

## Time Audit Chronicles: Faith of the Centurion

(Luke 7:1-10)

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### Prologue: The Power of Faith in Jesus' Authority

The Presswood family gathered in the cozy living room, the soft flicker of the fireplace casting gentle shadows on the walls. Ariel had just finished reading **Luke 7:1-10**, the story of the **faith of the centurion**, a Roman officer whose servant was healed by Jesus. She sat, processing the powerful lesson about faith, while Alice, still holding Mr. Fluffernutter, was pretending to command her toy soldiers with authority, just like the centurion had authority over his men.

“Daddy,” Ariel began thoughtfully, “Why did Jesus praise the centurion’s faith so much? He wasn’t even Jewish, so why was his faith so special?”

Ryan smiled, recognizing the depth of Ariel’s question. “That’s a great question, Ariel. The centurion’s faith was remarkable because he understood **Jesus’ authority** in a way that many of the Jewish leaders at the time didn’t. The centurion was a Roman officer—a Gentile, and yet he recognized that Jesus had the power to heal with just a word. He understood that Jesus didn’t need to be physically present to heal; He only needed to **command** it. The centurion’s faith in Jesus’ **authority** was deep, and Jesus was amazed by it because it was **humble** and **trusting**.”

Ariel thought for a moment. “So, the centurion didn’t need Jesus to do a miracle in front of him—he believed that Jesus’ words were enough to heal his servant, even from a distance?”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “Exactly. The centurion knew that Jesus had divine power, and he trusted that Jesus could heal his servant with authority. This kind of faith is rare, especially for someone who wasn’t part of the Jewish community. But Jesus, seeing the centurion’s humility and trust, honored that faith and performed a miracle.”

Ariel smiled, beginning to grasp the significance. “So, Jesus is teaching us that faith isn’t about our background or what we have—it’s about **trusting** in God’s power and **believing** in His authority.”

“Exactly,” Ryan said. “Let’s use the **Time Audit Machine** to go back and witness the centurion’s faith, and how it led to a miraculous healing. We’ll see how Jesus responds to such a powerful expression of trust in His authority.”

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### The Journey Begins: The Centurion’s Request (Luke 7:1-3)

The Time Audit Machine hummed, and with a flash of light, the family found themselves standing at the edge of a **Roman villa** in **Capernaum**, a city on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee. The villa was elegant, with Roman soldiers stationed at various points, and the air smelled of olive oil and the faint scent of cooking in the distance. Jesus had entered the town, and as He was approaching, a **centurion** sent **Jewish elders** to ask Jesus for help. The centurion’s servant was **sick** and near death, and the centurion believed that Jesus had the power to heal him.

“This is where the story takes place,” Ryan said, pointing to the house in the distance. “The centurion was a Roman officer, in charge of about 100 soldiers, but he cared deeply for his servant. His servant was gravely ill, and the centurion believed that Jesus could heal him.”

Ariel looked around, imagining what the scene must have been like. “It’s amazing that a Roman officer, who wasn’t even part of the Jewish faith, would have such faith in Jesus’ ability to heal.”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “The centurion’s faith was remarkable, especially considering the hostility between the Romans and the Jews. But this man understood something important: he recognized Jesus’ **authority** and believed in His power to heal.”

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### **The Jewish Elders’ Plea: The Centurion’s Humility (*Luke 7:4-5*)**

The Jewish elders went to Jesus on behalf of the centurion, telling Him how worthy the centurion was of Jesus’ help:

“And when they came to Jesus, they besought Him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom He should do this: For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.” (Luke 7:4-5)

Ariel was intrigued. “The elders said the centurion was worthy because he loved the Jewish people and had even built them a synagogue. So, the centurion wasn’t just a Roman officer—he had a good heart, right?”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “The centurion was a **Gentile**, but he had a deep respect for the Jewish people and their faith. He showed love and kindness to the Jewish community by building them a synagogue, which would have been a huge gesture of goodwill. But it was his **humility** and his recognition of Jesus’ authority that made his faith stand out.”

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### **The Centurion’s Faith: Recognizing Jesus’ Authority (*Luke 7:6-8*)**

As Jesus started to approach the centurion’s house, the centurion sent a message to Him, asking Him not to come all the way to his house. The centurion felt unworthy for Jesus to enter his home but believed that if Jesus simply **spoke the word**, his servant would be healed. He said:

“Lord, trouble not Thyself: for I am not worthy that Thou shouldest enter under my roof: Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto Thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed.” (Luke 7:6-7)

Ariel’s eyes widened. “The centurion didn’t even want Jesus to come into his house because he didn’t feel worthy, but he believed that Jesus could heal just by speaking a word!”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “This is the **heart of faith**. The centurion recognized that Jesus had **authority** over everything, even sickness, and he trusted that Jesus didn’t need to be physically present to heal. He believed that Jesus could heal his servant with just a **command**. This was a powerful demonstration of **faith**—not just in Jesus’ power, but in His **authority** as the Son of God.”

Ariel smiled. “The centurion knew that Jesus didn’t need to do anything complicated—He just needed to **speak** and it would happen. That’s amazing faith!”

“Exactly,” Ryan said. “This kind of faith acknowledges Jesus as the **Lord**, the one with authority over all things, and trusts that He can act even when we don’t fully understand how it will happen.”

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### **Jesus’ Response: Amazement at the Centurion’s Faith (Luke 7:9)**

When Jesus heard the centurion’s words, He was amazed by his faith and turned to the crowd following Him:

“When Jesus heard these things, He marveled at him, and turned Him about, and said unto the people that followed Him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.” (Luke 7:9)

Ariel was stunned. “Jesus marveled at the centurion’s faith! That’s incredible! He was amazed by how much the centurion trusted in Him.”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “Jesus was amazed because this Roman officer—someone outside of the Jewish faith—had **greater faith** than many of the Jewish people who had seen Jesus’ miracles. The centurion didn’t need proof; he believed completely in Jesus’ authority, and that trust led to a **miracle**.”

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### **The Healing: Jesus’ Word Brings Restoration (Luke 7:10)**

When the centurion’s friends returned to his house, they found that his servant had been healed just as Jesus had spoken.

“And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.” (Luke 7:10)

Ariel’s face lit up with joy. “The servant was healed just by Jesus’ word! He didn’t even have to be there in person!”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “This is a **miracle** that shows us the power of Jesus’ word and His authority. When Jesus speaks, things happen. The centurion’s faith in Jesus’ ability to heal, even from a distance, opened the door for this miracle.”

Ariel smiled, understanding the deeper lesson. “It’s like Jesus can heal and change anything because He has the power to speak it into existence. That’s how big His authority is.”

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### **Reflection: The Power of Faith and Trust in Jesus**

Back in the garage, the Time Audit Machine powered down, and the family sat quietly, reflecting on the powerful faith they had just witnessed. Ariel turned to her father, deep in thought. Alice, still holding Mr. Fluffernutter, was pretending to heal her toys with just a word.

“Jesus’ authority is amazing,” Ariel said softly. “The centurion didn’t need to see a miracle to believe in Jesus’ power. He just trusted that Jesus could heal with a word, and Jesus did.”

“Yes,” Ryan said. “That’s the kind of **faith** Jesus wants us to have. Faith that believes in His power and authority, even when we don’t fully understand how it works. Jesus didn’t need to be physically present to heal; He just needed to **speak** the word, and the servant was healed. That’s how powerful and trustworthy Jesus is.”

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riel smiled. “So, Jesus is teaching us that faith in His **authority** can bring about miracles in our lives too, even when we can’t see the outcome right away.”

“Exactly,” Ryan said. “Our faith in Jesus’ authority is the key. We don’t have to understand everything; we just need to trust in His power and His will.”

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### **Takeaway: The Authority of Jesus and the Power of Faith**

In Luke 7:1-10, the faith of the centurion shows us the power of believing in **Jesus’ authority**. The centurion didn’t need Jesus to be physically present to heal; he trusted that Jesus could heal with just a **word**. Jesus was amazed at the centurion’s faith, praising it as greater than anything He had seen in Israel. This story teaches us that true faith is trusting in Jesus’ **power** and **authority**, even when we can’t see how He will act. When we have faith in Jesus, we acknowledge His divine authority and trust that He can bring healing, restoration, and transformation, no matter the circumstances.