

Home discipleship for ages 3-5

Hi parents! This week at Sunday school, we learned about the army captain who asked Jesus to heal his servant.

The Bible passage:

Matthew 8:5-13 (ICB)

5 Jesus went to the city of Capernaum. When he entered the city, an army officer came to Jesus and begged for help. 6 The officer said, "Lord, my servant is at home in bed. He can't move his body and is in much pain." 7 Jesus said to the officer, "I will go and heal him." 8 The officer answered, "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. 9 I myself am a man under the authority of other men. And I have soldiers under my command. I tell one soldier, 'Go,' and he goes. I tell another soldier, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and my servant obeys me. 10 When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. He said to those who were with him, "I tell you the truth. This man has more faith than any other person I have found, even in Israel. 11 Many people will come from the east and from the west. They will sit and eat with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. 12 And those people who should have the kingdom will be thrown outside into the darkness. In that place people will cry and grind their teeth with pain." 13 Then Jesus said to the officer, "Go home. Your servant will be healed just as you believed he would." And at that same time his servant was healed.

The devotional for the lesson:

In our Bible story, the army captain had a lot of respect for Jesus. The army captain knew that Jesus could do anything. Jesus didn't need to walk to his house. Jesus could just say a word, and the servant would be healed. Jesus really liked the way the army captain trusted him. And Jesus wants us to trust him the same way. Did you know: we can talk to Jesus just like the army captain did! We can't see Jesus, but he's with us all the time, and he hears us when we pray. And sometimes when we pray, Jesus does amazing things for us. But what if we pray and nothing happens? Well, let's trust Jesus! If we don't get what we want, it just means Jesus has a better idea than we do. And we can trust him and respect him because he always does the right thing. That's how we can make Jesus happy—by trusting him.

Our memory verse:

Matthew 19:26b (CEV). "There are some things people cannot do, but God can do anything."

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Parents, we encourage you to continue talking about this lesson throughout the week.