

## **Luke 7:1-10**

<sup>1</sup> When Jesus had finished saying all this to the people who were listening, he entered Capernaum. <sup>2</sup> There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die.

<sup>3</sup> The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. <sup>4</sup> When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, "This man deserves to have you do this, <sup>5</sup> because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue." <sup>6</sup> So Jesus went with them.

He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him: "Lord, don't trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. <sup>7</sup> That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>8</sup> For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

<sup>9</sup> When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel." <sup>10</sup> Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well.

## **Series: God's Story: Finding our Place in His Unfolding Plan**

### **Oct 8, 2017: Jesus and the Foreigner**

#### **Late to the Party**

*Can you think of a time when you felt like an outsider in a group? Have you ever felt like this in church? Have you noticed it for others?*

*We are included among God's people is to be re-born into His family. A Christian is simply a follower of Christ, who believes in Him. What does that mean for how we relate in fellowship?*

#### **An Exception to the Rule (1-6)**

*How had Jesus been breaking down boundaries in His ministry so far? (Luke 4:18-19, 5:27-32)*

*How was Jesus's gospel different than the Jewish prosperity gospel?*

*1-6 – Jewish elders approach Jesus, pleading for him to heal the servant of a Roman centurion, who is "worthy." Why is this unusual?*

#### **Worthiness or Faith? (6-10)**

*6-8 – The Centurion's message to Jesus is even more unusual – which words does he use to describe himself? What does he ask for?*

*9-10 – Why is Jesus so amazed? How was the centurion different than the many Jews who Jesus had encountered? (Hebrews 11:1)*

#### **A Family of All Nations**

*Think of the groups of people with whom you associate. What do you have in common? How does one belong?*

*Think of this church – what sort of practical differences do we see among us? Do these ever cause us to feel not included?*

*For Jesus, faith is what made the Centurion an insider (John 1:12). Who in your life needs to hear his invitation? (Mark 1:14-17)*

*Communion – Jesus compares His future kingdom to a feast, including all who come when He calls. Let's celebrate with the end goal in mind (Matthew 28:19-20; Revelation 7:9-11)*