

Underdog: Under God - Centurion

Icebreaker: In what things/people do you place your faith/trust without much or any information? Has that ever burned you?

When Jesus had finished saying all this in the hearing of the people, He entered Capernaum.

There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die. The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to Him, asking Him to come and heal his servant. When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with Him, "This man deserves to have you do this, because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue." So Jesus went with him. (Luke 7:1-6a)

A portrait of amazing faith involves a...

- **Low view of yourself: humility** – “He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to Him: ‘Lord, don’t trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you.’” (Luke 7:6b-7a)

A man’s pride brings him low, but a man of lowly spirit gains honor. (Prov. 29:23)

How would you gauge your level of humility? Who do you know to be humble? What are some of the attributes of humility in that person? In what areas would you like to be more humble?

- **High view of God: dependence** – “‘But say the word, and my servant will be healed.’” (Luke 7:7b) – In what ways do you depend on God, on yourself? In those times you depend on yourself, why do you do so in lieu of depending on God?

¶ *It’s amazing what God can do without our help – “Moses answered the people, ‘Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.’” (Exodus 14:13-14)*

- **Right view of authority: obedience** – “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.” (Luke 7:8)

¶ *A high view of yourself and a low view of God will lead to a wrong view of authority – “‘Why do you call me, “Lord, Lord,” and do not do what I say?’” (Luke 6:46) - Who has ultimate authority over your life, you or God? In what areas do you give it over to God and in what areas do you keep the authority?*

Wherever you find amazing faith, you find amazing kingdom movement...

When Jesus heard this, He was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following Him, He said, “I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel.” Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well. (Luke 7:9-10)

And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised... (Heb. 11:32-33)

Jesus was amazed at the faith of this centurion because he had a low view of himself, high view of God and had the right view of authority. He was rare! Of all those attributes, which is the most absent from your life and what could you do in order that Jesus would “be amazed” at your faith as he was the Centurion’s?