

## WARMING UP

1. What aspects of God’s character and his capabilities amaze you the most? Why? Take some time to rehearse his awesomeness.

## DIGGING IN

2. *Faith that amazes God . . . changes you (7:1-5)*
  - What differences had the Roman centurion’s faith already made in his life? Make a quick list of the ways that he was different than one would expect.
  - Many people today have the notion that faith is a private thing. What does it mean that our faith is “personal but not private”? What are the implications of this?
  - Pastor James MacDonald teaches, “If your faith hasn’t changed you, your faith hasn’t saved you.” What Scriptures would you use to support this statement? How has your faith changed you in the past? How is it changing you right now?
3. *Faith that amazes God . . . humbles you (7:6-7a)*
  - Based on what you know about Roman soldiers in the first century, would “humble” be a common descriptor? Why or why not? How does the centurion demonstrate humility in his interactions with the Jews of Capernaum and especially with Jesus?
  - Why does the centurion declare, “I am not worthy”? What does he rightly recognize? Why do the Jews counter, “He is worthy”? What have they observed about him? How does James 2:23a speak to this?
  - Do you think of yourself as worthy or unworthy before God? How are both answers correct in different ways?
4. *Faith that amazes God . . . rules you (7:7b-8)*
  - Pastor Todd mentioned how we don’t mind being led, but we resist being ruled. Discuss some of the ways this is revealed in our culture and explore why.
  - For the person of faith, how is God’s absolute rule a source of comfort rather than concern? How is this evident in the centurion’s situation? Have you found this to be true? What are some examples of how God’s rule impacts your day-to-day life?
5. *Faith that amazes God . . . affirms you (7:9-10)*
  - How affirming would it be to have Jesus say of you, “[Nowhere] have I found such faith”—to have him marvel at your faith? What effect would that have on you?
  - Jesus affirms the centurion in front of the Jews so that they will be motivated in their own faith. How could you do the same for an individual in your family or small group with a goal of encouraging them and inspiring others to do likewise?

## BREAKING OUT

6. How amazing is your faith on a scale of 1-10? Be honest. What one thing could you stop/start/restart doing this week that would amaze God with your faith? Be specific. How could your small group members provide practical help to one another in this regard?