:6 (ESV)*

- **Growing faith rests in the goodness of God’s compassion**

*Now a centurion had a servant who was sick and at the point of death, who was highly valued by him. When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent to Him elders of the Jews, asking Him to come and heal his servant. – Luke 7:2 – 3 (ESV)*

- **Growing faith rests in the goodness of God’s grace through surrender**

**“Surrender unleashes God’s power and allows Him the freedom to direct and correct our lives.” – Author Unknown**

*And when they came to Jesus, they pleaded with Him earnestly, saying, “He is worthy to have you do this for Him, for he loves our nation, and he is the one who built us our synagogue.” – Luke 7:4 – 5 (ESV)*

*And Jesus went with them. When He was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to Him, “Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. – Luke 7:6 (ESV)*

*God showed how much He loved us by sending His one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him. This is real love—not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. – 1 John 4:9 – 10 (NLT)*



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discussion Starter: Discuss the importance of a strong foundation for a house or building. Why is the foundation of a building or house so important?
- What do you learn most from the example of the Centurion's faith? What is your biggest takeaway from the passage this week?
- "Faith is a firm and certain conviction of God's goodness towards us, whatever the short-term outcome may be." Share what stands out to you most from this definition of faith. What is your definition of faith?
- How does surrender unleash God's power and freedom in our lives? Why is the goodness of God's authority, compassion and grace so connected to our willingness to surrender our life before God's love?
- Read 1 John 4:9 –10. How does someone come to know Jesus Christ as their Savior?
- Share some life examples of how God is asking you to grow in your faith right now?
- How has God's Word come under attack in our world? What does the Bible mean when we are instructed to "hear" God's Word?
- Share one of your favorite verses or Bible stories that speaks to the goodness of God's character.