

REFLECTION IDEAS

Asking for Help – Jesus heals the Centurion’s Servant Matthew chapter 8 verses 5 to 13

This GenR8 Connect shares that we all need help sometimes and that it is good to ask for help when we need it. The video tells the story of a centurion in the town of Capernaum who asked Jesus for help. This centurion had a servant who was very ill and he had faith that Jesus was able to heal him without going to see him. Jesus praised the centurion for his belief and said, “Go! Let it be done just as you believed it would”. His servant was healed at that moment. Christians believe that God is someone we can ask for help today too and we can have confidence and faith in him to help when we ask because he knows what we need and loves us.

Reflection

President Obama said, ‘Don't be afraid to ask questions. Don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it. I do that every day. Asking for help isn't a sign of weakness, it's a sign of strength. It shows you have the courage to admit when you don't know something, and to learn something new.’

- It is wise not weak to ask for help. Do you find it hard to ask for help?
- Christians believe that God is someone we can ask for help, and that we should help each other too. Think about who you can trust and ask for help.

Story Links

Short animated versions of the bible story can be found here - please check that they are suitable for your group.

<https://youtu.be/52sH-WdL9l8>

https://youtu.be/Nf_Ky8q9tsk

Inspire Prayer Space Activity – Asking for Help

Equipment

A length of rope

Ribbon

Description

We all need help sometimes - to do or learn new things, or when we are worried or in trouble. Who would you ask for help? Christians believe that God is someone we can go to and ask for help.

Instructions

Take a length of rope and talk about its strength and the fact that sometimes, when people are in need, we say that we are 'throwing them a lifeline' or rope to help rescue them. Use this to reflect on the times in our lives when we need to ask for help.

Each child can take a ribbon and tie it to the rope as they think about the people they can rely on for help. It can also be used as an expression of thanks for those people or as a prayer as they ask God to help them.

inspire
prayer spaces



See below for activity sheet

Asking for Help

Matthew chapter 8 verses 5 to 13

Draw a picture in each box to tell the story of the Centurion who asked Jesus to help his servant.

1. There once was an important Roman soldier, called a centurion, whose servant was very ill. The centurion thought the servant might die.

2. The centurion had heard that Jesus had healed many people. Jesus was nearby so the centurion sent a man to Jesus to ask him to come and help.

3. The centurion was still worried so decided to go and speak to Jesus himself. Jesus was on his way to the centurion's house when they met.

4. The centurion asked Jesus to heal his servant. He said to Jesus, "I can see that you are in charge and if you only say that my servant is healed then he will be".

5. Jesus was amazed by the centurion's faith and trust in him. Jesus told the centurion to go home – his servant would be well again.

6. When the centurion went home he found that his servant was well again.

Asking for help – people who help us

There are lots of people who we can ask for help. See if you can unscramble the words to make the names of some of them, using the picture clues to help.



limafy

--- --



idrefsn

--- --



reethac

--- --



pohs reekep

--- --



rodcot

--- --



refterifgih

--- --



colipe

--- --



evt

--- --



mulpbre

--- --



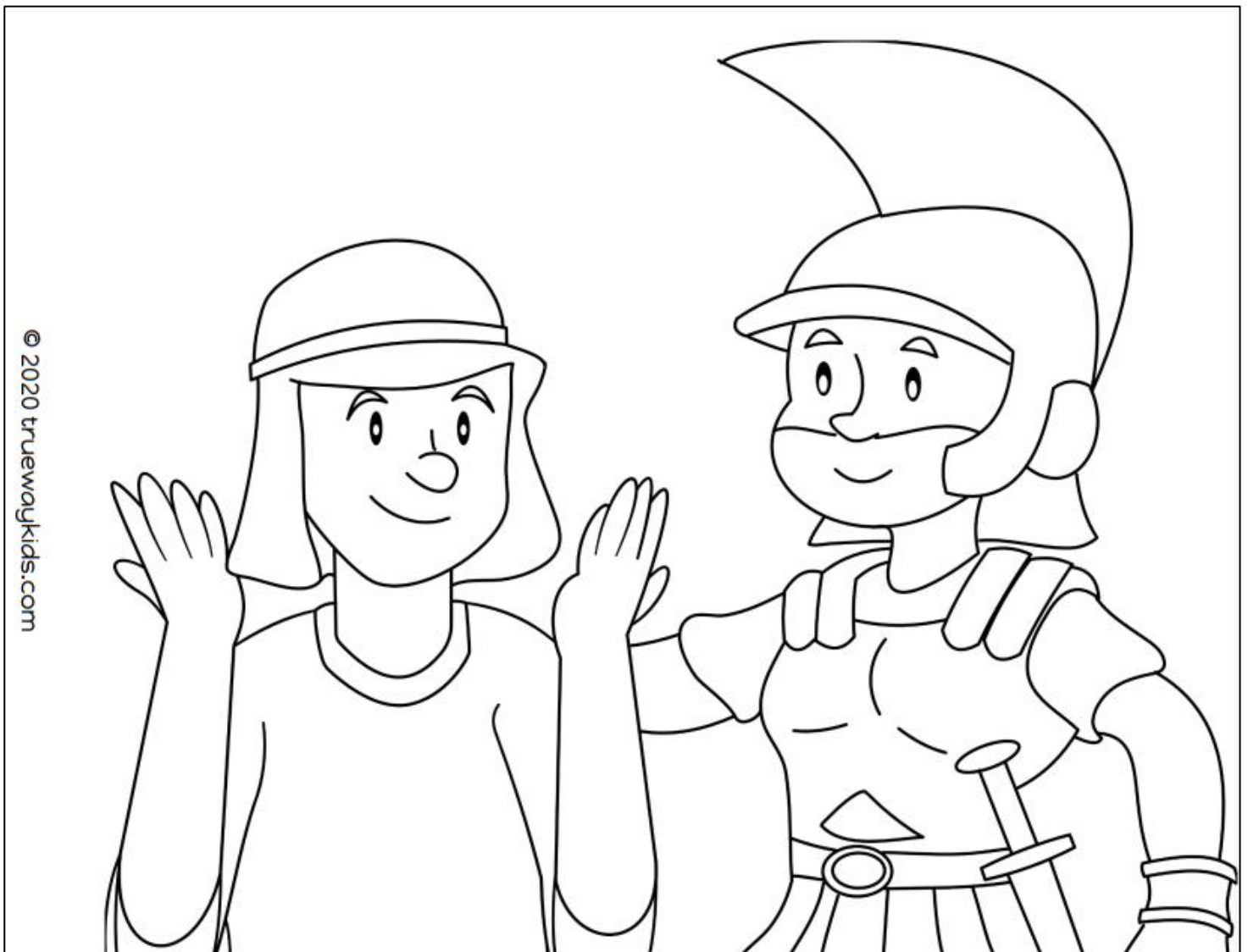
civar

--- --

Think about what you would ask each of these people to help you with.

Are there other things that you would like help with? Who can you ask to help?

Colour in the picture of the centurion and his servant who was healed



Asking for help – in sign

When we ask for help, we should always say 'please'.

Here is how to say please in sign – it is the same sign as thank you in BSL: <https://youtu.be/qXSUla-dhQEI>

- Flat hand starts with fingertips on chin.
- Hand moves down and away from signer.



please / thank you

To help you think about who can help in different circumstances – fill in the blanks. Cut out the strips and colour them in rainbow colours and stick them or hang them from the cloud.



I can ask to help me with
I can ask when I am struggling with
I can ask for help when I don't understand something.
I can ask for help when I am feeling frustrated.
I can ask for help when I am feeling worried.