



REDEMPTION
CITY CHURCH

A Flourishing Faith Startles Others: Just Say the Word Matthew 8:5-13

Sticky Statement: FOR A FLOURISHING FAITH, JUST SAY THE WORD!

Have you ever made plans or set goals for the new year?

What are you hoping for in 2026? A new car, a different job, a home, healing in a relationship, restored health? In October, I contributed to the series on THRIVE. I tend to set goals in those 6 areas of human flourishing. I don't always reach them, but it helps me to move the needle in the right direction.

⁵When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. ⁶"Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly." ⁷Jesus said to him, "Shall I come and heal him?" ⁸The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹For 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."

¹⁰When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, "Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith. ¹¹I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. ¹²But the subjects of the kingdom will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." ¹³Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go! Let it be done just as you believed it would."

And his servant was healed at that moment.

Matthew 8:5-13

1. WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE AN OUTSIDER, JUST SAY THE WORD TO _____. V5-6

In Matthew 8, Jesus entered Capernaum, which means "village of comfort," situated on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee. A Roman centurion, who served as the captain of 100 men, sought His consolation (**par-ak-al-eh'-o**) (v. 5). The Roman soldier was an enemy of the State of Israel. The Romans oppressed the Jewish people and occupied their land. They sought to exterminate them as a race and changed the name Israel to Palestine because historically the

Philistines were their bitter enemy. This man is grieving and desperate, as his "servant is lying home paralyzed, in terrible agony" (v. 6). This Roman crashed through the cultural barriers to connect and belong. If you want to belong, just say the word.

2. WHEN YOU FEEL UNCLEAN, JUST SAY THE WORD TO _____. V7-8

"For V. 7 Jesus said, "Am I to come heal (**ther-ap-yoo'-o – to restore to health**) him?" V. 8 The centurion replied, "I am not worthy (**hik-an-os'**) to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed (**ee-ah'-om-ahee – to bring about salvation**)." The Roman soldier was unclean – perhaps ham sandwich (dietary law) or Roman orgy (moral law). If we confess our sins (1 John 1:9). Jesus makes that which is unclean to be clean. Just say the Word. Jesus is the Word from the beginning (John 1:1)

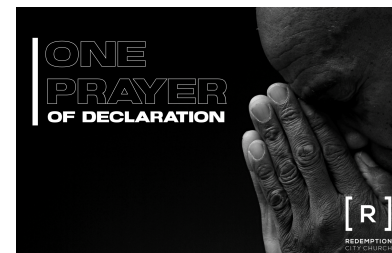
3. WHEN YOU NEED HEALING, JUST SAY THE WORD TO _____. V9-10,13

⁹ "The centurion acknowledges his authority and the authority of Jesus." V. 10 Jesus is startled (**thou-mad'-zo**) by the man's FAITH. Faith = trust! How would you like to startle Jesus? Claim the promises of God. Exodus 6:6-7 related to Passover. Every day in January, I celebrate my redemption through Christ. V. 13 Jesus told the centurion, "'Go. As you have believed (**pist-yoo'-o**), let it be done for you.' And his servant was healed (**ee-ah'-om-ahee – to bring about salvation**) that very moment.'" Do you need healing in one of the areas of THRIVE, just say the Word. Set goals in 2026 in the areas of THRIVE.

DO THE WORD – JUST SAY THE WORD

"Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed." v8

What are you hoping for in 2026? Just say the Word.



**DON'T MISS OUR YEARLY
21-DAY ONE PRAYER
CHALLENGE ... IT STARTS
NEXT WEEK!**