



STOP, LUKE & LISTEN

HEARING JESUS AFRESH IN A NEW YEAR

January 14, 2024

Jesus and the centurion:

2 brilliant listeners

Pastor Rebecca

Luke 7:1-10

When Jesus had finished saying all these things to the people, he went to Capernaum. A Roman officer there had a servant who was very dear to him but the servant was sick and about to die. When the officer heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders to ask him to come and heal his servant. They came to Jesus and begged him earnestly, “This man really deserves your help. He loves our people and he himself built a synagogue for us.”

So Jesus went with them. He was not far from the house when the officer sent friends to tell him, “Sir, don't trouble yourself. I do not deserve to have you come into my house, neither do I consider myself worthy to come to you in person. Just say the word, and my servant will get well. I, too, am a man placed under the authority of superior officers, and I have soldiers under me. I order this one, ‘Go!’ and he goes; I order that one, ‘Come!’ and he comes; and I order my slave, ‘Do this!’ and he does it.”

Jesus was surprised when he heard this; he turned around and said to the crowd following him, “I tell you, I have never found faith like this, not even in Israel!”

The messengers went back to the officer's house and found his servant restored to health.

Message Notes:

Jesus listens:

- To the _____ elders
- To the _____ with a message
- To the _____ of the Roman officer
- To _____!

The Roman officer:

- Listened to those _____
- Let his listening grow _____
- Listened enough to know _____

We want to be a _____ church!

- Letting listening grow _____
- Letting listening organically grow _____

Reflection Questions:

1. Think of a situation that required you to be a good listener. What happened in it?
2. When was the first time you realized that listening was a process you could get better at with training and practice?
3. To Jesus, listening is a choice that requires action (see Luke 6:). Which is easier for you to do— grow in your listening or in your obedience to God?
4. The Roman officer trusted that one word from Jesus would heal his beloved servant. What word do you need to hear from God, today? What are you trusting God to do?