

## The Beautiful Life Series Small Group Teaching Tool

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Weekend message preached: Sara Carlisle

Sermon text: Matthew 7:7-11

Teaching tool text: Matthew 8:5-13

7.4.10

### SUNDAY NIGHT SYNOPSIS

On Sunday night, Sara discussed the nature of God and how we can approach him in confidence in prayer. She discussed how God desires to give us good things and loves us very much.

### TONIGHT'S BIG IDEA

Followers of Jesus must learn to act with confidence with God when we pray. We must do this in because God requires our participation in seeing his Kingdom come to Earth.

### GETTING STARTED (20 minutes)

- Q1. If you were to go on an important job interview, what are some things that you should remember to do and not do during the interview?
- Q2. How should you approach the people who are interviewing you?
- Q3. How differently do you talk with your friends in comparison to someone you would be talking with in an important interview?
- Q4. Compare this scenario to people's relationship with God. What are some of the different ways that people approach God

Tonight, we're going to examine a story of how one man approached Jesus. Let's see what we can learn from his story.

### GETTING INTO THE TEXT (25 minutes) Read Matthew 8:5-13 (TNIV)

- Q1. In the original context, does anyone know what a centurion is or does?
- Q2. Describe the attitude of the centurion as he approached Jesus.
- Q3. What kind of a person do you think the centurion was?
- Q4. How does Jesus respond to the centurion's request?
- Q5. What can we learn about confidence from the centurion in these first few verses?
- Q6. How can we have the same confidence as the centurion?
- Q7. Look at verse 8. Why do you think the centurion didn't want Jesus to come to his house?
- Q8. What did the centurion understand about Jesus power and ability?
- Q9. Have you ever experience the power of Jesus similar to what is described in this story? What was that experience?
- Q10. Why was Jesus "astonished" at the faith of the centurion?
- Q11. What can we learn about how we should approach God?
- Q12. What are some practical decisions that we can make to change or even readjust the way we approach God in our everyday lives?