

Small Group Moment – July 1, 2025

Barrier Breakers – Do I Need More Faith?

Key Scriptures (NKJV):

- **Luke 8:49–55** – “While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue’s house, saying to him, ‘Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher.’ But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, ‘Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well.’ ... He took her by the hand and called, saying, ‘Little girl, arise.’ Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately.”
 - **Mark 9:23–25** – “Jesus said to him, ‘If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.’ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, ‘Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!’”
 - **Matthew 17:20–21** – “So Jesus said to them, ‘Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, “Move from here to there,” and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.’”
 - **2 Corinthians 10:5** – “Casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.”
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Overview:

This week’s focus is on overcoming resistance to our faith. Contrary to the idea that we need more faith, Jesus teaches that even faith as small as a mustard seed is enough—when it is pure and uncontaminated by unbelief. Our goal is to identify and eliminate unbelief, not to increase the *quantity* of faith, but to purify and activate the faith we already possess.

Pastor’s Notes:

- We don’t need more faith; we need to focus on removing the unbelief.
 - Using our faith results in resistance.
 - The mustard seed is seed in its pure form, with no contamination. Faith is often deceived by the cares of the world (see Matthew 17:20–21).
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Discussion Points & Questions

Point #1: Capture the Resistance

Scripture Reference: Luke 8:49; 2 Corinthians 10:5

Pastor's Thought: “Do not speak your thoughts, speak your faith.”

Discussion Questions:

- What are some ways we can recognize when our thoughts are resisting our faith?
 - How do we actively take thoughts captive according to 2 Corinthians 10:5?
 - Can you share a time when you chose to speak faith over fear?
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Point #2: Confront the Resistance

Scripture Reference: Luke 8:50

Pastor's Thought: “This isn't God's part—you have to confront the resistance.”

Discussion Questions:

- What does it look like to confront resistance in your daily life?
 - How does Jesus model confronting fear and doubt in Luke 8:50?
 - What role does courage play in confronting resistance to faith?
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Point #3: Counter the Resistance

Scripture Reference: Luke 8:50–51

Pastor's Thought: “But what we consider drives us—we must not agree with the enemy.”

Discussion Questions:

- What are some thoughts you've agreed with that were actually resistance to your faith?
 - How do you 'counter' these thoughts with the truth of God's Word?
 - How did Jesus counter the resistance in Luke 8:51?
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Point #4: Crush the Resistance

Scripture Reference: Luke 8:52–54

Pastor's Thought: “You must say it first before you see it.”

Discussion Questions:

- Why is it important to speak faith before seeing results?
- How can we build confidence to speak boldly in faith?
- What impact does your declaration of faith have on your circumstances?