

Matthew 8:10 (NLT2)

When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. Turning to those who were following him, he said, “I tell you the truth, I haven’t seen faith like this in all Israel!”

We as Christians love the Lord, and we want to be pleasing to Him. But have we ever thought that we could actually “amaze” the Lord? Maybe we have, and we try to amaze the Lord by doing all sorts of things. I’ll pray more, I’ll read my bible more, I’ll serve more in the church, I’ll help others more who are in need, I’ll tithe more. But if you think about it, how much of these things would we actually have to do to “amaze” the Lord?

† **Isaiah 64:6a** *But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags.*

When we try to “amaze” the Lord with our works, we will always fail or fall short. But Jesus tells us today how to “amaze” the Lord, and it sounds so simple that we would never have thought to do it, and it all comes down to one word “Faith”, which is simply trusting in God.

I know that sound so easy, because we are taught in the bible to “live by faith”

Romans 1:17 *For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."*

But if we are really honest with ourselves, how often do we do that? How often do we actually Trust God, even though He tells us to?

Jesus tells us:

† **John 14:1 (NLT2)** *“Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me.”*

We are to trust both GOD and JESUS, not on our own understanding or works.

† **Proverbs 3:5** *Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;*

† **Ephesians 2:9** *not of works, lest anyone should boast.*

Now don’t get me wrong, because we know that we should be praying, reading our bibles, serving in the church, helping others who are in need, and tithe as well as many other things. But that is called being obedient to the Lord, something that we all as Christians should strive to be doing. But let me encourage you to read the entire story from today’s verse in Matthew 8:5-13 and read how this Roman Officer, not a Jew, but a Gentile amazed the Lord. And may it

encourage us to know that we to as Gentile Believers can also “Amaze” the Lord. We just have to have the faith to do so, like this Roman Officer had.

- † **Hebrews 11:1-3 (NLT2)** *Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see. Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation. By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God’s command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.*

- † **Hebrews 11:6** *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*

- † **Psalm 40:3 (NLT2)** *He has given me a new song to sing, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see what he has done and be amazed. They will put their trust in the LORD.*