



House of New Beginnings

ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

"Amazing Faith that Fights for the Captive"

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Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Texts: Luke 7:1-10; Genesis 14

When Yeshua unrolled the scroll in Luke 4 and read from Isaiah 61, He didn't just announce a mission—He declared a rescue operation. He came for the poor, the blind, the brokenhearted, the captive, and the oppressed. And He came to do more than make us feel better; He came to restore us to "life as God intends." This mission is not only a message—it's a movement. And it didn't stop with Him. Those He heals, He sends. Those He restores, He plants—as **Oaks of Righteousness**, empowered to go and rebuild, restore, and rescue in His name.

We don't just marvel at the rescue—we're called into it. Our God is a God who transforms mourners into ministers, broken ones into rebuilders, and ashes into beauty. If you've been healed, if you've been lifted, it's **not the end of your story—it's the start of your calling**. You were raised up to raise others. The question today is: Will you be one who stands in the gap? Will you carry someone to the feet of Yeshua? Reflect on your own restoration story. Where has Yeshua lifted you up—and who is He calling you to lift now?

1. FAITH THAT INTERCEDES

The Roman centurion was not part of Israel, yet he loved the people of God and cared for one of his own servants who was sick and near death. Though he could have ordered soldiers or demanded favors, he chose humility and intercession. He asked Jewish elders to go on his behalf to Yeshua—not for his own benefit, but for someone else's healing. He knew he wasn't entitled, but he still believed in Yeshua's power to heal. That's the heart of true intercession: seeing someone else's suffering and bringing their need boldly before the only One who can restore.

This moment reminds us that **intercession is often the bridge between the suffering and the Savior**. The centurion didn't have it all figured out, but he had enough faith to act on someone else's behalf. When we see those around us spiritually, emotionally, or physically tormented, do we believe enough to fight for them in prayer? Faith that amazes Yeshua begins with compassion that refuses to stay silent. Is there someone in your life right now who feels unreachable or broken. Would you begin intentionally interceding for them daily?

2. FAITH THAT UNDERSTANDS AUTHORITY

When Yeshua was on His way, the centurion sent word again: "*Master, don't trouble Yourself—I'm not worthy. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed.*" What a statement of faith! This man understood the power of spoken authority. As a soldier, he gave commands and expected them to be followed. But he recognized that Yeshua's authority was far greater—an authority that didn't require touch or presence, only a word.

Yeshua's response? He marveled. This was "jaw-dropping." He was amazed – not at religious devotion, but at a Roman's faith in the power of His word. Real faith doesn't demand a performance—it simply trusts that **when God speaks, things move**. The centurion didn't

need to understand the mechanics of healing; he just trusted the Messiah's voice. Do we trust Yeshua like that? Or are we still waiting for a sign when He's already spoken?

3. FAITH THAT PURSUES THE CAPTIVE (Gen. 14:13-16)

Abraham had every reason to stay comfortable under the oaks of Mamre. But when he heard that his nephew Lot had been taken captive, he didn't shrug. He pursued. He rallied 318 trained men and risked his own peace to rescue one who had wandered into danger. Abraham's faith didn't just look upward—it moved outward in action. He fought for family. He went to reclaim what had been stolen.

That's the kind of faith Yeshua is looking for today. Not faith that's content in personal blessing, but faith that fights for the one who's lost, paralyzed, or spiritually dying. You were not just saved for yourself—you were saved to become a rescuer. An Oak of Righteousness is not only planted but purposeful. Like Abraham, like the centurion, we are called to pursue the broken and bring them to the One who heals. Who is your "Lot"? Who do you know that has been spiritually or emotionally taken captive? Pray and ask God how you can pursue them—through prayer, a conversation, or an act of love.

CONCLUSION:

Faith that intercedes. Faith that trusts. Faith that acts. This is the kind of trust that makes heaven stand still. The centurion didn't fit the religious mold, but his faith made Yeshua marvel. Abraham could have stayed planted, but instead, he moved toward the battle. And now we stand at the same crossroads: Will we go? Will we fight for the ones who can't fight for themselves? Will we stand in the gap and believe for healing—spiritually, emotionally, physically—for the ones who seem too far gone?

You are an Oak of Righteousness, planted by the Lord for such a time as this. Someone's freedom is on the other side of your intercession. Someone's healing is waiting on your faith to move. Don't settle under the shade—**rise and pursue**. Let's amaze Yeshua with the kind of faith that fights for the captive. Ask the Holy Spirit, "Who is my 'one'? Who are You sending me to pursue?" Then act on it.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What stands out to you about the centurion's approach to Yeshua?
2. How does understanding Yeshua's authority shape the way you pray?
3. Who is someone in your life who feels spiritually "almost dead"?
4. What does it mean to you to be an Oak of Righteousness?
5. How can your personal faith be a catalyst for someone else's healing or restoration?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Abba Father, thank You for Send Yeshua to be our Savior, Healer, Rescuer, and Deliverer. Thank You for calling us to more than comfort—for inviting us into Your mission to restore the broken. Give us eyes to see the hurting around us, and faith to believe that one word from You can change everything. Teach us to intercede with boldness, to trust Your authority, and to pursue those who have been taken captive. Make us Oaks of Righteousness who not only stand tall but move with purpose. Let our faith amaze You.

In Yeshua's name, amen.