

05/31/2026

# SUNDAY SCHOOL Section Review

## THE TESTIMONY OF FAITHFUL WITNESSES

### Faithful Witnesses Model God's Fidelity

#### ■ June:

In the last section, we saw those in the OT who trusted God despite hard circumstances. Deborah, Hannah, Jonathan and Amos put their trust in God's hands to meet their needs

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ  
05/31/2026

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

# SUNDAY SCHOOL Section Review

THE TESTIMONY OF FAITHFUL WITNESSES

Faithful Witnesses Say 'Yes' to Jesus

## The Believing Centurion

## Matthew 8:5 – 13

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# Lesson Text

Jesus Heals a  
Centurion's Servant



## MATTHEW 8:5 – 6 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, <sup>6</sup> saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented."

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# Lesson Text

Jesus Heals a  
Centurion's Servant



## MATTHEW 8:7 – 8 (NKJV)

<sup>7</sup> And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." <sup>8</sup> The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed."

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# Lesson Text

Jesus Heals a  
Centurion's Servant



## MATTHEW 8:9 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

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# Lesson Text

Jesus Heals a  
Centurion's Servant



## MATTHEW 8:10 (NKJV)

<sup>10</sup> When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!"

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# Commentary: Faith in Action

- We do not know how the centurion soldier heard of Jesus or had heard stories of Jesus' miracles before. What we do know that he was so certain of WHO Jesus was that he **ACTED** on his belief without doubt

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# Commentary: Faith in Action

- The centurion used an example of human authority to justify his request.
- Military leaders today seldom go into battle with their troops, but the troops obey their leaders trusting that their orders are sound

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# Commentary: Faith in Action

- The centurion believes just as he can command a soldier to do his bidding, that Jesus' healing power is like that of a soldier that He can command to do His bidding
- Are our prayers to God bound in our beliefs BEFORE we approach Him?

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# Commentary: Faith in Action

- The fact he was not Jewish astonishes Jesus as there were many Jews who doubted in His ability to act (Matthew 6:30; 8:26; 14:31; 16:8)
- This doubt limited Jesus' abilities (Matthew 13:58)

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# Lesson Text

Jesus Heals a  
Centurion's Servant



## MATTHEW 8:11 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

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# Lesson Text

Jesus Heals a  
Centurion's Servant



## MATTHEW 8:12 (NKJV)

12 But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

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# Lesson Text

Jesus Heals a  
Centurion's Servant



## MATTHEW 8:11-12 (NLT)

*<sup>11</sup> And I tell you this, that many Gentiles will come from all over the world—from east and west—and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob at the feast in the Kingdom of Heaven.*

*<sup>12</sup> But many Israelites—those for whom the Kingdom was prepared—will be thrown into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”*

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# Lesson Text

Jesus Heals a  
Centurion's Servant



## MATTHEW 8:12 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus said to the centurion,  
"Go your way; and as you have  
believed, so let it be done for you."  
And his servant was healed that  
same hour.

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# Commentary: Faith over Ethnicity

- This is one of Jesus' first pronouncements on what the Kingdom of God will look like in the future.
- Although He preached to the Jews first (**Romans 1:16**), he makes it clear not only others will come to God, but that some of the chosen will not be there

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# Commentary: Faith over Ethnicity

- The Apostle Paul makes similar claims in that your ethnicity nor cultural ties make you a true Jew (**Romans 2:28; 9:7-8**)
- Entrance to the Kingdom is based on 2 things – 1.) Our faith in Christ and 2.) Christ's power to save

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# Commentary: Faith over Ethnicity

- In the meeting with the centurion, we see both in action
  - The centurion's belief was there BEFORE he ACTED in faith
  - Jesus' power to save was already evident and went from Him at His command

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# Scripture References



# Refer to Lesson texts

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# *Church School Creed*

Our Church School must grow & grow  
And we must help to make it so  
Every member a Christian  
Every Christian a worker  
Every worker trained  
A worker that will not be ashamed  
This we ask in Jesus' name

-AMEN

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# *Church School Benediction*

We have come

We have studied

We have learned

So until our next coming together

To study God's word

May His rich blessings reside with you

And may His Grace be eternally yours

-AMEN