



An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for Sunday, June 2, 2013

1st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lectionary Year C

Scripture: [Luke 7:1-10](#) [Tags: *Jesus is amazed by the faith of a Roman Centurion.*]

Supplies Needed: No supplies needed.

ASK (a.k.a. [The On-Ramp](#))

- Good morning.
- Good morning.
- Can you tell me something you are really good at?
- And because of who you are, I know this isn't true of you, but do you think sometimes people try to do amazing things to get attention?
- Examples of this might be trying to get really good grades so that the teacher will tell the whole class nice things about us. Or athletes who play their hardest all the time so that they might one day play with the pros.
- Even though people don't always do this for "bad" reasons, we don't always like it, do we. We sometimes call it "showing off," right?
- One reason we "show off" is because we want to prove to someone that we are important and worthy of their attention.
- Sometimes, we even think we need to show off for God, that we need to do something really amazing in order to get God's attention.

TELL (a.k.a. [The Freeway](#))

- In today's scripture passage, there is a person who can do some amazing things. He is a Roman centurion, which means he's in charge of 100 Roman soldiers.

- This means he is pretty impressive person and has a lot of power.
- But he has a problem that he can't fix by himself. So he asks Jesus for help.
- And, one way he could've showed off was by sending a lot of his soldiers to do some fancy display in front of Jesus.
- Or, he might have sent Jesus lots of money.
- But instead, the centurion simply asked Jesus for help. At one point, he even tells Jesus, "If you just say the word, I know it'll happen."
- And did you hear what Jesus' response was? The story says, "...and Jesus was amazed."

SHARE the Good News (a.k.a. *The Destination*)

- It was not what the centurion could do that amazed Jesus.
- In fact, the centurion didn't try to impress Jesus at all.
- Instead, the centurion simply asked for help.
- And the Good News is that we can do the same thing as the centurion.
- We don't need to try and impress God.
- We just need to ask God for help.
- And we can trust, in our asking, that asking is enough.
- We don't need to do something special, or act in a certain way for God to hear us.
- We just need to ask.

CLOSING Prayer

- Let's Pray. This is a repeat-after-me prayer.

Dear God (Dear God)

Please help us to trust... (Please help us to trust...)

...that we do not need to... (that we do not need to...)

...show-off or be special... (...show-off or be special...)

...to be heard by you... (...to be heard by you...)

...or loved by you... (...or loved by you...)

Thank you for loving us. (Thank you for loving us.)

Amen