



Mark 9:14-27 When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. ¹⁵As 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. ¹⁷A man in the crowd answered, “Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. ¹⁸Whenever 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“You unbelieving generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me.” ²⁰So 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. ²¹Jesus 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 one who believes.” ²⁴Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!” ²⁵When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. “You deaf and mute spirit,” he said, “I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” ²⁶The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, “He’s dead.” ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up.

Some Observations From The Passage:

1. The man **BELIEVED** enough to bring his son to Jesus in the first place (vs. 17).
2. The inability of the disciples to help his son did not **DETER** this man (vs. 18).
3. Jesus shows some **FRUSTRATION** (vs. 19).
4. Jesus asks the man a question – but **HE ALREADY KNEW THE ANSWER** (v. 21-22).
5. Jesus could have let the man off the hook for his **IMPERFECT** belief, but instead, He **CONFRONTED** it head on (vs. 23a).
6. Jesus used the situation as a **TEACHABLE MOMENT** (v. 23b).
7. The man took Jesus at His word **WITHOUT HESITATION** (vs. 24).
8. The man recognized his **NEED** and asked Jesus for **HELP** (vs. 24).
9. Jesus believes in **DEMONS** and **POSSESSION** (vs. 25).
10. With the help of Jesus, the man’s faith was made **COMPLETE** (vs. 25, 27).
11. The resulting miracle was the **FULFILLMENT** of what Jesus had told the man about the **POWER** of belief. (v. 26-27, 23b)

Faith:

- Definition: Firm belief in something for which there is no proof.
- **Hebrews 11:1** - Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Six Truths About Faith:

1. Faith Is Very **IMPORTANT TO JESUS**

Matthew 8:10-13; Matthew 8:26; Luke 5:19-20; Mark 5:27-28, 34; Matthew 15:28; Mark 10:47-52; Luke 7:50; Matthew 13:57b-58; Luke 22:31-32a; Acts 3:16; Acts 14:8-10

2. Faith Is **POWERFUL**

Matthew 17:19-20; 1 John 5:4b-5; Hebrews 10:22; Hebrews 11:32-35a

3. Faith Comes From **GOD**

Romans 12:3; Hebrews 12:1-2a; Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 2:4-5

4. Faith Is The Basis For **GOOD DEEDS**

2 Thessalonians 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 1:3a; Philippians 2:17; John 15:5
James 2:14-18 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ¹⁵Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. ¹⁸But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.” Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.

5. Faith Is A Prerequisite For **ETERNAL LIFE**

- Righteousness is the **SINLESS PERFECTION** of Jesus.
Ephesians 2:8-9; Genesis 15:6; Romans 3:21-25a; Romans 1:17; Acts 26:17b-18; Romans 10:9-10

6. True Faith Is **NOT EASY**

James 1:2-3; Acts 14:21b-22; 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4; 2 Thessalonians 3:2; Ephesians 6:16
Romans 5:1-5 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

The Ultimate Act Of Perseverance: **THE GARDEN**

Matthew 26:36-45