
Lesson 11: Jesus Heals the Soldier's Servant

BIG IDEA

Jesus' words have power over sickness, even from a distance, and he wants all people to believe in him.



Luke 7:1-10 (paraphrase)

A Roman officer had a servant who was dying.

The officer sent some religious leaders to ask Jesus to heal his servant.

Jesus went with the leaders. He was near the house when he saw the officer's friends. They had a message from the officer – 'I am not good enough for you to come to my house. If you say that my servant will be healed, I know that he will be healed.'

When Jesus heard this message, he said, 'I have not found anyone who believes in me like this man.'

The officer's friends returned to his house and found that the servant was healed.



Teacher Preparation

Read Scripture

- ☐ Luke 7:1-10 in your Bible
- ☐ Luke 7:1-10 paraphrase (on page 117)

Read *Meet Jesus Book*

- ☐ Chapter 11 – Jesus Heals the Soldier's Servant

Print Resources

- ☐ APPENDIX 11.1 - Print 1 for the group.
- ☐ APPENDIX 11.2 - Print 1 copy of the text per student. There are 3 per page.
- ☐ APPENDIX 11.3 - Print 1 for the teacher's reference.
- ☐ APPENDIX 1.5 - Reuse print from lesson one.

Other Equipment

- ☐ Whiteboard / table
- ☐ Whiteboard markers
- ☐ A die or dice
- ☐ Players tokens

Activate Prior Knowledge and Build Vocabulary

APPENDIX 11.1 - Print 1 for the group.

Play game in small groups.

Each student puts a token on the start square.

Throw the die and move the number shown.

Follow the directions on the square where you land.

If you land on a picture, name and describe the sickness and the cure (what will make it better?).

Pre-teach relevant vocabulary

Roman officer: Roman army leader

Heal: to make the sick well

Believe: to trust and have confidence in Jesus

Predict the Content

Say, 'This story is about Jesus healing a soldier's servant'.

Ask, 'What do you think will happen in the story?'

Read and Comprehend

Depending on the level of your students you might:

- ☐ Read the passage of scripture to them;
- ☐ Direct them to read the passage of scripture in English;
- ☐ Direct them to read the passage of scripture in their heart language; or
- ☐ Read the passage of scripture later in the lesson.

OWN HEART LANGUAGE

Depending on the level of your students, you might like to invite them to read the passage in their heart language.

Visit bible.com or biblegateway.com to find a number of international translations.

Activities

Activity 1: Understanding the text

APPENDIX 11.2 - Print 1 copy of the text per student.
There are 3 per page.

Give a copy of the passage to each student and have them read it silently.

In small groups students help each other to define the unknown vocabulary.

Clarify any remaining vocabulary as a class.

Activity 2: Different perspectives

APPENDIX 11.3 - Print 1 for the teacher's reference.

Teacher or helper reads the text aloud. Students circle the people in the text.

Teacher or helper chooses a person in the story and retells it from their perspective e.g. write 'the servant's story' on the board and read the narrative in appendix 11.3.

Invite students to choose a character in the text and retell the story from their perspective.

Invite Curiosity

APPENDIX 1.5 - Reuse print from lesson one.

Place the ? on the table and ask:

- ☐ Are there any new words?'
- ☐ What questions might someone have about this text?
- ☐ What comments might someone have about the text?



An Important Question

Ask, 'What did the Roman officer know about Jesus?'



Concluding Statement

Jesus has power over sickness, and he wants all people to believe in him.

Board Game: Put your token on the start square. Throw the die and move the number shown. Follow the directions on the square where you land. If you land on a picture, name and describe the sickness and the cure (what will make it better).

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <h1>START</h1> | <p>You are close to the start. Move forward 5 spaces</p> <p>→</p> |  |  |
|  |  |  | <p>You caught a cold. Move back 3 spaces</p> <p>←</p> |
|  | <p>Tell us about a time when you received an important message</p> |  |  |
| <p>You were sick but you are well again. Swap your token with the person who is coming first</p> |  |  | <p>Tell us the names of three of your friends</p> |
|  |  | <p>You are close to the finish. Move forward 2 spaces</p> <p>→</p> |  |
| <p>What does it mean to be 'well'?</p> |  |  | <h1>FINISH</h1> |

Luke 7:1-10

A Roman officer had a servant who was dying. The officer sent some religious leaders to ask Jesus to heal his servant. Jesus went with the leaders. He was near the house when he saw the officer's friends. They had a message from the officer – 'I am not good enough for you to come to my house. If you say that my servant will be healed, I know that he will.' When Jesus heard this message, he said, 'I have not found anyone who believes in me like this man.'

The officer's friends returned to his house and found that the servant was healed.

Luke 7:1-10

A Roman officer had a servant who was dying. The officer sent some religious leaders to ask Jesus to heal his servant. Jesus went with the leaders. He was near the house when he saw the officer's friends. They had a message from the officer – 'I am not good enough for you to come to my house. If you say that my servant will be healed, I know that he will.' When Jesus heard this message, he said, 'I have not found anyone who believes in me like this man.'

The officer's friends returned to his house and found that the servant was healed.

Luke 7:1-10

A Roman officer had a servant who was dying. The officer sent some religious leaders to ask Jesus to heal his servant. Jesus went with the leaders. He was near the house when he saw the officer's friends. They had a message from the officer – 'I am not good enough for you to come to my house. If you say that my servant will be healed, I know that he will.' When Jesus heard this message, he said, 'I have not found anyone who believes in me like this man.'

The officer's friends returned to his house and found that the servant was healed.

Luke 7:1-10

A Roman officer had a servant who was dying. The officer sent some religious leaders to ask Jesus to heal his servant. Jesus went with the leaders. He was near the house when he saw the officer's friends. They had a message from the officer – 'I am not good enough for you to come to my house. If you say that my servant will be healed, I know that he will.' When Jesus heard this message, he said, 'I have not found anyone who believes in me like this man.'

The officer's friends returned to his house and found that the servant was healed.

Story from the servant's perspective

I was so sick. I knew I was dying. I heard my master ask the religious leaders about Jesus. He believed that Jesus was powerful. He believed that Jesus could heal me. My master sent messengers to speak to Jesus. I didn't meet Jesus. He didn't come into the house but he did heal me. My master believed he could, and he did.