

Guest Speaker

Amazed – Carl Kuhl

August 8, 2021

Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation--encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

// Bible References

Romans 5:8; Matthew 8:5-10; Mark 6:1-6

// Message Summary

This week's message from guest speaker Pastor Carl Kuhl asks us to consider, 'Is it possible for God to be amazed by us?' In this message, Carl recalls two instances in Jesus' life when He was amazed by people around Him. In the first instance, Jesus was amazed at a Roman centurion's *great* faith; in the second, He was amazed at His own hometown's *lack of* faith. Using this remarkable comparison, Carl encourages us to build lives that are humble, honoring and bold - and amaze God by our great faith in Him.

// Community Questions

1. What is something that really amazes you? As a group, make a list of '5 things we all, 100%, completely and totally agree are amazing.'

// Discussion Questions

1. As a group, read Matthew 8:5-10. What is this passage mostly about?
2. In verse 10, Jesus says the centurion has 'great faith'. What did He say this about the soldier?
3. Carl noted 4 attitudes that can hinder our faith:

- A lack of honor
- Cynicism
- A lack of humility
- A lack of boldness

If we hold these attitudes, what might that tell us about our view of God? (For example, if we know that we come to God with a lack of boldness, what might that say about how we view Him?)

4. How did the Roman soldier demonstrate the opposite attitudes to those above? What does that tell you about his view of Jesus/God?
5. We know faith is like a muscle that grows stronger as you exercise it (Mark 9:24). But we also know faith is a gift to us from God (Romans 10:17). How can we balance these two ideas about our faith?
6. What attributes of God make it possible to have *great faith* in Him?

// Challenge

What bold prayer do you need to pray? Name a prayer that adequately demonstrates your great faith in our great God.

Write it in your journal (so you can reflect on it at a later date) and pray it in a manner that is both honoring and humble - but also **bold!**