Bible Stories for Young Children

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

AN OFFICERS' GREAT FAITH

by
Chris Thorpe
& people from Coromandel Baptist Church

Illustrated by Kay Kammermann

Website: www.corobaptist.org.au

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LUKE 6:12, 17–19; 7:1–10; Matthew 8:5–13 AN OFFICERS' GREAT FAITH File no. 118

Jesus spent the whole night on a mountain praying to His Father.

In the morning, when He came down, a crowd was waiting for Him. They wanted to hear His teaching. The sick wanted to be healed.



When Jesus finished speaking and healing He went into the town.

Jewish leaders met Him there and said,

'A Roman officer, who loves us and built a synagogue for us, has a servant who is dying. He loves his servant very much. Would you come and heal him?'



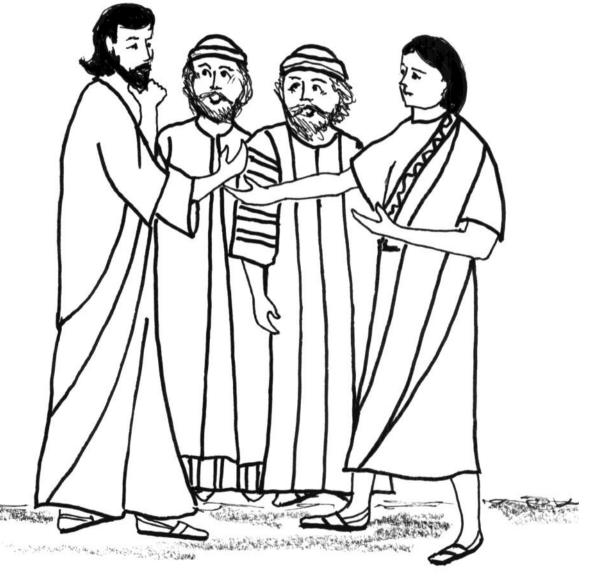
Jesus happily went with the leaders, but as they came near to the house, the officer sent another message saying, 'Sir don't come to me. I am not worthy for You to come to my house. Just tell the sickness to go away and I know that my servant will be well.

'I am like You,
I am told what to do
and I tell my soldiers what to do.
They obey me.
Your Father loves You.
He tells You what to do
and You love to do
what He tells You.'



Jesus was surprised and said, 'This man has faith in God. I haven't seen faith like this before, not even in Israel.

'There will be people like this Gentile Officer who will be in My Father's kingdom with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Others who should have known Me, but do not believe Me, will not be in My Father's kingdom.'



When Jesus finished speaking, the messengers hurried back to the Roman officer.
They wanted to tell him all that Jesus said.

What did they see when they got to the house?

The servant who had been sick, was well and working again.

Jesus had healed him.

