

Luke 7:1-40
Expectations - The Enemy Of Faith

Prisoners of Hope is the autobiographical account of Heather Mercer and Dayna Curry's time in Afghanistan.

Consider the centurion – As a member of the powerful Roman Army, who else could he have asked for help? The centurion asked Jesus to heal his servant – who could you ask Jesus to help or heal?

Consider the widow of Nain – Jesus showed up unexpectedly in her life at a very difficult moment and blessed her in a mighty way, a way that she didn't ask for. Has Jesus ever done anything like that in your life? How?

Consider John the Baptist – He knew that Jesus was the Messiah, but his faith still wavered. Have you ever doubted God? Why? What can you look back on and remind yourself of in order to strengthen your faith? What events in your life serve as 'faith anchors' to hold you in place when the storms of life rage around you?

Consider the Pharisees and the lawyers – these people saw and heard about the same miracles and teachings as the crowds, the centurion, and John the Baptist, but they never put any faith in Jesus because they had wrong ideas of what the Messiah would do. What wrong ideas have you had about God? Do you think this is still a problem today? If so, what do people assume God will be like? How is that different from the way He really is?

Have you ever seen fervent faith placed in the wrong things? How did things turn out? What lessons did you learn?