

## Luke 7:6-7

*Then Jesus went with them. And when He was already not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to Him, saying to Him, "Lord, do not trouble Yourself, for I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof. Therefore I did not even think myself worthy to come to You. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. "*

Oh that we would be like this Centurion. Instead, people in the church sometimes think that the only way, or the best way to God is through their pastor.

Got a need, go to the pastor.

Need a healing, go to the pastor.

Short on money, go to the pastor.

It's not that we go to him to fix our problem, because we know better than that. But we treat him like he has an "in" with God. Like he has those persuasive words that will make God answer his requests. Pastors would be the first to tell you not to do this. They may even tell you stories of where they prayed for someone to be healed and that person died the next day. Now that doesn't sound like someone who has an "in" with God to me.

Remember when we were little kids, and there was the one certain sibling that had a way of talking to mom and dad to get what they want. So you would tell them to ask mom and dad about something that you wanted so you would get it.

But God sees everyone the same and does not have His favorites.

† **Acts 10:34** *Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons.*

Think of the Centurion in today's devotional verse. He was a man of authority, yet he was humbled just knowing about Jesus. So much so that he didn't even think that he was worthy to come into the presence of Jesus even though he, himself was a man in authority (in charge of other men). Yet he believed in Jesus to the point that he knew his servant would be healed just by the word of Jesus. And he also knew that he didn't have to be there to ask Jesus personally, just because he was someone that was great or had authority.

So come to Jesus, or ask a brother or sister in the Lord to come with you to Jesus in prayer. Realizing the greatness is not in you, or your friend, or your pastor. But that the greatness is in Jesus, and because of His greatness, He will accomplish what you ask, according to His will, and no one else's.

† **James 5:16** *Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*

† **Psalm 65:5** *By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation, You who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth, And of the far-off seas.*