

# Let Him Speak

2026-07-20 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



Matthew 8:5-12

## FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

### WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

A Roman centurion came to Jesus about his suffering servant and never actually asked for anything. When Jesus offered to come, the soldier said: just say the word. He understood authority, because he lived under it and used it every day. Jesus was amazed and called it the greatest faith he had found in all Israel. Pastor Matt set him next to Capernaum, the town that had Jesus in person and missed him. What changes a life is not collecting miracles. It is letting God's word land.

## To get started

- When has someone's word alone been enough for you, with no proof attached?

## Looking back at the message

Pastor Matt made a lot of the centurion not asking. See whether the group noticed that too.

- 1 Pastor Matt pointed out that the centurion states his need and then just waits, without ever making a request. What do you make of that kind of trust?
- 2 Pastor Matt said religious insiders, the people who should know better, often miss what outsiders see quickly. Why does that happen?
- 3 Pastor Matt admitted he sometimes prays vague prayers and then goes through his day not expecting anything. How does that compare with your praying? OPTIONAL

## Looking at the passage

Read Matthew 8:5-12 aloud. Verse 12 is uncomfortable; do not skip it.

- 4 Read Matthew 8:5-12. What does the centurion say about authority, and what does he compare it to?
- 5 The text says Jesus was amazed. What exactly amazed him?
- 6 Verses 11 and 12 zoom way out from one healing. What is Jesus saying, and who in the crowd would it have unsettled?
- 7 Jesus never enters the house. What does the story gain from the healing happening at a distance?

## Bringing it home

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Authority is easier to admire than to be under. Let that tension stay.

- 8 The centurion understood Jesus' authority because he lived under authority himself. What in your life has taught you what being under authority feels like?
- 9 Pastor Matt said we often ask for miracles God never promised while missing the ones already happening. What would help you notice the difference?
- 10 Jesus said: let it be done just as you believed it would. How does the idea that expectation matters sit with you?
- 11 Pastor Matt said some people stay the one being chased and never join the ninety-nine. Which have you been lately, and why? OPTIONAL

## The group together

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Capernaum is the cautionary figure here, and it was the religious town.

- 12 Capernaum saw more of Jesus than any other town and responded least. How does familiarity dull a person?
- 13 Pastor Matt said he wants this church known for responding when God speaks, more than for style or even for correct answers. What would that look like in a group this size?
- 14 What has God already said that this group could act on instead of discussing again?

### BEFORE YOU FINISH

What is one thing you believe God has said that you have not yet started living as if it were true?

## You might pray about

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- For faith that takes God at his word before the evidence arrives
- For the person here who has grown used to church and stopped expecting anything
- For someone we know who is outside and closer than we think
- For the willingness to be under authority rather than only to admire it