

Climb or Crumble? Facing Life's Mountains

December 31, 2017
Pastor Joseph Sissac

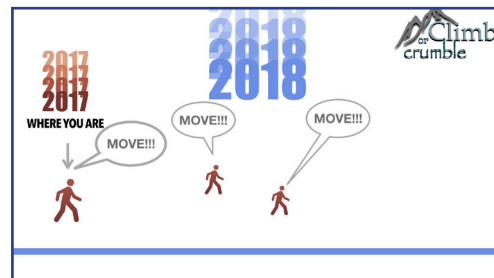
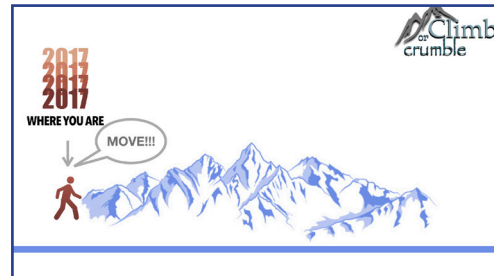
FACING YOUR MOUNTAINS

In regards to mountains (problems, trials and challenges in life) most believers only apply Matthew 17:20, “And He said to them, **“Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you.”**”

The idea is that when we face mountains, we can utilize our faith, even if it's the size of a mustard seed, to speak to any challenge we face and it will dissipate or be defeated. This is certainly a true and powerful, faith-filled statement. However the issue at hand today is that we all that in practice, speaking to mountains doesn't always yield the immediate outcome we want to see.

The idea is that when we face mountains, we can utilize our faith, even if it's the size of a mustard seed, to speak to any challenge we face and it will dissipate or be defeated. This is certainly a true and powerful, faith-filled statement. However the issue at hand today is that we all that in practice, speaking to mountains doesn't always yield the immediate outcome we want to see.

- ◇ You spoke by faith to the sickness and you're still sick.
- ◇ You spoke by faith to the bank account and it's still empty.
- ◇ You spoke by faith to the marriage and there's still strife and discord.
- ◇ You spoke by faith to the job and someone else got the position.



These repeated attempts to speak by faith and move mountains with disappointing results can lead to faith fatigue, doubt and disbelief. One can begin to question whether they truly have faith at all or if God's Word is true concerning them. “Why isn't it working?” “What's wrong with my faith?” “Am I not good enough to be blessed by God?”

WHAT TYPE OF MOUNTAIN ARE YOU FACING?

There are answers and there is hope. The simple fact of the matter is there are more than one type of mountain that we can face in life.

- ◇ Some mountains are obstacles and distractions from the enemy attempting to derail your God-given purpose. These must be **spoken** to.
- ◇ Some mountains are a part of the your God-given purpose and designed to strengthen your faith and transform you character. These must be **CLIMBED!**

Looking over 2017, many of us may have faced mountains that we spoke to that should've been climbed. Some may even have attempted to climb mountains that need to be spoken to. If we are going to have greater success in 2018, we're going to need **M.P.D., Mountain Purpose Discernment: the ability to discern whether the mountain you face requires you to speak or climb.**

Speak-To Mountains:

Annoy, distract and **frustrate**. Often completely unrelated to your purpose.
(Acts 16:16-24)

Climb-Up Mountains:

Remind, convict and **challenge** you be better and do better. These are the challenges that develop the character of Christ in you like nothing else.
(Luke 22:31-34)

