

# Sermon Discussion Questions

Faith By Itself – Matt Slocum  
16 April 2023  
Sermon Text: Mark 9:14-24

## AGENDA

- People arrive, talk, snack, and icebreaker – 5 min
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Prayer/Ministry Time – 20 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min

## PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Ask for specific needs of group members.

## MESSAGE INTRODUCTION

This week we will be looking at what is possible when we have faith. But what happens when our belief has a little bit of unbelief? Pastor Matt explores this theme in his message, Faith By Itself.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week, we were supposed to be prayerful and think about areas in our lives where we might not be giving our “Amen” to God. Were there some areas that God revealed to you?
2. What are some things that stuck with you from Matt’s message this week?
3. Matt referred to our heart as a garden where many things can grow, such as God’s word as well as fear/anxiety. If we let the “weeds” continue to grow, it will choke out the plants of sustenance. Are there weeds in your heart that you are allowing to grow and choke out what God wants for you?
4. The enemy wants to increase our busyness so that it increases our cares in that area. When we allow those seeds to be planted it competes with God’s word. Are there areas of your life where you need to lay down the busyness that gives you artificial significance, so that God can give you true significance?
5. In Mark 9:24, we see that you are able to have both Faith and Unbelief at the same time. Have you ever experienced this in your life? Share your experiences and how God helped you in your unbelief.

## Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. What game show would you be good at?
2. What’s the best prank you have played on someone?
3. If given the choice of being the best at your worst job or worst at your dream job, which would you pick?

## **APPLICATION**

In Hebrew, there is no word for obey, instead, they use the word Shema, which means to listen.

Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of God. In what way are you going to cultivate the skill of listening to God in the next week? (Reading, listening, studying and understanding of God's word)

## **COMING UP**

To join a small group or find out more about what is going on at NWC, go to <https://nwckc.com> or the New Wine Church Community Group Facebook page. Study materials are also available on the website or Facebook page.

Men's Vineyard Regional Retreat, 27-29 April 2023, Riverside Bible Camp, Story City, IA. See website for registration details. <https://nwckc.com/men>

Selah Women's Retreat, 5-6 May 2023, Heartland Retreat Center, Parkville, MO

## **FINAL THOUGHT**

**The greatest detriment for the potential in your life is unbelief.**