

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE

Sermon Date: 18/10/2020

Text(s): Luke 7:1–10

Sermon Title: The 3 Centurions

Preacher: Rev Collin See

(The sermon recording is available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

READ (5 mins)

Luke 7:1–10 (NIV84)

- 1** When Jesus had finished saying all this in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum.
- 2** There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die.
- 3** The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant.
- 4** When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, "This man deserves to have you do this,
- 5** because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue."
- 6** 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.
- 7** That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed.
- 8** 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."
- 9** 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.**"
- 10** Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well.

RELATE (30 mins)

(Relate to what was shared and on key themes in the sermon)

- 1. Just to recap, the 3 Centurions are first, the Centurion-with-great-faith, the one whom Jesus praised for having great faith. Second, Longinus who witnessed Jesus' death on the cross. Third, Cornelius who invited Peter to his home. Does anyone remember from sermons you've heard before what a Centurion is?**

2. **Let's talk about the theme of authority since the Centurions were men of authority. The first Centurion said to Jesus that he was a man with authority. Why did he highlight this fact? Was it similar to a proud, rich man highlighting how he owns many properties and luxury cars? And are we told how these Centurions used their authority?**
3. **Another outstanding point about this particular Centurion is that he believed Jesus could heal his servant from a distance, that Jesus did not need to go to his home. For this, Jesus commended him. What can we learn from this? In what way is it important for us to be near God and in what way is it not? And how can this be seen in the way we live and the way we do things?**

REFLECT (30 mins)

(Reflect and apply God's word to our daily lives)

1. **All 3 Centurions experienced the supernatural. The first Centurion witnessed his servant healed by Jesus from a life-threatening sickness. The second Centurion, Longinus, witnessed several events surrounding the death of Jesus such as the sky turning black and a rock-shattering earthquake. The third Centurion, Cornelius, experienced meeting and speaking with an angel and receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues. As we build our relationship with God, should we also expect to experience the supernatural? Why or why not?**
2. **Finally, let's look at the theme of sending. The first Centurion sent some elders to speak with Jesus. The second Centurion "sent Jesus off" as he breathed His last. The third Centurion sent his men to invite Peter to his home. Do you have a sense that you are also sent by God to fulfil a certain goal? If yes, how has God been sending you? If no, what are your thoughts concerning this idea that God might be wanting to send you on a certain task?**

REST (15 mins)

(Take time to share and pray for one another)

(Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See MyPMC > PRAY for weekly guide)

- Pray for one another to truly discover our purpose here on earth and have a better understanding of how God is sending us to be witnesses of Christ and the Gospel.
- Pray for our church to be a community that reflects the priorities of the Kingdom of God, one that knows the Word and the Heart of God.
- Pray for the churches in Singapore to have a stronger witness in Singapore and beyond in the days to come.