



May 2021

Dear Partner,

I'm so excited about the theme God has given to us in 2021. It's so *simple* and yet so profound to me: "*What shall I do for thee?*" In 2 Kings 4:2, Elisha asked the widow in need this question, and God is asking this question to you, too. Today in this letter, I'm going to share how your choice to recognize God's authority affects your faith in answering that question.

"*What shall I do for thee?*" Think about the gravity of that question for a minute! Elisha wasn't scared of what the widow might ask, and God is not scared about what you may ask either! All you have to do is ask in faith. Isn't that amazing? Asking in faith means believing that you will receive what you ask for—not wishing or hoping, but *believing*. When we just simply believe, we will receive. When we wonder or waver, we make it harder on ourselves. So, let's look at a few ways to avoid doing that and receive all that we ask of the Lord. Are you ready? Let's get into the teaching for this month.

### **Is Jesus "Lord" Over Your Life—In Every Area?**

#### ***Recognize His Authority and Accept His Lordship Over Everything***

I want to take you to a scene in the Bible where someone simply believes and then receives. This is the story of the centurion's servant being healed and it's found in Matthew 8:5-13. In my letter to you today, I'm going to share what the Lord has revealed to me in this scene, beginning in verse five. "*And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto Him a centurion, beseeching Him, And saying, Lord...*"

I want to stop right there for a moment. Notice, Partner, that the centurion began his request by calling Jesus "*Lord*." That was not just some nicety—it was an admission of Christ's authority. Now, you have to understand that this centurion had authority over Jesus. He was a Roman and Jesus was a Jew, and in that time the Romans ruled. So, the centurion was accustomed to seeing himself as higher in rank than any Jew. And yet, he recognized Jesus' authority over his own. The word *Lord* meant something to him and he wasn't even saved—it should mean something to you, too.

Partner, when you acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus over your life, you are immediately recognizing His divine authority. There is nothing you can't receive from God if you understand that. You really can't answer His question "*What shall I do for thee?*" with a pure heart of faith unless you humble yourself enough to realize that He *IS* Lord. He's not just anybody's Lord; He's *your* Lord.

So, my first point today is this: **To understand "*What shall I do for thee?*" you must have singleness of mind in Christ's greater authority.** This will lead you to ask in faith because you recognize His authority over everything. You choose to accept it and honor it. You ask for what you desire from Him and find comfort in knowing your place. Remember, Jesus doesn't force Himself on anyone. You have a choice to *make* Him Lord over your spirit, soul, mind, body, finances, health, and every part of your life! He is Lord over everything anyway, so you will have the best results when you recognize His authority and accept His Lordship over *everything*.

You've often heard me say that we aren't God's adults; we are God's children. Partner, it's a blessing to be a *child* of the Most High God, to know He loves and cares for us so much. He wants to hear our voice and hear what we want Him to do for us. Think about that! I believe that God led me to our theme this year for a reason. God wants us to *say* what we want. He wants us to remember His power and authority, and to answer in faith when He asks, "*What shall I do for thee?*"

## **The Centurion Knew Jesus Could Do Anything—Do You?**

### ***Faith Destroys All Distance Between God and Man***

The centurion's humility is shown when he relinquishes his own natural authority. He does it easily because he has faith that Jesus has the power to do *anything*. We need faith like that and, Partner, guess what? *You already have it*. Romans 12:3 says God has dealt to all of us the measure of faith. So, the ability to exercise faith like the centurion is in you now. Read the story below and notice how this scene from the Word begins with a recognition of Christ's authority as Lord and ends with a desire being met *without* a physical touch from Jesus.

*And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto Him a centurion, beseeching Him,  
And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.*

*And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.*

*The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldest come under my roof:  
but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.*

*For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth;  
and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.*

*When Jesus heard it, He marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not  
found so great faith, no, not in Israel.*

*And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham,  
and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of Heaven.*

*But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and  
gnashing of teeth.*

*And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee.  
And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.*

Matthew 8:5-13

Now, the centurion's kind of faith is simple, spiritual, and undoubting. Glory! It's such a simple faith that Jesus knew He didn't even have to go the man's house to do the miracle. When that man said, "*speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed,*" Jesus knew He was dealing with a man who understood that His power was not limited by time or distance.

You see, Partner, we must realize that the word of power has been spoken in the scriptures. They are promises from God for *us*—and those words will work from any distance. That means that from Heaven above to earth below, our faith can bring about a miracle. So, when we ask God for something and we feel a tinge of unbelief, we should say, "Lord, increase my faith!" We must get to a place where we have simple faith like that centurion—where the authority of Christ is not just something we believe but something we *know*.

## **Jesus Transcends Human Hierarchy—Do You Know He Is the Highest Authority?**

### ***In Getting Blessed, You Are Truly Blessed!***

When you hear God saying, "*What shall I do for thee?*" the next point of this letter today should come to mind: **You must have an enlightened view of the majesty of the blessing of Jesus because in blessing, you are truly blessed.** When you receive what you ask for, you become a walking testament to the authority of Jesus in the world. It is very important to recognize that the authority of Jesus extends over everything—that His command over nature and His power over man is final. There will never be another who has the authority of Christ.

In life, some people with authority think they're the center of the universe. They have the misguided idea that they are in control of everything they touch. It can be hard for them to have faith in God because they enjoy being the center of their own lives. As believers, we make Christ the center of our life because we know that He is the One with true authority. No man's authority can come close to that of Jesus Christ! The centurion was a man of authority, and he exercised it over those beneath him all the time. He also had people above him and he knew

what it meant to both rule over others and be ruled over by others. What the centurion noticed in Jesus was a divine authority that transcends the hierarchies of this world. We need to realize that too—He is the highest authority!

Partner, Jesus is above us and when He says, “*What shall I do for thee,*” we should obey and say what we want and what we are believing Him for. We shouldn’t harbor one single doubt in Him. Are you getting this? Because in your getting of *this*, you are going to get what you need and desire! Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word, so the scene of Jesus and the centurion should build your faith. Let it sink in. Get it in your mind so you can get what you want in your life.

## **The Generous of Heart Are Imitators of God—Are You Generous?**

### ***It’s Better to Obey Than to Sacrifice***

Now, let me go to my last point today, and I really want you to grasp this: **Faith is very strong in the heart of the generous.** It takes faith to be generous—because in order to give, you must know that you won’t lose by giving! A lot of people in the world are stingy because they have fear in their heart. Fear causes them to clam up, hoard, and not be generous. They are not generous with their time, money, words, or thoughts of others. Their fear runs so deep that they don’t give of themselves to others because of fear that they just don’t have enough.

As believers, our “enough” is in the Lord Jesus Christ. We know that if we have faith, we won’t just get back what we give. We will receive multiplied blessings from living a generous life. We understand the concept that things flow freely to us and from us. I like to say that I’m a distribution center for the kingdom of God! I love giving to God by giving to others, and God loves giving to me—the cycle of blessing continues and grows exponentially in my life because I’ve determined to be a generous man.

Partner, our God is a *very* generous God. So, we as His children should be generous, too! In Ephesians 5:1 NKJV it says, “*Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.*” Now, think about that for a moment. This is about giving of yourself in every area that the Lord leads you, knowing that you will always have enough—more than enough to do what He calls you to do. Remember that *we* have the same love, faith, kindness, and goodness as Jesus Himself. His Spirit is within our spirit when He is Lord over our life. So, it’s OK to ask Him for anything that is good and pertains to life and godliness. The faith to receive anything and everything from Him has already been seeded into us. Our measure of faith does not decrease—it just goes dormant like a seed if we don’t water it with the Word.

The strength and happiness of our Christian life always comes from believing and obeying the Word. What God says to do is good for us spiritually, physically, financially, in our relationships, in our businesses, our churches, our ministries, and all the rest. We can trust that His Word is true. And as 1 Samuel 15:22 says, “*to obey is better than sacrifice.*” Obey what? Obey His Word concerning every area of your life.

Partner, you can do a lot of sacrificial things for God, but if you don’t just simply obey what He’s already said, those sacrificial things won’t help you very much. In fact, they’ll just run you down and wear you out! Obedience is simple. It may not always be easy, but it’s simple to do. Recognize Jesus as truly your Lord, have faith, tell Him what you desire, believe that it will come to pass, and be generous with yourself toward others. Never forget that God’s Word gives us instructions for living well. We can trust in God’s Word—it is in our best interest *ALL* the time.

## **When You’re Talking to Jesus, You’re Talking to a Timeless Lord**

### ***One Day Every Knee Will Bow and Every Tongue Confess That Jesus IS Lord!***

So, let me ask you, what are you believing God to do for you today? Cathy and I want to come into agreement with you, our Partner. Remember, Jesus promised in Matthew 18:19 that if two agree as touching anything, it will be done. Don’t worry about the distance between you and us. I promise you, when Cathy and I pray for you, we will hook up with your faith in the Spirit and agree with you. Notice that Jesus hooked up with the centurion’s faith in His Spirit and started talking about *us*.

Jesus said in verse 11, “*And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of Heaven.*”—that is talking about you and me, Partner! That’s us! Do you see what I mean? Jesus saw the future—He saw us in the centurion’s faith that day. Remember that when you are talking to Jesus, you are talking to a timeless Lord. Revelation 13:8 says He was slain before the foundation of the world, so He was here before anything was even made! We are blessed that He came into the world to show us His love in such a physically tangible way. But make no mistake, you are praying to an eternal Lord. And while you can’t fathom the magnitude of His power, you can hook up with it with your faith!

You can believe and receive from Him just by realizing that He is able and willing to do whatsoever you ask in faith.

When Jesus talked about *us* coming from the east and the west to sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of Heaven, He was actually calling those things that be not as though they were, like Romans 4:17 says...because they will be. We will sit with those men in Heaven. We will know all of those who have come before us in the faith. ALL! Now, Jesus was saying that by faith before the apostle Paul was even saved, and before he was inspired by the Holy Ghost to write Romans 4:17. Jesus was illustrating a divine principle for mankind—that you can tap into the prophetic nature of the Spirit of God within you and speak the future into existence by faith.

As believers, we don't "call it like we see it," but instead, we "see it like we call it!" We *see* the end result and *say* the end result. We *believe* the end result until it comes into the present. You see, Partner, we are imitators of divine authority. We are the children of the Most High God, and we understand that there is only ONE Lord—and we have the common sense to acknowledge His divine authority over *everything*.

One day every knee will bow and every tongue will confess the reality that Jesus *IS* Lord. There will be no doubters then! Every person will see the truth, and that's where we'll see Matthew 8:12 come to pass: "*But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*" Jesus was talking about the kingdom of the earth, where Satan is having his heyday—not the kingdom of Heaven. In verses 11 and 12, He was talking about the difference between those who understand and accept God's authority and those who refuse and reject it.

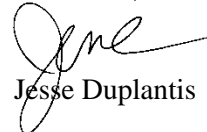
Why do we do what we do? We are in the ministry because we care about reaching as many people as we can with the Word of God—with the truth of His Son's authority over *everything*. We want what God wants—that none would perish but that all would have everlasting life. "Reaching people and changing lives, one soul at a time" is proclaimed on just about everything we print or show online or on television because it's our mission. We want to bring as many into the kingdom of Heaven as possible.

Thank you for helping us to bring people to the Lord. Thanks for all the faithful financial seeds you sow into this ministry—I want you to know that 100% goes into world evangelism. This ministry doesn't waste your seed. We pray over it and stretch those seeds—we call it "seed with a mission," and we understand that every seed sown has a special dignity within it.

I really believe that there is dignity in giving, and I consider it an honor to join my faith with yours for what you are believing God for in this life. Your seeds are going to stop people from going to hell. They're going to pull people out of hellish lives right here on earth, too. Your seeds are going to give us the ability to bring the messages of hope, faith, and the authority of the Lord over *everything* to others around the world. You see, we want to catch people before they bust hell wide open and show them that there is another way to live—a more blessed way, a more hopeful way, and a way that will be more fulfilling than anything this world has to offer.

"*What shall I do for thee?*" is a question I hope you will answer with centurion-like faith today. I pray that this teaching will help you to understand the power of acknowledging Christ's authority and to ask with more peace, more boldness, and more faith. As you give today, I want you to know that we are going to be praying for you. Declare the hundredfold over your seed and open your heart with your faith—tell the Lord what you really want. Say it in faith. Don't shrink back in fear of any kind. Remember, *you* have the power of faith inside of you already, and so do I. We serve the Lord, and He has authority over *everything*. There's nothing He can't do for us if we simply *believe*.

Love You,



Jesse Duplantis

P.S. For your May Partnership of \$50 or more, I've chosen a message that is timely and thought-provoking, and one that you don't want to miss—***How to Be a Devout Dissolver of Doubt*** (on DVD, CD, or both formats). And for your Partnership of any amount, you can request this message on CD. I hope you'll avail yourself to this important message. You can get yours today by going online to JDM.org (click on "Donate") or by checking the enclosure and returning it in the envelope provided. Thank you, Partner, for helping us "*Go ye*" to reach this world for Jesus!





“What Shall  
I Do<sub>For Thee?</sub>”  
2 KINGS 4:2

# CHRIST Has AUTHORITY Over *Everything!*

**May 2021**  
Partner Letter Bible Study Notes

# **Christ Has Authority Over *Everything!***

## **1<sup>st</sup> Week May 2021 Bible Study Notes**

Open Bible Study in prayer (led by the group leader or someone they choose).

The theme God has given to us in 2021 is so *simple* and yet so profound: “*What shall I do for thee?*”

- In 2 Kings 4:2, Elisha asked the widow in need this question.
- God is asking this question to you, too.
- Today, you will see how your choice to recognize God’s authority affects your faith in answering that question.

“*What shall I do for thee?*”

- Think about the gravity of that question for a minute!
- Elisha wasn’t scared of what the widow might ask.

\*Group Discussion: Do you realize that God is not scared about what you may ask either?

It is amazing to know that all you have to do is ask Him in faith.

- Asking in faith means believing that you will receive what you ask for.
- This is not wishing or hoping, but *believing*.

When we just simply believe, we will receive.

- When we wonder or waver, we make it harder on ourselves.
- So, let’s look at a few ways to avoid doing that and receive all that we ask of the Lord.

Our Bible Study this month is titled: **Christ Has Authority Over *Everything!***

\*Instruct the group to turn to Matthew 8:5.

Let’s go to a scene in the Bible where someone simply believes and then receives.

- This is the story of the centurion’s servant being healed.

\*Invite someone in the group to read Matthew 8:5-13 KJV:

*5. And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto Him a centurion, beseeching Him,*

*6. And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.*

*7. And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.*

*8. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.*

*9. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.*

*10. When Jesus heard it, He marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.*

*11. And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of Heaven.*

*12. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

*13. And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.*

Let’s look back at verse 5 and 6 and stop right there for a moment.

- Today we are going to learn a vital truth that enabled this centurion to ask what he wanted from God and receive it.

\*Invite someone in the group to read Matthew 8:5-6 KJV:



5. And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto Him a centurion, beseeching Him,

6. And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

**Notice that the centurion began his request by calling Jesus “Lord.”**

- That was not just some nicety—it was an admission of Christ’s authority.

**Now, you have to understand that this centurion had authority over Jesus.**

- He was a Roman and Jesus was a Jew, and in that time the Romans ruled.
- So, the centurion was accustomed to seeing himself as higher in rank than any Jew.
- And yet, he recognized Jesus’ authority over his own.

**The word *Lord* meant something to him and he wasn’t even saved.**

- The word *Lord* should mean something to you, too.

**When you choose to acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus over your life, you are immediately recognizing His divine authority.**

- There is nothing you can’t receive from God if you understand divine authority.

**You really can’t answer His question “*What shall I do for thee?*” with a pure heart of faith unless you humble yourself enough to realize that He *IS* Lord.**

- He’s not just anybody’s Lord; He’s *your* Lord.

**The first point in our study is this: To understand “*What shall I do for thee?*” you must have singleness of mind in Christ’s greater authority.**

- This will lead you to ask in faith because you recognize His authority over everything.
- You choose to accept it and honor it.
- You ask for what you desire from Him and find comfort in knowing your place.

**\*Group Discussion: Is Jesus “Lord” over your life in every area?**

**Remember, Jesus doesn’t force Himself on anyone.**

- You have a choice to *make* Him Lord over your spirit, soul, mind, body, finances, health, and every part of your life!
- He is Lord over everything anyway, so you will have the best results when you recognize His authority and accept His Lordship over *everything*.

**You may have heard it said that we aren’t God’s adults; we are God’s children.**

- It’s a blessing to be a *child* of the Most High God.
- It’s a blessing to know He loves and cares for us so much.
- He wants to hear our voice and hear what we want Him to do for us. Think about that!

**God gave us our theme this year for a reason.**

- He wants us to *say* what we want, knowing that Christ has authority over *everything*.
- When He asks “*What shall I do for thee?*” He wants us to answer in faith.

**Confess What God Shall Do for YOU!**

1. I understand “*What shall I do for thee?*” and I have singleness of mind in Christ’s greater authority. I ask in faith, recognizing His authority over everything.
2. I choose to make Jesus Lord over my spirit, soul, mind, body, finances, health, and every part of my life. I have the best results when I recognize His authority and accept His Lordship over *everything*.
3. I am blessed to be a *child* of the Most High God. I know He loves and cares for me so much. He wants to hear my voice and hear what I want Him to do for me.

**Close in Prayer.**

## **Christ Has Authority Over *Everything*!**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Week May 2021 Bible Study Notes**

Open Bible Study in prayer (led by the group leader or someone they choose).

All this year, we will be looking at different scenes from the Bible to help us to better understand and act on our 2021 theme, *“What shall I do for thee?”*

- We began this year by looking at 2 Kings 4:2, which recorded this question that Elisha asked a desperate widow who came to him for help.
- God is asking this question to us, too.

Today, we will continue this month’s Bible Study titled: **Christ Has Authority Over *Everything*!**

\*Instruct the group to turn to Matthew 8:5.

In our last lesson, we went to a scene in the Bible where someone simply believed and then received.

- This vital truth enabled the centurion to ask God what he wanted and receive it.

We saw that we must have singleness of mind in Christ’s greater authority to understand the question *“What shall I do for thee?”*

- We must ask in faith, recognizing His authority over everything.

We learned to choose to make Jesus Lord over our spirit, soul, mind, body, finances, health, and every part of our lives.

- We have the best results when we recognize His authority and accept His Lordship over everything.

We are blessed to be a *child* of the Most High God.

- We know that He loves and cares for us so much.
- He wants to hear our voice and hear what we want Him to do for us.

Let’s go deeper into story of the centurion’s servant being healed.

\*Invite someone in the group to read Matthew 8:5-6 KJV:

*5. And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto Him a centurion, beseeching Him,*

*6. And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.*

Notice the centurion’s humility is shown when he relinquishes his own natural authority.

- He does it easily because he has faith that Jesus has the power to do *anything*.

\*Instruct the group to turn to Romans 12:3.

- We need faith like that centurion and, guess what?
- *You already have it.*

\*Invite someone in the group to read Romans 12:3 KJV:

*“For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.”*

\*Group Discussion: Do you realize that God has already dealt the measure of faith to you?

The ability to exercise faith like the centurion is in you now.

\*Instruct the group to turn to back to Matthew 8:5.

As we read this scene again this week, notice that it begins with a recognition of Christ’s authority as Lord.

- Also notice that it ends with a desire being met *without* a physical touch from Jesus.



**\*Invite someone in the group to read Matthew 8:5-13 KJV:**

*5. And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto Him a centurion, beseeching Him,  
6. And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.  
7. And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.  
8. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.  
9. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.  
10. When Jesus heard it, He marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.  
11. And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of Heaven.  
12. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.  
13. And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.*

**Notice that the centurion's kind of faith is simple, spiritual, and undoubting.**

- It's such a simple faith that Jesus knew He didn't even have to go the man's house to do the miracle.

**\*Instruct the someone in the group to read Matthew 8:8 again:**

*"The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed."*

**When the centurion said that, Jesus knew He was dealing with a man who understood that His power was not limited by time or distance.**

- You see, we must realize that the word of power has been spoken in the scriptures.
- They are promises from God for *us*.
- And those words will work from any distance.

**That means that from Heaven above to earth below, our faith can bring about a miracle.**

- So, when we ask God for something and we feel a tinge of unbelief, we should say, "Lord, increase my faith!"

**We must get to a place where we have simple faith like that centurion.**

- We must get to a place where the authority of Christ is not just something we believe.
- It must be something we *know*.

**Confess What God Shall Do for YOU!**

1. I have faith that Jesus has the power to do *anything*. God has dealt the measure of faith to me, and I have the ability to exercise it when asking Him for my desires.
2. The word of power has been spoken in the scriptures and they are promises from God for *me*. My faith in God's words will work from any distance and bring about a miracle for me.

**Close in Prayer.**

## **Christ Has Authority Over *Everything*!**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Week May 2021 Bible Study Notes**

Open Bible Study in prayer (led by the group leader or someone they choose).

**Today, we will continue with our Bible Study titled: Christ Has Authority Over *Everything*!**

- We have learned that we must have singleness of mind in Christ's greater authority.

**God wants us to say what we want, recognize His authority, and answer in faith when He asks, "*What shall I do for thee?*"**

- That is what Elisha asked the widow in 2 Kings 4:2, and it is the theme that God has given to us for this year.

**Think about the gravity of that question for a minute!**

- Elisha wasn't scared of what the widow might ask—he did not place any limitations on her.
- God doesn't place any limitations upon us either.

**\*Group Discussion: Does this challenge you to remove all limitations when asking God to do something for you?**

**In our lesson last week, we learned that God has dealt the measure of faith to every person.**

- That means that we have the ability to exercise it when asking Him for our desires.
- Faith in God's words will work from any distance and bring about a miracle for us.

**\*Instruct the group to turn to Luke 7:2.**

**In previous lessons this month, we learned about a centurion that had great faith for his servant to be healed.**

- We read from Matthew 8, which says the centurion visited Jesus himself.

**In Luke's version, we will read that the centurion sent messengers to Jesus.**

- In those days, when you dealt with a person's messengers, it was the same as dealing with the one who had sent them.

**This Roman officer was a centurion, meaning he was a captain in charge of 100 men.**

- He obviously heard about Jesus and His healing power.
- He sent a request through the Jewish elders on behalf of his very dear servant.

**\*Instruct the someone in the group to read Luke 7:2-10 KJV:**

*2. And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die.*

*3. And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto Him the elders of the Jews, beseeching Him that He would come and heal his servant.*

*4. And when they came to Jesus, they besought Him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom He should do this:*

*5. For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.*

*6. Then Jesus went with them. And when He was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to Him, saying unto Him, Lord, trouble not Thyself: for I am not worthy that Thou shouldest enter under my roof:*

*7. Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto Thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed.*

*8. For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.*

*9. When Jesus heard these things, He marvelled at him, and turned Him about, and said unto the people that followed Him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.*

*10. And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.*

**This passage marks a turning point in Luke's account of Jesus' ministry.**

- Up to this point, Jesus had dealt exclusively with the Jews.

**Notice that the people in this scene have different racial, religious, and social backgrounds.**

- Jesus broke through all those barriers, all the way to the sick man's need.
- We should follow Jesus' example and bring His message of hope to everyone.

**\*Group Discussion: Have you ever asked God to do something for someone dear to you?**

**When you hear God say, "What shall I do for thee?" this next point should come in to view:**

**You must have an enlightened view of the majesty of the blessing of Jesus because in blessing, you are truly blessed.**

- When you receive what you ask for, you become a walking testament to the authority of Jesus in the world.

**It is very important to recognize that the authority of Jesus extends over everything.**

- His command over nature and His power over man is final.
- There will never be another who has the authority of Christ.

**In life, some people with authority think they're the center of the universe.**

- They have the misguided idea that they are in control of everything they touch.
- It can be hard for them to have faith in God because they enjoy being the center of their own lives.

**As believers, we make Christ the center of our life.**

- We know that He is the One with true authority.
- No man's authority can come close to that of Jesus Christ!

**The centurion was a man of authority.**

- He exercised it over those beneath him all the time.
- He also had people above him.
- He knew what it meant to both rule over others and be ruled over by others.

**What the centurion noticed in Jesus was a divine authority that transcends the hierarchies of this world.**

- We need to realize that too—He is the highest authority!

**Jesus is above us and when He says, "What shall I do for thee," we should obey and say what we want and what we are believing Him for.**

- We shouldn't harbor one single doubt in Him. Are you getting this?
- Because in your getting of *this*, you are going to get what you need and desire!

**Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word, so the scene of Jesus and the centurion should build your faith.**

- Let it sink in. Get it in your mind so you can get what you want in your life.

**Confess What God Shall Do for YOU!**

1. I have an enlightened view of the majesty of Jesus. I am truly blessed by Him and receive what I ask for. I am a walking testament to the authority of Jesus in the world.
2. I make Christ the center of my life. I know that He is the One with true authority that transcends the hierarchies of this world. He is the highest authority!

**Close in Prayer.**

## **Christ Has Authority Over *Everything*!**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Week May 2021 Bible Study Notes**

Open Bible Study in prayer (led by the group leader or someone they choose).

**Today we will conclude our Bible Study titled: Christ Has Authority Over *Everything*!**

- Each month we have been going to different scenes in the Bible to better understand the theme God has given to us in 2021: “*What shall I do for thee?*”

**This month, we have been looking at the scene with a centurion that had great faith for the healing of his dear servant.**

- The first point of our Bible Study was: To understand “*What shall I do for thee?*” you must have singleness of mind in Christ’s greater authority.
- The next point was: When you hear God say, “*What shall I do for thee?*” you must have an enlightened view of the majesty of the blessing of Jesus because in blessing, you are truly blessed.

**Now, let’s examine the last point in this month’s Bible Study: Faith is very strong in the heart of the generous.**

- It takes faith to be generous—you must know that you won’t lose by giving!

**A lot of people in the world are stingy because they have fear in their heart.**

- Fear causes them to clam up, hoard, and not be generous.

**They are not generous with their time, money, words, or thoughts of others.**

**\*Group Discussion: Have you known people with fear that runs so deep that they don’t give of themselves to others because of fear that they just don’t have enough?**

**As believers, our “enough” is in the Lord Jesus Christ.**

- We know that if we have faith, we won’t just get back what we give.
- We will receive multiplied blessings from living a generous life.

**\*Instruct the group to turn to Ephesians 5:1.**

**God wants us to understand the concept that things flow freely to us and from us.**

- We can all be a distribution center for the kingdom of God!
- The cycle of blessing continues and grows exponentially because we’ve determined to be generous.

**Our God is a *very* generous God. So, we as His children should be generous, too!**

**\*Invite someone in the group to read Ephesians 5:1 NKJV:**

*“Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.”*

**Now, think about that for a moment.**

- This is about giving of yourself in every area that the Lord leads you.
- You know that you will always have enough—more than enough to do what He calls you to do.

**Remember that *we* have the same love, faith, kindness, and goodness as Jesus Himself.**

- His Spirit is within our spirit when He is Lord over our life.
- It’s OK to ask Him for anything that is good and pertains to life and godliness.

**The faith to receive anything and everything from Him has already been seeded into us.**

- Our measure of faith does not decrease—it just goes dormant like a seed if we don’t water it with the Word.

**\*Instruct the group to turn to 1 Samuel 15:22.**



**The strength and happiness of our Christian life always comes from believing and obeying the Word.**

- What God says to do is good for us spiritually, physically, financially, in our relationships, in our businesses, our churches, our ministries, and all the rest.
- We can trust that His Word is true.

**\* Invite someone in the group to read 1 Samuel 15:22 KJV:**

*“And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.”*

**Notice that to obey is better than sacrifice.**

- Obey what? Obey His Word concerning every area of your life.
- You can do a lot of sacrificial things for God, but if you don’t just simply obey what He’s already said, those sacrificial things won’t help you very much.
- In fact, they’ll just run you down and wear you out!
- Obedience is simple. It may not always be easy, but it’s simple to do.

**Recognize Jesus as truly your Lord, have faith, tell Him what you desire, believe that it will come to pass, and be generous with yourself toward others.**

- Never forget that God’s Word gives us instructions for living well.
- We can trust in God’s Word—it is in our best interest *ALL* the time.

**\*Group Discussion: What are you believing God to do for you today?**

**Remember, Jesus promised in Matthew 18:19 that if two agree as touching anything, it will be done.**

- Don’t worry about the distance between you and someone you are praying with.
- When you pray in agreement, your faith will hook up with them in the Spirit.

**\*Instruct the group to turn to Matthew 8:11.**

**Notice that Jesus hooked up with the centurion’s faith in His Spirit and started talking about *us*.**

**\*Invite someone in the group to read Matthew 8:11 KJV:**

*“And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of Heaven.”*

**Jesus was talking about *us*—He saw the future and *us* in the centurion’s faith that day.**

- Remember that when you are talking to Jesus, you are talking to a timeless Lord.
- Revelation 13:8 says He was slain before the foundation of the world, so He was here before anything was even made!

**We are blessed that He came into the world to show us His love in such a physically tangible way.**

- But make no mistake, you are praying to an eternal Lord.
- And while you can’t fathom the magnitude of His power, you can hook up with it with your faith!
- You can believe and receive from Him just by realizing that He is able and willing to do whatsoever you ask in faith.

**\*Instruct the group to turn to Romans 4:17.**

When Jesus talked about *us* coming from the east and the west to sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of Heaven, He was actually calling those things that be not as though they were, because they will be.

**\* Invite someone in the group to read Romans 4:17 KJV:** *“(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before Him Whom he believed, even God, Who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.”*

**We will sit with those men in Heaven.**

- We will know all of those who have come before us in the faith. ALL!

**Now, Jesus was saying that by faith before the apostle Paul was even saved, and before he was inspired by the Holy Ghost to write Romans 4:17.**

- Jesus was illustrating a divine principle for mankind—that you can tap into the prophetic nature of the Spirit of God within you and speak the future into existence by faith.

**As believers, we don’t “call it like we see it,” but instead, we “see it like we call it!”**

- We *see* the end result and *say* the end result.
- We *believe* the end result until it comes into the present.

**You see, we are imitators of divine authority.**

- We are the children of the Most High God and understand that there is only ONE Lord.
- And, we have the common sense to acknowledge His divine authority over *everything*.

**\*Instruct the group to turn to Matthew 8:12.**

**One day every knee will bow and every tongue will confess the reality that Jesus *IS* Lord.**

- There will be no doubters then!

**Every person will see the truth, and that’s where we’ll see Matthew 8:12 come to pass:**

**\*Invite someone in the group to read Matthew 8:12 KJV:**

*“But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”*

**Jesus was talking about the kingdom of the earth, where Satan is having his heyday—not the kingdom of Heaven.**

- In verses 11 and 12, He was talking about the difference between those who understand and accept God’s authority and those who refuse and reject it.

**Jesus has called us to reach as many people as we can with the Word of God—with the truth of His Son’s authority over *everything*.**

- “*What shall I do for thee?*” is a question you can answer with centurion-like faith today.
- We pray that this teaching will help you to understand the power of acknowledging Christ’s authority and to ask with more peace, more boldness, and more faith.

**Open your heart with your faith—tell the Lord what you really want.**

- Say it in faith. Don’t shrink back in fear of any kind.
- Remember, *you* have the power of faith inside of you already.

**You serve the Lord, and He has authority over *everything*.**

- There’s nothing He can’t do for you if you simply *believe*.

**Confess What God Shall Do for YOU!**

1. My faith is very strong and my heart is generous. I know that I won’t lose by giving! I will receive multiplied blessings from living a generous life. I’m a distribution center for the kingdom of God!
2. The strength and happiness of my Christian life always comes from believing and obeying God’s Word. I trust that His Word is true and obey Him in every area of my life.
3. I serve the Lord, and He has authority over *everything*. There’s nothing He can’t do for me if I simply *believe*.

**Close in Prayer.**