

## Oaklands Chapel – Assignment

Sunday, April 19 2009

### Lesson 2 “Surprising Faith; Supernatural Power”

Luke 7:1-17

1. Read 7:1-10. Notice that verse 1 ties this incident directly to the Sermon Jesus has just preached. What principles from His sermon are evident in this incident with the centurion?
2. From your understanding of the relationship between the Jews and the ruling Roman Empire, what is surprising about what we read about this centurion? In verses 1-5, which of his actions tell us what kind of man he was (what his heart was like)? Do you know of ‘good people’ in the world who do not claim Christian faith but display good hearts? Explore ideas as to how to most effectively reach people like that with the Good News of Jesus.
3. Verses 6-8. What do these verses tell us about a) his sensitivity to Jewish-Gentile relations and b) his total belief in the power of Jesus to heal? How should his simple and straightforward approach inform the ways in which we pray for healing? Do we have such a ‘big’ view of God ourselves?
4. Why do you think Jesus is so amazed at his faith? Talk about how you define faith and how you think we do at Oaklands Chapel at embracing faith in God. Would Jesus be amazed at our faith? In what ways can we encourage each other to trust Him more fully and completely?
5. Read 7:11-17. Talk about the plight of this woman from your understanding of 1st century life. How does this help us understand the strong language describing Jesus’ compassionate reaction to this funeral scene? What does this tell us about the heart of Jesus?
6. Look carefully at the reaction of the people to this astounding miracle performed by Jesus. How is Luke continuing to add to the developing picture that Jesus is absolutely unique in human history? Which of the reactions should we emulate as we observe this amazing incident?? Take time to praise God together!