

# Just Say the Word

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(Matthew 8 and Luke 7)

Not long after Jesus finishes His sermon on the mount, He is approached by Jewish elders from nearby Capernaum.

Capernaum was a small, but very important city. It was situated along a very important trade route to Damascus. Capernaum became an epic center for Jesus' ministry. There He taught many of His parables, performed many miracles, and cast out demonic spirits.

Because Capernaum was a key city, Rome had a military presence there under the command of a centurion. This particular centurion had a special relationship with the local residents of Capernaum.

Even though he was a Gentile and a Roman soldier, he had shown kindness and favor toward the Jewish people. Apparently, he even helped them to build a local synagogue. Now, the people are wanting to return the favor in helping him help his servant whom he cares for deeply.

A group of Jewish elders or local leaders are willing to go and speak to Jesus on his behalf. They pleaded earnestly with Jesus to help the centurion in asking Him to come and heal his servant. "He deserves it," they went on to say, because of how and what he has done for the Jewish people.

### **The Faith of a Centurion.**

**Luke 7:6–7** (NASB) <sup>6</sup>Now Jesus started on His way with them; and when He was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to Him, "Lord, do not trouble Yourself further, for I am not worthy for You to come under my roof; <sup>7</sup>for this reason I did not even consider myself worthy to come to You, but **just say the word**, and my servant will be healed.

The centurion recognized, acknowledged, and trusted in the authority of Jesus Christ by saying, "JUST SAY THE WORD" and it will be accomplished, and Jesus marveled at his faith, especially since he was a Gentile.

As a military leader, the centurion understood the chain of command. "I also am a man placed under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to this one, 'Go!' and he goes, and to another, 'Come!' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this!' and he does it."

Jesus asks the question: "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me?" (*The centurion's answer to this question was in the affirmative*). "The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works." John 14:10

The centurion believed in the authority of the word of God. JUST SAY THE WORD!

We too, can put our faith completely in the power and authority of Jesus Christ imploring Him to speak His word over our life, to speak His word into our situation and into our circumstance. Jesus Christ has been given all power and authority in Heaven and in earth!

### **How God Speaks Into Our Life.**

We have been given the Holy Spirit who speaks the authoritative words of Christ into our life by bringing His word to our remembrance.

Isaiah 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

We can stand upon the authority of God's word. We can declare its truths and its promises!

When we trust and rely upon the power of our God and the authority of His word, we render our enemies, our problems, our fears, and our circumstances powerless over us.

### **The Revelation of the Heavenly Father in Christ.**

The words and works of Christ revealed the Father to us. Jesus displayed power over all sickness, disease, and even death. He had power over all darkness and evil. He had all power over nature. He had power to forgive sins. All He had to do was “Just say the word!”

His word still holds all authority today. His word speaks light into darkness; assurance over doubt; peace over trouble; truth over lies; wisdom over foolishness; instruction over ignorance; and everything which pertains to life and godliness. His word speaks life!

His word is currently holding all things together: **2 Peter 3:7** “But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

### **The Power of God’s Word Is Realized Through Trust and Obedience.**

**Luke 6:47–49** <sup>47</sup>“Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: <sup>48</sup>he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. <sup>49</sup>“But the one who has heard and has not acted accordingly, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great.”

“Lord, JUST SAY THE WORD! Speak your truth into and over my life.”

### **God’s love, faithfulness, mercy, and grace has been demonstrated throughout the history of His people. (Psalm 107)**

**Psalm 107:19–20** <sup>19</sup>Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble; He saved them out of their distresses. <sup>20</sup>**He sent His word and healed them** And delivered them from their destructions.

The Holy Spirit speaks the right word at the right time; He brings the words of our Lord to our remembrance.

I just want to speak the name of Jesus over every heart and every mind.