

Outline – November 14, 2021
Matthew 8:5-10; Mark 6:1-6
Luke 7:20-22; John 14:1-2
What Really Matters: Your Faith

**Over The Years We Have All Met People
With Unshakable Faith**

- I. The inspiration of unshakable faith**
 - A. When things do not go as one hoped
 - B. When the outcome of our prayers is not what we wanted
 - C. Staying focused, committed, full of faith
- II. The diffidence of those who gave up on their understanding of faith**
 - A. A generation of people is giving up on “faith”
 - B. Their story
 - 1. My faith let me down
 - 2. Didn’t have enough faith
 - 3. Faith was in something other than Jesus
- III. The problem is the misunderstanding of faith**
 - A. That faith is a force to get God to do something
 - B. That faith is a formula
 - C. That faith is fastened to an outcome, or something other than Jesus
 - D. That faith is the same as optimism or hope (had faith it would get better)
- IV. A primary principle of faith**
 - A. Faith is not a force or a formula
 - B. Faith always has an object
 - 1. John 14:1
 - 2. Jesus declared believe in God, believe also in me
 - 3. Believe in equates trust in
 - 4. Jesus never taught us to believe in an outcome or circumstance, but to believe/trust in Him
- V. The two things that made Jesus marvel**
 - A. Roman centurion’s faith
 - 1. Non-Jewish
 - 2. Oppressor – enemy
 - 3. Asks Jesus to heal his servant
 - 4. Jesus agrees to come to his home
 - 5. Centurion says “Just say the word” I know it will happen
 - 6. Centurion knew how this worked
 - 7. Jesus was amazed at his faith
 - B. Jesus returns to His home of origin
 - 1. Hometown celebrity
 - 2. Jealousy
 - 3. Familiarity breeds contempt
 - 4. He was amazed at their lack of faith

VI. The agenda of Jesus then and now

- A. Is that we would be people of faith in Him
- B. An active “Come what may” - “in spite of what others say” kind of faith
- C. Because who our faith is in is what really matters

VII. Jesus declares, He is to be the object of our faith

- A. We believe in Jesus not because we have faith, but because we have evidence
- B. The evidence is overwhelming
 - 1. Prophetic fulfillment
 - 2. Miracles performed
 - 3. Collateral accounts
 - 4. Historical/circumstantial accounts
 - 5. Resurrection

VIII. Jesus came into the world for 2 primary reasons

- A. That we may know what God is like (clear up misunderstanding)
 - 1. Child born blind not because of judgment
 - 2. Meet your neighbors need
 - 3. God loves who don't love Him
 - 4. God sent His Son because He loves
- B. That we can have eternal life when we trust in Him
 - 1. Fixing our eyes on Jesus – Hebrews 12:2
 - 2. Not an experience, not a person, not an institution
 - 3. When a person leaves the faith, their faith (in most cases)
 - 4. Wasn't fastened to Jesus
- C. Faith in Jesus is in what He promised He would do
 - 1. Give eternal life
 - 2. Prepare a place for us
 - 3. Raise us up/receive us
 - 4. Return
 - 5. Never leave us
 - 6. Never lose us
 - 7. Never lose our reward
- D. The problem many have is that they left the faith not knowing what Jesus promised, or they believed things God never promised.
- E. God never promised a wrinkle free life, or an answer to every circumstance
- F. But He does promise us payment for sin, eternal life a home in heaven, and a part of His Kingdom
- G. Proven at Bethlehem's manger, a Roman Cross, an empty tomb

IX. So, ask the Apostle John what really matters

- A. After temple destroyed, thousands killed, Jerusalem burned
- B. That Jesus showed up giving life and light
- C. Promise to make all things new
- D. To put our faith in Him

Because That Is What Really Matters

