



Main Scripture: Hebrews 11:32-34
Judges 4-5

Faith as small as a mustard seed ...
(Matt 17:20, Lk 13:18-19)

Is not about us
(Judg 4:9-10)

It's about God
(Judg 4:14-15, 23-24, 5:20-21; Mk 14:35-36)

“Barak – Mustard Seed Faith”

May 21 & 22, 2022



Small Group Sermon Study

Hebrews 11:32-40, Judges 4:1-24

Prayer: *Father, in Jesus’ name, through the Holy Spirit, come and speak to us, teach us and transform us as we read, discuss and reflect on Your word.*

Icebreaker:

Is there a situation you’ve walked through where you thought things would work best if they went a certain way, only to discover that having things go in a different direction was actually for the best? Please share that with the group.

1. What did you like or appreciate about Barak’s story? Are he and/or Deborah people with whom you are familiar? Please share any encouragements, surprises or questions with the group.
2. Andy mentions Matthew 17:20, where Jesus encourages His followers to have faith the size of a mustard seed, with the promise that this kind of faith has the power to move mountains! We see this kind of faith in Barak. Have you experienced situations or seasons in which you have had just enough faith to say yes to God?
3. “Barak was not going into the battle with faith in himself.” Andy makes the point that although Barak was a skilled and seasoned military commander, his faith was not in himself as he approached this battle. He knew any victory would only be because of God.
 - When you consider your life and the battles you have faced, where has your faith most often been placed? Are there times you have found it easier, or more difficult, to trust God?
 - Are you in a season now of only having a “mustard seed” sized faith to offer?
4. Andy mentions that in the Old Testament the people were given physical signs of God’s presence. That doesn’t happen as often or in the same ways today. The Holy Spirit is still working, but we need to look and listen differently. Do you have a regular practice of listening in prayer personally, and as a group? How can this practice grow in your relationship with Jesus, both personally and as a group?

Personal Reflection:

- Are you in a season of asking God for a better plan? Is there a plan unfolding in your life that the Holy Spirit is asking you to submit to, even though it’s difficult? Like Jesus in the garden, take a moment to talk with God about this, and receive His help and strength.
- Consider the role that the Holy Spirit has in your life. What can you do to experience more of His power and presence so that your faith is increased?

Prayer: *Spend time praying for one another, inviting the Holy Spirit to search your heart and ask Him to highlight any area in which you can grow in faith. Take time to celebrate His redemption and victory.*