

AMAZING FAITH Refueled – Part 1

ON TV: **Where** does that kind of amazing faith come from, and **how** do we get it?

ON TV/OUTLINE: “6 ‘Lord, my servant lies at home paralyzed and in terrible suffering.’ 7 ‘...I will go and heal him.’ 8 ‘...Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. 9 For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and that one, ‘Come,’ and he comes. I say to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.’ 10 When Jesus heard this, **he was astonished**. ... ‘Truly I tell you, I’ve not found anyone in Israel with such great faith.’” Matthew 8:6-10

ON TV: Amazing Faith

ON TV: What made this guy’s faith so amazing, and so different than other encounters Jesus had with other people?

ON TV: Jesus never marveled at or was amazed at anyone’s **knowledge** or **obedience**.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “3 ‘Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this Mary’s son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon? Aren’t his sisters here with us?’ And they took offense at him. 6 And he was **amazed** at their lack of faith.” Mark 6:3,6

ON TV: Great faith and a lack of faith.

ON TV: Jesus’ agenda for his first century followers and for us was that they and us would become people of **amazing, active, in-spite-of, going to believe anyway, faith**.

ON TV/OUTLINE: Faith, unlike hope or optimism, faith always has an **OBJECT**.

ON TV: The object of our faith is not a **particular outcome**.

ON TV: Jesus established himself as the **object of faith**.

ON TV: People were invited to **place their faith in** or **place their confidence in Jesus**; to trust **in him**.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “Don’t let your hearts be troubled. You **believe** in God, **believe** also in me.” John 14:1

ON TV: Jesus positioned himself as the object of faith because Jesus wanted to be the **focus of their faith**.

ON TV: What is God like?

ON TV: What do I learn about God from Jesus?

ON TV/OUTLINE: “2 ‘...Rabbi, who sinned? This man or his parents?... 3 Neither this man nor his parents sinned...’” John 9:2b-3a

ON TV/OUTLINE: “...Love your neighbor as yourself.” Luke 10:27b

ON TV/OUTLINE: “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ 44 But I tell you, love your enemies...” Matthew 5:43-44a

ON TV/OUTLINE: “...While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.’ Romans 5:8b

ON TV/OUTLINE: “44 But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you 45 that you may be children of your Father in Heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.” Matthew 5:44-45

ON TV: Instead, begin with Jesus, because Jesus isn't simply a chapter in the story, **Jesus is the story.**

ON TV/OUTLINE: *"These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is **found in Christ.**"* Colossians 2:17

ON TV/OUTLINE: *"...Trust in God, trust also in me."* John 14:1b

ON TV/OUTLINE: *"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the **exact representation** of his being..."* Hebrews 1:3a

ON TV: Belief in and Trust in.

ON TV: What is the currency of a relationship?

ON TV: The currency of relationship is **trust**; it's not obedience.

ON TV/OUTLINE: *"The word became flesh..."* John 1:14a

ON TV: That God revealed himself **through Jesus.**

ON TV: God is most honored by our living, active, in spite of the circumstances, trust in him.

ON TV: What would I do if I were **absolutely confident** God is with me?

ON TV: I've never met anyone who actually lost faith, or deconstructed their faith, that had anything to do with Jesus.