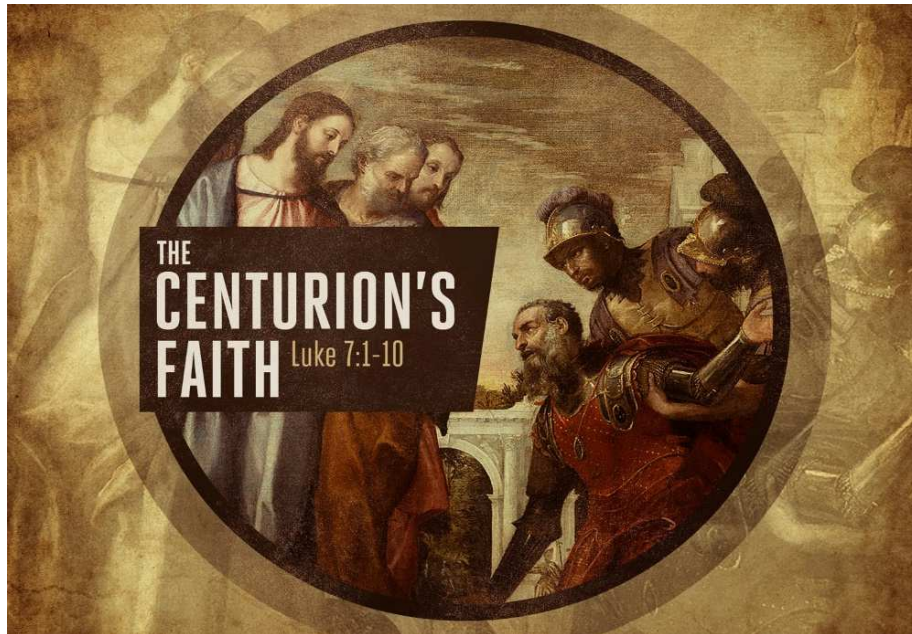


The Forecast
Hilton Baptist Church.
101 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601
HiltonBaptistChurch.org / (757)595-3300



When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. "Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly." Jesus said to him, "Shall I come and heal him?"

The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. For 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."

When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following:

"Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith."

The faith of the centurion in Matthew 8 & Luke 7 teach us valuable lessons about humility, recognizing God's authority, and trusting in His word. This Sunday we will strive to learn and cultivate such faith in our own lives, confident that God is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine.

Join us this Sunday as we learn where Jesus discovered "great faith" in the story of the Centurion & his servant - Plan to be there and bring your family and friends!



Where Jesus Found Great Faith...

During the New Testament era, a Roman centurion was a professional military officer commanding a platoon of troops called a “century.” This could be anywhere from nearly one hundred to several hundred men. Each Roman legion was composed of nearly 5,000 men, divided into multiple cohorts, each cohort composed of multiple centuries. As a result, a legion could contain as many as sixty centurions. Their importance was based on seniority, with the senior centurion in a legion being in a position of great prestige. Some historians have compared the top-level centurions to medieval knights. Roman centurions represented the bridge between enlisted troops and commissioned officers, in much the same way as warrant officers do in the modern U.S. military.

Soldiers were appointed as centurions by virtue of their bravery, loyalty, character, and prowess in battle. Centurions were held to high standards of conduct and were expected to fight on the front lines with their men. In fact, the centurion’s designated place in formation was at the end of the very front row. As a result, Roman centurions were well paid and held in high esteem, and they experienced high rates of injury and death during war. The combination of wealth, power, and prestige made them influential in society.

The Bible mentions several Roman centurions. The man overseeing Jesus’ crucifixion was a centurion (Matthew 27:54), probably one of lower seniority. It was a centurion who exclaimed at the foot of the cross, “Surely this man was the Son of God!” (Mark 15:39). Matthew 8:5–13 and Luke 7:1–10 relay the story of a centurion, likely of high rank, who approached Jesus for healing on behalf of his servant. The royal official mentioned in John 4:43–54 might have been a high-ranking centurion, as well. In all cases, the centurions are noted for their position of authority. For these men to make a request of anyone, let alone Jesus, a Jew, would have required great faith and great humility.

One of the most important Roman centurions mentioned in the Bible is Cornelius, described in Acts 10. According to the Bible, Cornelius saw an angelic vision telling him to seek Peter in Joppa. Cornelius was obedient to the vision, and Peter told him of his own vision, commanding him to evangelize Gentiles as well as Jews. Cornelius was saved during this encounter, becoming one of the first non-Jews evangelized in the early church era (Acts 11:15–18). The presence of the Holy Spirit in an uncircumcised, non-Jewish person—a Roman centurion, of all people—proved to the other Christians that the message of Christ was far-reaching and universal.

On the grace journey together with you, Lynwood

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

July 2, 2024

Budget \$2868.00

Designated Budget Offering– Community Dinner \$5.00

Cash in Cash out–Lackey Clinic \$125.00

Food Pantry- \$3.00

Total Deposit \$3001.00

Baptismal Service

We will be having a Baptismal Service on Sunday, July 21st. If you have not been baptized and would like to be, please contact the church office.

Notice

An anonymous letter was received in the office this past week, there was no signature or return address. If you wrote the letter, who you please be so kind and call the church office, we would love to talk to you. Thanks

Lock up/ Hall Monitor 7/7 Stan Langdon 7/14 Charles Vassar

Counter 7/8 Margaret Upole 7/15 Kathy Caskie

Kids Church 7/7 Kathy Caskie 7/14 Tracy Venable

Grass Cutting– 7/13 Pam and Roger Cooke 7/27 Stan Langdon



Happy Birthday in July

7/3 Art Halk

7/12 Emma Beard

7/21 Tracy Venable

/7/23 Sue Monfalcone

7/27 Wayne Tawney

7/31 Cindy Gibson



VBS– August 5th– 9th

6:00pm–8:30pm Dinner will be served!

Ages 4– 12 years old!

There are fliers in the Connection Center. Please hand some out and invite Kids!

Volunteers are still needed. See Dreama!



Lackey Clinic

Thank you for your contributions for Lackey Clinic for the month of June. We were able to send \$375.00 to the Clinic. God bless you for your giving.

Calendar

Tuesday, July 2nd

12pm-1pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, July 3rd

7pm Bible Study in person and online

Thursday, July 4th

Church office closed

NO FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Friday, July 5th

NO PRODUCE BAGGING

Sunday, July 7th

9:00am Discipleship Class

10:00am Online and Live

Worship at HBC

10:00am Sonshine Kids

Tuesday, July 9th

12pm–1pm Food Distribution

6:30pm Vision Team Meeting

Wednesday, July 10th

7pm Bible Study in person and online

Thursday, July 11th

12pm– 1pm Food Distribution

Sunday, July 14th

9:00am Discipleship Class

10:00am Online and Live
Worship at HBC

10:00am Sonshine Kids

Food Distribution after
morning worship

[Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226](#)

[Aluminum Cans](#)

Recycle your cans at HBC and help Support missions! Bring them to HBC and place them in the gym or the church office. All money collected goes to missions.

[Pray for our Missionaries](#)

LR (American People) KJ (Asian Pacific Rim People) RB, MM, Brittany Sprinks, Jennifer Vanover (European People) DT (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) RJ, SR (South Asian People) Ed Hill (Sub Saharan African People) Ron Spidla (Alberta) Brittany Hall (NY) Dave Pound (OH) Jordin Crow (OR)

[WMU Project for July](#)— Pure Water Pure Love

[Item's needed for the Food Pantry](#)

The Food Pantry is in real need of the following: Hamburger Helper, Pancake Syrup, cereal and Pasta. We do take monetary donations for the items that we need to purchase. Just mark your envelope or check. Thank you to all who support this important ministry.

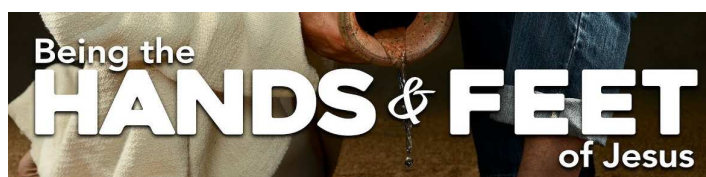
[Food Pantry /Food Bank Help](#)

If you can help with the Food Pantry /Bank on Tuesday and Thursdays for Food Distribution or on Fridays to bag Veggies, please let the church office know. We also need people to help every Sunday after Food Distribution in the gym to get everything put up. WE CAN USE YOU! We need to add people to our team. No experience is necessary! Come and see if you would like to work with us!

[Serve the City Peninsula—Big Serve Week Stats](#)

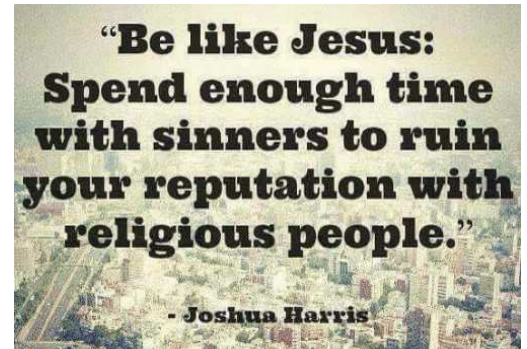
- ◆ Average of 90 volunteers each of the 5 days
- ◆ Completion of 44 projects
- ◆ Economic impact was \$42,866.
- ◆ Over 1400 Volunteer Hours
- ◆ The non profits supported were Peninsula Food Bank, Fear2Freedom, THRIVE, PORT, CHKD, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Operation Break Through, Rescue Mission, Heart of Giving, Hampton Roads Urban Agriculture , Greater Hampton Roads Diaper Bank , Sprately House and Nursing Homes in the area.

There are many ways to service. You can check the website or contact Pam Cooke and she will help you get plugged in .



Spending Time With Sinners ...

Soon after calling Matthew to follow Him, Jesus ate a meal with “*many publicans and sinners*” in Matthew’s house (Mark 2:15). The scribes and the Pharisees were critical of his actions and complained to his disciples.



In Jesus’ day, rabbis were the highest members of Jewish society. Everyone looked up to the Pharisees. They were strict adherents to the Law and tradition, and they avoided those whom they deemed “sinners” because they had a “clean” image to maintain. Tax collectors, infamous for embezzlement and their cooperation with the hated Romans, definitely fell into the “sinner” category.

As Jesus’ ministry grew, so did His popularity among the social outcasts of society. Spending time with the publicans and sinners was part of Jesus’ mission: “*I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners*” (Mark 2:17). If Jesus was to reach the lost, He needed contact with them. He went to where the need was *because “it is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.”* Praise the Lord, the Great Physician makes house calls!

Sitting at Matthew’s dinner table, Jesus may have broken some societal taboos, but His presence there shows that He looked beyond culture to people’s hearts. Whereas the Pharisees wrote people off simply because of their profession or their past, Jesus looked past all that and saw their need.

The fact that Jesus saw individuals, not just their labels, no doubt inspired them to know Him better. Jesus didn’t let social status or cultural norms dictate His relationships with people.

As the Good Shepherd, Jesus sought the lost sheep wherever they had strayed. When Matthew hosted the dinner party, Jesus gladly accepted the invitation. It was a wonderful opportunity to share the good news of the kingdom with those who most needed to hear (see Matthew 4:23). Yes, He would be criticized for His actions, but what prophet ever lived without criticism?

Unlike the Pharisees, Jesus didn’t require people to change *before* coming to Him. He sought them out, met them where they were, and extended grace to them in their circumstances. Change would come to those who accepted Christ, but it would be from the inside out. Jesus knew better than anyone else that it is only the goodness and kindness of God leads sinners to repentance (Romans 2:4).

Jesus showed us that we shouldn’t let cultural norms dictate whom we evangelize. The sick need a physician. Lost sheep need a shepherd. Are we praying the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into the field (Luke 10:2)? Are we willing to go ourselves?



Becoming A Faith-Filled Church...

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” Hebrews 11:6

Until we discover what it means to have faith, we cannot begin to walk by faith. Faith in God is more than just believing He exists; it is living with confidence that He will fulfill all His promises and bring salvation to us.

Our desire and our goal as we begin this new year of 2024 is to go deeper with God and to truly become a faith-filled church. Not in mere words alone, but in our thoughts and actions. We want to discover whether we have placed our faith in God or if we only are wishing His Word is true. As our faith is tested, the true spiritual state of our hearts is revealed.

A situation is presented before us where we can act within our own strength, doing whatever we can to manipulate the outcome, or we can trust in God’s strength, taking our hands off the problem and allowing Him to enter the scene.

As we begin to walk by faith, there will times when we stumble and fall. However, falling and getting up is part of learning how to walk. Once we get up and dust ourselves off, we take our next step with more wisdom, more strength, more faith.

Walking by faith is a lifestyle, a way in which we conduct ourselves. As God molds and shapes us more into His image, He desires for us to live a life of faith, a life that relies upon Him for everything we need. Paul wrote, *“For we walk by faith, not by sight.... Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him” 2 Corinthians 5:7, 9.*

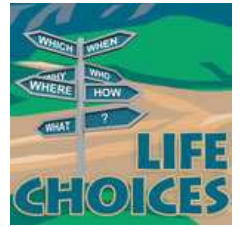
Our new four-week series of *“Jesus And We”* will focus on four of HBC’s core values. We will be inspired to go deeper in the areas of faith, serving, generosity, and evangelism. And our goal is a simple one...

“As A Church... To Become Faith-Filled, Big Thinking, Bet The Farm Risk Takers, Who will Never Insult God With Small Thinking Or Safe Living.”

It is said that the definition of insanity is to continue doing things the same old way and yet expecting different results. Are we willing to change? Are we willing to become the people of God He has destined us to be?

You won’t want to miss a single Sunday. Plan to hear each message, to be changed for the better and continue to grow in his grace!

What We Think



There is much we cannot control that takes place around us. We surely cannot control the weather, and we cannot control the things others may do or say. But, we do have the power to control ourselves! Every moment of every day, each of us makes decisions – choices – about how we will proceed in life.

Much of our life's direction is determined by the sum total of these daily decisions! In all of our choices, the area that is perhaps most difficult to control, but at the same time is the most important, is the choice of what we think! There is a saying that goes like this –

*Watch your thoughts, for they become words.
Watch your words, for they become actions.
Watch your actions, for they become habits.
Watch your habits, for they become your character.
Watch your character, for it becomes your destiny.*

What we think, we become. Through the years, this phrase has been attributed to many individuals. Regardless of who originally penned these words, they are so true. In fact, they are biblical! Proverbs 4:23 tells us to *"be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts."*



The Elderly Man & Satan

A few minutes before the church services started, the townspeople were sitting in their pews and talking. Suddenly, Satan appeared at the front of the church. Everyone started screaming and running for the front entrance, trampling each other in a frantic effort to get away from evil incarnate. Soon everyone had exited the church except for one elderly gentleman who sat calmly in his pew without moving, seeming oblivious to the fact that God's ultimate enemy was in his presence. So Satan walked up to the old man and said, "Don't you know who I am?"

The man replied, "Yep, sure do." "Aren't you afraid of me?" Satan asked.

"Nope, sure ain't." said the man. "Don't you realize I can kill you with a word?" asked Satan. "Don't doubt it for a minute," returned the old man, in an even tone.

"Did you know that I could cause you profound, horrifying, physical AGONY for all eternity?" persisted Satan. "Yep," was the calm reply.

"And you're still not afraid?" asked Satan. "Nope." More than a little perturbed, Satan asked, "Well, why aren't you afraid of me?"

The man calmly replied, "Been married to your sister for over 48 years."