

Mountain Moving Prayer

Growing Our Faith

12-16-18

Matthew 17:20 - He replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

Mark 9:15-24 - As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him. ¹⁶ "What are you arguing with them about?" he asked. ¹⁷ A man in the crowd answered, "Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. ¹⁸ Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, **but they could not.**" ¹⁹ "O unbelieving generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me." ²⁰ So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?" "From childhood," he answered. ²² "It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. **But if you can do anything**, take pity on us and help us." ²³ "**If you can?**" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for him who believes." ²⁴ Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

Two miracles in this story:

1. The Father's son was _____.

23 **If you can?**...

24 **"I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"**

2. The Father _____ faith again.

Sometimes mountains can move in unexpected ways. Sometimes we become fixated on a particular mountain while God is at work moving another mountain.

- He moves the mountain of **fear** and we find **peace** in the middle of **chaos**.
- He moves the mountain of **sorrow** and we find **joy** in the middle of **pain**.
- He moves the mountain of **despair** and we find **hope** in the middle of **darkness**.

Is there something in your **heart** that needs Jesus' healing power? It may be that the mountain Jesus really wants to move is inside of us.

- Will we _____ him?
- Will we put our _____ in him?
- Will we let him _____ a miracle in our hearts?
- Will you find _____ in your heart to forgive someone?

Mark 11:24-25 – "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. ²⁵ And when you stand praying, **if** you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."

Matthew 5:23-24 - "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift."

Mark 9:27- But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up.

Faith: The Core of Relationships

What Jesus desires most is our faith. He longs for us to put our trust in his goodness and his love. In fact, the writer of Hebrews tells us:

Hebrew 11:6 - And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Why is that?

Think about it... the best relationships are **built** on **faith** and **trust** between two individuals.

- A marriage is solid when the two spouses know they can trust one another.
- A friendship is deep when two friends know they can trust one another.

This is how you increase your faith:

Romans 10:17 - So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. NKJV

In our doubt, we don't stop there. We add in... "and"

1) and we are honest about our _____ struggles,

Mark 9:24 - "I do **believe**; help me overcome my **unbelief!**"

- Base camp starts 1/6/19

2) and we _____ on the faith we have,

This one I am adding in.

3) and we _____ a community group to strengthen our faith.

Luke 7:22 - So he replied to the **messengers**, "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor."