

# The Gospel in Action (20)

## Faith in the Valley

Mark 9:14-29

### Intro: Coming Off a Mountaintop Experience

#### I. The Setting (v. 14-18)

#### II. The Doubt (v. 19-22)

#### III. The Faith (v. 23-29)

### Conclusion: Faith in the Valley

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think of a "mountaintop experience" you've had in your life, where God's presence was incredibly real to you in that moment. Describe the awe and wonder you felt... what was that like?
2. Jesus asked an open-ended question to create an opportunity for the father of the boy to share his heart and give voice to his faith (as tiny as it was). According to Dan Grider, Jesus asked 233 questions in the Gospels (nearly all of them open-ended) and only answered 4 questions. Many of us like to give 233 answers and only ask 4 questions. How does the approach of Jesus challenge you as you engage in spiritual conversations?
3. "This kind comes out only by PRAYER." Jesus reminded the disciples that they failed because they trusted in themselves rather than relying on God. This is always the temptation for us in the valley, where we are surrounded by difficult situations and God's Glory seems far away. When have you tried to "handle" a situation in your own strength? And how does today's story remind you of the importance of trusting in JESUS as you go through the valley?
4. How can your memories of "mountaintop experiences" and the reality of God's Glory impact your faith, even when you are walking through the brokenness of the valley?