

The Centurion's Servant Matthew 8:5-13

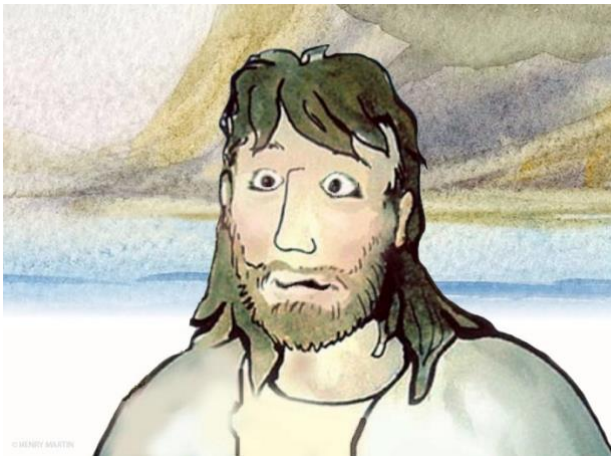


Hi my name is Hannah; I am a servant in Capernaum. My master he's an important man you know. Here in Capernaum, he's in charge; he has almost 100 soldiers doing what he asks. Imagine that! I'm just a servant woman, no one much listens to me. Mind you, the master may not be Jewish and he is a Roman but he is a kind master and he treats us very well.



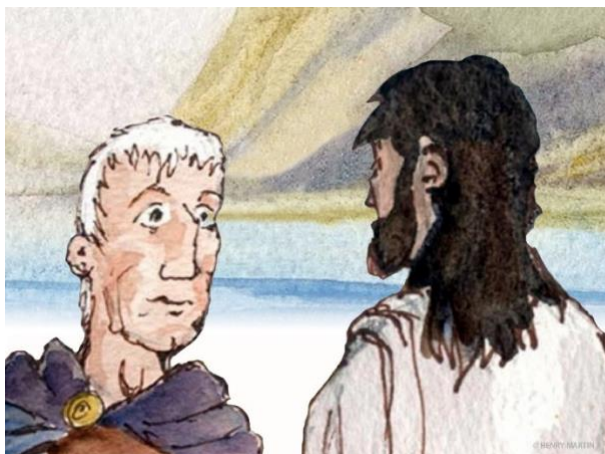
There has been a lot of extra work lately, since Matthias has been ill. He started off feeling very tired but then he got so ill that he just stayed in bed all day and he was in terrible pain. I tried so hard to help him, I made him herb tea like my mother used to do. but it was no good he just lay there looking terrible.

My master was beside himself. Matthias is his favourite servant; they get on so well together. He just sat next to Matthias' bed begging him to get well.



We had heard about Jesus. I knew that a lot of the religious leaders were not very happy because he said he is God's son and he hangs around with fisherman and tax collectors. I'd love to meet him - I heard that he had healed somebody just by touching him!

My master is a gentile, he's not Jewish but he's very respectful of our faith, so I told him about Jesus and how Jesus healed people. He was interested straight away. Asked me if I knew where he could find him. He was so worried about Matthias. He hurried off to find Jesus straight away.



My friend was sitting in the town square. She told me what happened. Must have been something amazing as my master has been different ever since; dear Matthias loves to hear what happened.

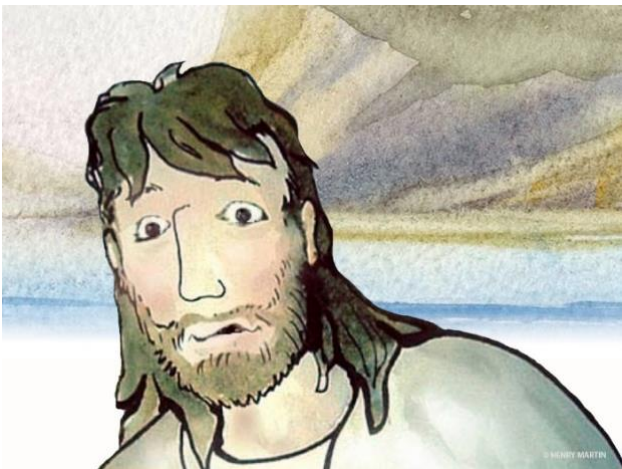


My master met Jesus in the town square. In front of everyone, he ran up to Jesus and begged him to heal Matthias - his servant.

Jesus said he would come to our house, just like that, to heal Matthias; didn't seem to mind that he would be going to the home of somebody who isn't Jewish. But then my master said something surprising. "You don't need to come to my house to heal my servant. You are in charge of sickness and this sickness will do what you tell it. Just say the word and I know my servant will be completely healed."



My friend said she watched him with her mouth hanging open! Lots of people sneaked up silently to listen. My master said, "I've got lots of men, I am their leader, if I say "Go there," they go. If I say, "Come here," they come. Jesus, you are in charge of this illness "Just say the word and my servant will be well!"



Well, even Jesus was shocked! He said he hadn't seen such faith in the whole of Israel. He explained that the Jewish people had better look out because, at the end of time, the gentiles, the non-Jews would be feasting with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in heaven and some Jewish people would be left out. I wonder how that went down with the Pharisees and religious leaders? He also said that Matthias would be completely healed!



My master was still out, when Matthias got out of bed saying that he felt much better. He put his clothes back on and started working. Can you imagine how excited my Master was when he returned? Jesus is in charge of sickness! I have to confess we had a bit of a party....

Hi children,

The Centurion said;

"Lord, I am not good enough for you to come into my house. All you need to do is command that my servant be healed, and he will be healed. Matthew 8:8

The Centurion in the story showed amazing faith in believing that Jesus did not even have to come to his home in order to heal his servant. Jesus praised this Centurion for this faith. Jesus longs to bless us and heal us. All we have to do is pray, trusting that Jesus will help us.

Let's pray.

Lord Jesus,

Thank you that you hear us when we pray for our friends who are sick. Thank you that you care about us. Strengthen our faith so we will learn to trust you more and more

Amen



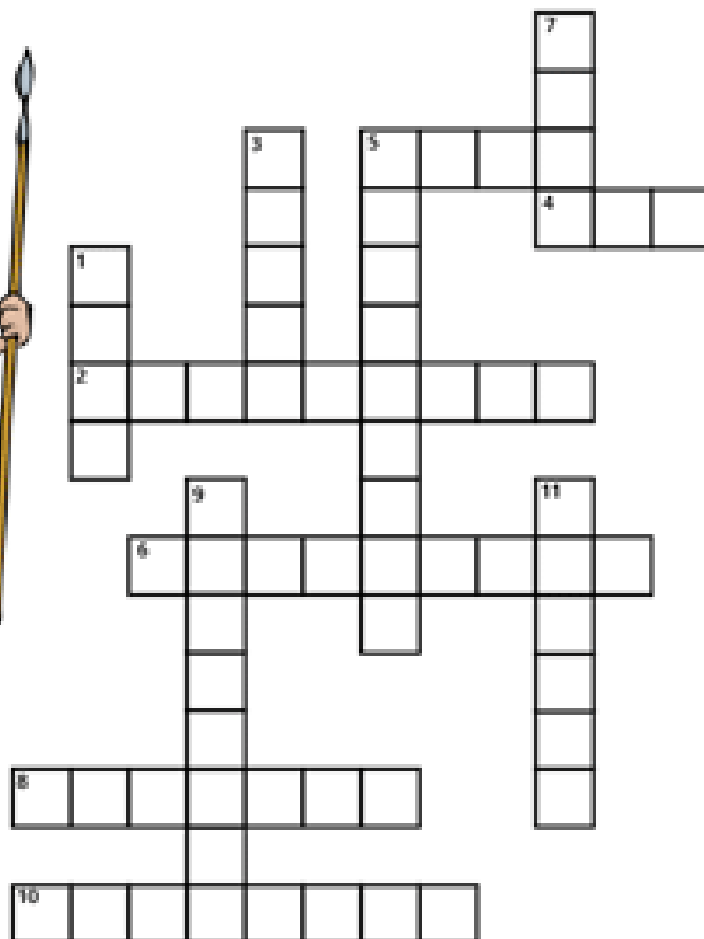
[The Centurion's Servant](#) Heather tells the story.

[The story of the Centurion's servant for families](#)



Crossword - The Centurion's Servant

Read the story of Jesus healing the centurion's servant Matthew 8:5-13 (CEB).
Write the missing words in the blanks, and then put them in the crossword puzzle.



Jesus was on his way to _____ (5 Down). He was approached by a _____ (6 Across). The man wanted Jesus to heal his _____ (8 Across). Jesus said, "I'll come and _____ (1 Down) him. The centurion tells Jesus to just _____ (4 Across) the word and his servant will be healed. He continues to say he know this to be true because he is a man under _____ (2 Across), with _____ (10 Across) under him. The centurion continues, if I say to one go, he _____ (7 Down), and to another _____ (5 Across) and he comes. Jesus was so impressed, he told the people following him, "I haven't found _____ (3 Down) like this. Jesus said to the centurion, "Go and it will be done just as you have _____ (9 Down). And his servant was healed that very _____ (11 Down).

A Centurion Has Faith in Jesus' Power

The servant was healed after Jesus and the centurion talked about Jesus' great power.

Read about this in your Bible (Matthew 8:5-13)

Then, lead the centurion through the maze to find Jesus in the city.

