

# Luke

THE GOSPEL FOR THE LOST, THE LAST AND THE LEAST

**Title: Centurion: From Pride to Humility – Amazing Faith**  
**Text: Luke 7:1-10**

**INTRODUCTION:**

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**THE SETTING (v1):**

**THE CHARACTERS(v2):**

**I. A Flawed Perspective (vv 3-6a)**

**Key Question:** What was flawed about the Jewish Elder's perspective?

**II. An Enlightened Perspective (vv6b-8)**

**Key Question:** What made the centurion's perspective so enlightened?

**III. A Divine Perspective (vv9-10)**

**Key Question:** What is it about the centurion's faith that is so amazing?

**Key Takeaways:**

- Pride Clouds our Vision and Prevents Faith
- **BIG IDEA:** Real Faith Requires Real Humility



## Puritan Prayers:

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| <i>"Help me to see myself in Thy sight, then pride must wither, decay, die, perish. Humble my heart before Thee, and replenish it with Thy choicest gifts. As water rests not on barren hill summits, but flows down to fertilize lowest vales, so make me the lowest of the lowly, that my spiritual riches may exceedingly abound. [Amen]"</i> | <i>"Grant me never to lose sight of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, the exceeding righteousness of salvation, the exceeding glory of Christ, the exceeding beauty of holiness, the exceeding wonder of grace. [Amen]"</i> |
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*Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions*, 2023, 88 & 76

## Life Group Questions:

1. Remember to open your life group with a time to "preach" to each other (a.k.a. proclaim how God has been at work in/through you this past week).
2. **The Jewish elders believed the centurion was "worthy" because of what he had done, while the centurion himself said, "I am not worthy."**
  - Where do you tend to fall into the trap of thinking you *deserve* God's help, blessing, forgiveness, or approval because of what you've done?
  - What does the centurion teach us about grace?
3. **The sermon says, "Pride clouds our vision and prevents faith."**
  - What are some subtle ways pride can show up in your life (career, relationships, finances, appearance, accomplishments, independence, spirituality, or social status)?
  - Which of these is easiest for you to recognize in yourself?
  - How could a mentor or friend help when it comes to unseen pride?
4. **The centurion understood both Jesus' authority and his own limitations.**
  - What is one area of your life where you find it difficult to surrender control to Jesus?
  - What would genuine trust and humility look like in that specific area this week?
5. **The centurion had significant power and authority, yet he used his position to value and care for someone beneath him socially.**
  - How should our faith change the way we treat people who have less influence, status, money, education, or social standing than we do?
  - Who might God be asking you to see differently?
6. **The sermon ends by asking whether we are more like the Jewish elders or the humble centurion.**
  - If you honestly examined your relationship with God right now, would you say you are primarily trying to **prove yourself to God** or **trust and surrender yourself to God**?
  - What makes you say that?
7. What is one thing you need to surrender to Jesus this week, and how can this group pray for you about it?
8. Close by sharing prayer requests / praying as a group.

