**Series: Jesus Is**

**Today: Can You Believe It?**

**Speaker: Ronnie Norman, Senior Minister**

***Luke 7:1-10***

*When Jesus had finished saying all this to the people who were listening, he entered Capernaum. 2There a centurion’s servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die. 3The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. 4When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, “This man deserves to have you do this, 5because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue.”*

***Photo of synagogue in capernaum – please find one***

 *6So Jesus went with them.*

*He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him: “Lord, don’t trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. 7That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. 8For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and that one, ‘Come,’ and he comes. I say to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”*

*9When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, “I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel.” 10Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well.*

***Hebrews 11:6***

*And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*

***James 2:23***

*Abraham believed God, and he was called God's friend.*

1. **Faith is believing before you see.**

***Romans 1:20***

*For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.*

**2. Faith requires a personal choice.**

***Acts 19:9***

*They refused to believe and they publicly maligned the way of Christ.*

**Faith Barriers**

* **Intellectual Resistance**
* **Moral Resistance**
* **Experiential Dissonance**

***Psalm 10:4***

*In his pride the wicked does not seek him. In all his thoughts there is no room for God.*

**3. Faith is measured by degrees, and it is increased by action.**

**4. Genuine faith is always rewarded by God in his time.**