

Encounters with Jesus

Faith, Hope, and Love

(Luke 7:1-50)

- Introduction:
1. In this series, we are examining several encounters people had with Jesus and the lessons we can learn from them.
 2. This lesson includes three encounters all from Luke 7.
 3. The lessons can be summed up in three words, "faith, hope, and love."

I. Faith – The Roman Centurion

- A. (Luke 7:1-10).
- B. The Centurion had faith that Jesus could heal his servant and didn't even desire Jesus to enter his home.
- C. This faith caused Jesus to marvel, saying "I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!"
- D. Don't discount the value of your faith in Jesus.

II. Hope – The Widow of Nain & John the Baptist

- A. (Luke 7:11-35).
- B. Think of the despair and hopelessness this widow must have felt, only to have that despair turned into hope by the presence of Jesus.
- C. Also, consider the hopelessness of John the Baptist.
- D. He thought the Messiah's ministry would be one of judgment (Luke 3:7-9; 16-17), but all the reports speak of his ministry of mercy.
- E. John was hoping that he was living and about to die for the right thing, and Jesus confirms his hope.

III. Love – The Sinful Woman

- A. (Luke 7:36-50).
- B. This woman was so desperate to see Jesus, she threw caution to the wind and did what most of us would never think of doing, but it was her only hope.
- C. Such love resulted in the forgiveness of her sins.
- D. We need to love as she loved and do whatever it takes to be able to be with Jesus.

- Conclusion:
1. Friends, place your faith in Jesus and he will give you hope, and you will learn to love him more and more as you get to know him.
 2. Do you believe in Jesus?
 3. Do you want the hope he can offer you?
 4. Then throw caution to the wind and become his disciple.