

## Closing Prayer

Close with prayer for the spiritual needs of your family, your spiritual family, and people everywhere.



## Connection Group Study Guide

For the week of June 23 – June 29

Luke 7:1-10

# STRETCH MARKS

## WHEN I CONTEMPLATE GOD'S ALMIGHTY POWER

### MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK IS TO...

- Memorize James 1:9-10.
- Make a list of the hardships I have experienced lately in life.
- Make a list of the ways God has blessed me and continues to do so despite the hardships I have faced.

## Opening Prayer

## Introduction

Share a story about something you witnessed that absolutely amazed you.

## Into the Bible

### Read Luke 7:1-10

This centurion was a captain of the Roman occupation army in Israel. How do the people in an occupied country usually feel about the occupying army? How is this man unusual?

Why do you think he would ask for help from Jesus? Why would he involve elders of the Jews?

Which words and phrases in verses 4 and 5 indicate the regard of the Jewish leaders for the centurion? Why do you think Jesus goes with them?

Consider the centurion's request in verse 3. Then look at his request in verses 6 and 7. What is the difference in the two requests? Why do you think he changes what he asks?

Why do you think there is a contrast between the elders' view of the centurion (v. 4) and the centurion's view of himself (v. 6)?

Contrast the authority of the centurion and Jesus. What does the centurion believe about Jesus?

## Connecting

Why was Jesus amazed by the centurion's faith? Discuss the following characteristics of his faith and how we might better apply them to our own lives.

- An exalted view of Jesus.
- A lowly view of himself.
- A caring view toward others.
- A reverent view of God's Word.

What view did the centurion have of Jesus' power and His commitment to His promises? When do we need to be reminded of these truths?

What are some ways you can show true, practical faith in Jesus' care and authority? What can you trust Him for this week, and how can you demonstrate your trust?