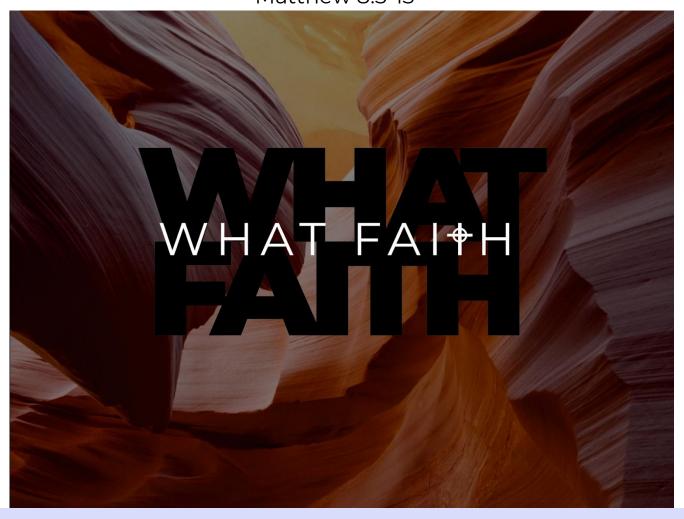
York St Small Groups Sermon Based Studies

SUNDAY 21 February 2021

What Faith

Matthew 8:5-13



These studies are designed to be explored after hearing the Sunday sermon and also to be accompanied by a time of prayer/sharing.



GETTING STARTED

Q1. Can you recall a time when you put your faith in something, a rope, a ladder, or a person? What was it like at first, compared to once you knew you could trust it or them?

Q2. Can you think of a time when you knew others who put their faith in something but you didn't? For example: a fear of heights (avoiding going on a tree top walk), or fear of water (avoiding swimming activities).

INTO THE WORD

Read Matthew 8:5-7

Q3. We often miss opportunities to experience life, but also God when we don't trust Him.

Faith and trust go hand in hand, the centurion put his faith in Jesus to do something bigger than his own abilities.

Is there an area that Christians find it hard to trust Jesus with in regards to their life?

Read Matthew 8:8-9

Q4. The centurion then shows incredible faith and understanding of who he is talking to.

What stands out in this passage that demonstrates both the centurion's faith and knowledge of who Jesus is? Do you think Christians today treat Jesus like this?

GOING DEEPER

Read Matthew 8:10-13

Q5. Jesus firstly is amazed at the level of faith that the centurion has but then uses the moment to teach those around him.

Jesus speaks of those who aren't Jews (east and west v11) having an eternity in the kingdom of heaven, and those who are born into God's chosen people (subjects of the kingdom v12) missing out.

Their faith is placed in the law and not Jesus.

How can we check our own lives to make sure we are trusting Jesus and not getting caught up living in a way our actions and our heart don't align with Christ?

Q6. Is there a way that you can live by faith this week? Is there a way you could trust Jesus more? How would others see this faith if they were to look at the way you live each day?

Pray

Loving God, I ask that we would be a church that is full of faith - faith in Jesus, faith in your word and faith in the body of Christ.

Help us to grow in faith, to take steps in our trust of you so that we can experience your plans for your people more and more.

Help those who have little faith to be brave enough to ask for more, and those who are bold in faith to share that with others.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.