



mark

THE GOSPEL IN ACTION

Intro: Coming off a "mountaintop experience"



A faint, circular background illustration of a stormy sea. The scene is rendered in a light, sketchy style. In the foreground, a large, curling wave is depicted with many fine, parallel lines. A small boat is shown in the middle ground, partially obscured by the wave. In the background, another boat is visible, and the sky is filled with stylized clouds and rain falling from the top. The overall composition is centered and framed by a thin circular border.

Mark 9:14-18

I. The Setting (14-18)

This story is told from the perspective of Peter.

I. The Setting (14-18)

Just as Moses and Elijah faded away in the presence of Jesus, we see the CROWD forget about the Disciples & the Teachers of the Law... because Jesus has arrived!

I. The Setting (14-18)

Why the argument? The disciples tried to drive a demon out of a young boy... but "they could not".

I. The Setting (14-18)

The Teachers of the Law
attribute the failure of the
disciples as a failure of the
MASTER!

I. The Setting (14-18)

**This is more than a human conflict... it's a Spiritual Conflict!
As soon as they come down from the mountain, they face demonic opposition!**

(Glory, yes, but first the VALLEY)

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Mark 9:19-22

II. The Doubt (19-22)

“How long shall I stay with you?” At some point, people must take **OWNERSHIP** of their faith.

II. The Doubt (19-22)

The boy's "episode" is no coincidence... the demon is reacting to the presence of Jesus.

II. The Doubt (19-22)

“How long has he been like this?”

**The power of the OPEN-ENDED
question.**

II. The Doubt (19-22)

Jesus asks 233 questions in the Gospels (and only gives 4 direct answers to questions). We often do the opposite, giving many answers, but asking few questions!

II. The Doubt (19-22)

What do you hear in the father's answer? DOUBT? Or a tiny glimmer of FAITH?

A faint, circular background illustration depicting a stormy sea. In the foreground, a boat is shown navigating through large, dark waves. The sky is filled with swirling clouds and a bright sun or moon is visible in the upper right quadrant. The overall style is that of a traditional woodblock print or a simple line drawing.

Mark 9:23-29

III. The Faith (23-29)

**Remember what Jesus can do with
faith the size of a **MUSTARD SEED!****

III. The Faith (23-29)

IF I CAN???

The EASY part for Jesus is casting out the demon.

The HARD part is leading people to faith!

III. The Faith (23-29)

"I believe, but HELP my unbelief."

The **SIZE** of the man's faith is less important than the fact that he is willing to **RISK EVERYTHING** on Jesus.

"I believe YOU are sufficient, even though my faith is insufficient!"

III. The Faith (23-29)

Literal Greek translation of 26b:

**"He became as if dead, IN ORDER
that many would say 'he is dead.'"**

III. The Faith (23-29)

Literal Greek translation of 27:

**"Jesus RAISED HIM UP, and he was
RESURRECTED."**

III. The Faith (23-29)

This small triumph over the demonic realm points to the **GREAT**ER triumph in Christ. How does Jesus defeat Satan? By His own death and Resurrection!

III. The Faith (23-29)

The miracle is never about the miracle... it's intended to produce **FAITH**, which in turn leads to following in **DISCIPLESHIP**.

III. The Faith (23-29)

This kind comes out only by
PRAYER. Jesus attributes their
failure to self-sufficiency... they
relied on past success rather than
THE LORD!

Conclusion: Faith in the Valley

You can be **AMAZED** by a miracle... but you can only have **FAITH** in a person!

Conclusion: Faith in the Valley

We cannot afford to lose sight of Jesus in the hard times (in the VALLEY). In fact, that's when we need Him the most!

Conclusion: Faith in the Valley

Our FAITH will lead us through the valley... especially when we remember what awaits us at the end... The GLORY of God's Kingdom!



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