

The Gift That Moves Mountains

The Gifts of God - Week 3 (11-2-22)

Mark 9:14-29

I. Your Faith

A. "...if **Thou** canst believe,"

B. It's a gift - Romans 12:3

1. Americans spent around \$15.2 billion on unwanted holiday gifts in 2019.
 - a) Your faith is yours to do what ever you will with it. Use it, pitch it, forget it, shelf it, starve it, ignore it, abandon it, grow it, feed it, etc.
 - b) Many people abandon or trash their faith like a bad Christmas present.
2. "Your Faith" - Matt. 9:22, Matt. 9:29, Luke 7:50, Luke 17:19, Luke 18:42
 - a) Luke was a physician, and liked to emphasize the physical healings that Jesus performed. He also recorded what Jesus told them, "Their faith had saved them" (Luke 18:42).
 - (1) Saved = Sozo - (also translated) deliver, be made whole, be healed, do well
 - (a) same word used in Romans 10:9
3. "Great Faith" - Matt. 15:28 and Luke 7:9
 - a) both gentiles. Maybe entitlement is a faith killer and humility is a key.
4. "little Faith" - Matt. 6:30, Matt 8:26, Matt 14:31, Matt. 16:8
 - a) Most of the time when Jesus mentioned someone having little faith He would ask them why as if it was their fault. He held them accountable for their own faith.
 - (1) Your faith is yours to defend. - 70% of High School students
5. No faith
 - a) Mark 4:40 - "...why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith?"
 - b) Mark 6:5-6
 - (1) Contempt and hardness of heart are the opposite of receptivity and faith.
 - (a) Contempt = lack of respect or reverence
 - (b) Shallow worship is a faith killer!
 - c) Jesus never just assumed that something wasn't God's will.
 - (1) Faith is not convincing God to act, but being convinced of what God has already spoken. - Romans 4:19-21

II. It Works

A. "...all things are possible to him that believeth."

B. Your faith works.

1. "faith works by love" Galatians 5:6
 - a) Works = Energeo - To work in, set into operation by
 - b) faith is powered by love like a truck is powered by gasoline or diesel.
2. Jesus refers to faith being like a seed. Matt. 17:19-21
 - a) We have all been given the perfect seed of faith from God. You have been given your measure. How do you plan on investing it?

- (1) Parable of the talents - Matt. 25:14-30
 - (2) The Sower sows the word - Mark 4:1-20
 - (a) As long as the seed is given the proper environment, it WILL bear fruit.
- 3. Keep your faith pure
 - a) Unfeigned faith - 1 Timothy 1:5
 - (1) unfeigned = without hypocrisy; genuine
 - (a) Our faith needs to be better than the faith of the Pharisees.
- C. Don't forget to speak
 - 1. Mark 11:22-26
 - 2. Unforgiveness, another faith killer
- D. Don't complicate it
 - 1. What can I do to use my faith and "work the work of God"?
 - a) John 6:29