

CELL NOTES 24/9/07

ICE BREAKER

Who have you met, and thought, "I wish I had their faith" - or some other quality about their lives?

THEME

I wish I had their faith

Reading Luke 7 : 1 – 10

SERMON OUTLINE

- 1) Forgiveness quote from Gee Walker.
- 2) Faith seen in child's instinctive trust in an adult.
- 3) Life is apt to knock that out, and replace it by fear, cynicism etc.
- 4) We all exercise faith e.g. in our own abilities, the doctor, money etc.
- 5) Can misunderstand faith, and see it as a crutch for the weak, religiousness, an escape from hard questions etc.
- 6) Not so. Real faith means entering the realm of God, allowing Him to act in our lives, in a way that produces personal freedom and integrity – as seen in the centurion.
- 7) It does not mean escaping life's hardships, or always being on top – quote from man whose wife was ill.
- 8) Real faith is not vague, but directed on Christ – as was the centurion's.
- 9) How does it grow? – by hearing (Rom 10 : 17) – God's word, and attending to the whispers within.
- 10) What steps are you taking to nurture your faith? Have you put your faith in the right place?

QUESTIONS OF APPLICATION

- 1) Read the passage. Describe the faith of the centurion. What exactly would you say is the quality of faith he exhibits?
- 2) When in the last two years have you acted by faith, or wished that you had done so?
- 3) What do you find are the biggest incentives and biggest discouragements in nurturing your faith?
- 4) How may the group encourage one another to grow in faith?
- 5) How is "4 Life" going?