

Discussion Questions for Mark 9:14-29 ~ May 24, 2015

Getting Started:

- Who is the most inspirational person in your life right now?

Sermon Review:

- What spoke to you or left you with a question in the sermon on Sunday?

Read Mark 9:14-29: whom do you relate to most in this story?

- The disciples who had just had a “mountain-top” experience with Jesus (Mark 9:1-13)?
- The disciples who had been trying to help the boy but were failing?
- A person in the crowd who was watching to see what would happen next?
- The father of the boy who had lived for years having to watch his son in this state?
- The father of the boy who now had some hope but still doubted in Jesus inside?

Jesus asks five questions in this passage. Which intrigues you or challenges you?

- What are you arguing about (16)?
- How long shall I stay with you (19)?
- How long shall I put up with you (19)?
- How long has he been like this (21)?
- If you can (23)?

Digging Deeper: Read 2 Samuel 12:15-23. When David experienced the fallout from his sin, he also experienced the pain of it affecting those he loved. How do we deal with doubts that come from “unanswered” prayers or pain that comes from outcomes we didn’t want to experience?

Doubt or unbelief is a key element in this story. It is also a key part of our personal story too. We believe in Jesus but we have doubts. How we handle our doubts is important. Which of the following quotes on faith helps you when you think of your own doubts?

- Faith is to believe what we do not see, and the reward of this faith is to see what we believe.
- I believe though I do not comprehend, and I hold by faith what I cannot grasp with the mind.
- Faith is the refusal to panic.
- Fight to escape from your own cleverness. If you do, then you will find salvation and uprightness through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- It’s a good thing to have all the props pulled out from under us occasionally. It gives us some sense of what is rock under our feet, and what is sand.

Bringing It Home: The story of our life is still being written! What is one thing you would like to have said about your life when you “go over it” with God?

Sermon Notes: Believe!

Mark 9:14-29

Introduction:

I. The disciples suffered from unbelief in the power of Christ (9:14-21)

II. The father needed more belief in the power of Christ (9:22-24)

III. The power of Christ and the belief of the father are demonstrated in the miracle of the boy (9:25-27)

IV. Application

1. In what area of your life do you need a miracle today?
2. How would you rate your belief?
3. Have you ever asked Jesus to help your unbelief in your situation?
4. Is it possible that your lack of belief has adversely affected your prayers?
5. Take a moment and stop and think about an area in your life where you need more belief, right now. I would like you to write it down, earmark the situation, and begin to ask the Lord to give you “belief-help.” Cry out to God and seek His face. Pray, cry, fast, do whatever it takes to make sure that you have done what you could to procure the blessing of God in your situation.