

**ANTIOCH SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
*Spiritual Formation and Discipleship Training*

**Unit I Theme – The Measure of Faith**

**HELPING A FRIEND IN NEED**

**Background Passage: Luke 5:17-26**

**Lesson Passage: Luke 5:17-26**

**UNIFYING TOPIC:**

The Faith of Four Friends

**LESSON TEXT**

- I. The Friends' Determination  
(Luke 5:17-20)
- II. Jesus Discerns the Paralytic's Faith  
(Luke 5:21-24)
- III. Jesus' Work Is Despised and Discussed  
(Luke 5:25-26)

**Luke 5:18-19**

*“ And behold, some men were bringing  
on a bed,  
a man who was paralyzed,  
and they were seeking to bring him in  
and lay him before Jesus,  
but finding no way to bring him in,  
because of the crowd,  
they went up on the roof and let him  
down with his bed through the tiles into  
the midst before Jesus.*

**THE MAIN THOUGHT**

And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him. And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus. (Luke 5:18-19, KJV)

**UNIFYING PRINCIPLE**

People need a support system when trying to overcome life's obstacles. How can our friendships lend strength and support to others in crisis? Jesus celebrates the faith and tenacity of the four friends who helped a friend find healing and wholeness.

**LESSON AIM**

The men were determined to get their friend to Jesus, and when Jesus saw the faith of the paralytic, Jesus said, "Thy sins are forgiven."

**LIFE AIM**

We should do our best to share the riches of God's love with those who are less fortunate. If by chance, others do not understand the depth of our ministry, we should not allow them to diminish our efforts.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

*To teach the life-changing power of God's Word resulting in salvation to the lost, transformed lives, and renewed and strengthened relationships in Jesus Christ.*

*Matthew 28:19-20; 2 Timothy 3:16-17*

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**HEALED FROM A DISTANCE**

**Background Passage: Luke 7:1-10**

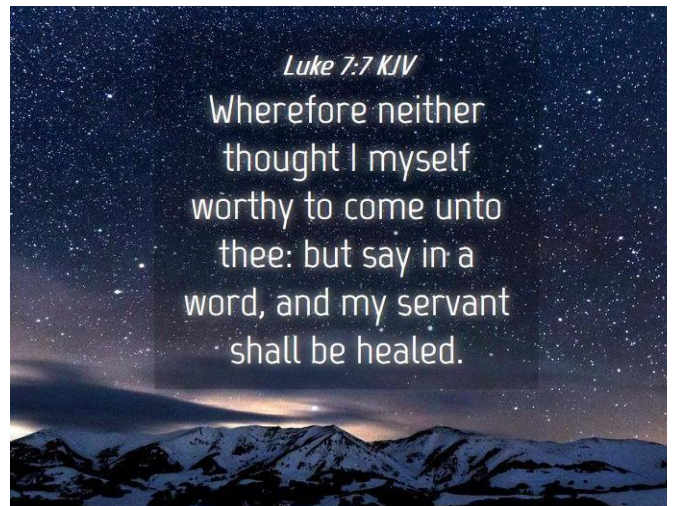
**Lesson Passage: Luke 7:1-10**

**UNIFYING TOPIC:**

Healed from a Distance

**LESSON TEXT**

- I. The Centurion Request Jesus' Presence  
(Luke 7:1-3)
- II. The Centurion Acknowledges Jesus' Worth  
(Luke 7:4-6)
- III. Jesus Acknowledges the Centurion's Faith  
(Luke 7:7-10)



**THE MAIN THOUGHT**

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

**UNIFYING PRINCIPLE**

There are times when the enormity of our problems diminishes our capacity to move forward. How should we respond to seemingly impossible problems? When a centurion whose servant was close to death responded in great faith, Jesus was amazed and miraculously restored the man to full health.

**LESSON AIM**

To show Jesus' teaching and healing got the attention of a non-Jew, Gentile centurion, who had enough faith to send for Jesus, to heal one of his most cared for servants (slaves).

**LIFE AIM**

To show that, it does not matter what race, creed, color, or religion one might be affiliated with, when it comes to a person having faith in Jesus to meet their need, be it physical, mental, or spiritual, Jesus is willing to come to see about them.

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**HOW MUCH DO YOU LOVE ME?**

**Background Passage: Luke 7:36-50**

**Lesson Passage: Luke 7:36-39, 44-50**

**UNIFYING TOPIC:**

Faith of a Woman Who Loved Jesus

**LESSON TEXT**

- I. Sinful Woman Anoints Jesus  
(Luke 7:36-39)
- II. Jesus Addresses Simon, the Pharisee  
(Luke 7:44-46)
- III. Jesus Forgives the Sinful Woman's Sins  
(Luke: 7:47-50)



**THE MAIN THOUGHT**

And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace. (Luke 7:50, KJV)

**UNIFYING PRINCIPLE**

The humiliation of our public failures can make it difficult for a fresh start. How do we overcome the weight of judgment and scrutiny from those who refuse to see past our mistakes? Luke teaches about a woman whose great faith helped her rise above the rejection of others so that she might express her gratitude for Jesus' love and forgiveness.

**LESSON AIM**

Today, we see Jesus is invited to the home of a Pharisee, who truly does not understand and appreciate the love of a "sinful" woman, and Jesus' love for her that causes Jesus to forgive her of her sins.

**LIFE AIM**

We are all sinners, some sins are more noticeable than others, but when we invite the Lord Jesus into our life, we should do so knowing that we are undeserving of God's love. Therefore, we should be grateful that our sins have been forgiven and show it by worshiping God with our best.

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**FAITH FOR AN OUTSIDER**

**Background Passage: Matthew 15:21-28**

**Lesson Passage: Matthew 15:21-28**

**UNIFYING TOPIC:**

Faith of a Canaanite Woman

**LESSON TEXT**

- I. Canaanite Woman's Request  
(Matthew 15:21-22)
- II. Jesus Responds to Woman's Request  
(Matthew 15:23-25)
- III. Jesus' Response Because of Woman's Faith  
(Matthew 15:26-28)



**THE MAIN THOUGHT**

Then Jesus answered and said unto her, **O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour. (Matthew 15:28, KJV)**

**UNIFYING PRINCIPLE**

There are systemic problems in society that unfairly restrict access to resources for some while privileging others. How do we overcome the prejudice and hatred that denies some people equal access to resources that protect a decent standard of living? The Canaanite woman understood that Israel's Messiah would one day bring God's reign to all people and, by faith, pressed Jesus to extend that blessing to her even before he'd completed His work among the people of Israel.

**LESSON AIM**

To show how that, although Jesus' disciples were not concerned with the Canaanite woman because of her diminished race to them, Jesus decided to respond to the woman's request in seemingly harsh and unconcerned words. The persistence of the woman's cry, her humility, and her faith caused Jesus to release her daughter from her demonic possession.

**LIFE AIM**

To show how that it might seem at times that others might not have compassion on our situation, and there might be times in which it appears that Jesus, too, is not concerned about our situation, but we must rely on our faith in God and God's Word, as we stand firm that there is no one else that can help us but God and God's Son, Jesus Christ.

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