

**Faith That Moves Mountains**  
**Matthew 17:14-21**

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1. **Heb 11:1 Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.**
  - A. The writer goes on to say in **Heb 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.**
2. Faith is absolutely necessary to live the Christian life.
  - a. Someone has put faith into 3 different categories: SAVING FAITH - the ability to believe on Christ for salvation. SANCTIFYING FAITH - the faith we walk in as we become conformed to the image of Jesus and SUFFICIENT FAITH - the faith to trust in the power of Christ, not our own ability.
3. This passage marks the beginning of a period of specialized instruction for the disciples shortly before Jesus' death.
4. The event of the transfiguration of Jesus lays a foundation for what Jesus had to deal with in training his own disciples about faith.

**I. The Narrative.**

- A Jesus and his closet companions have been on the mountain.
- B Now after this mountain top vision of God's power, they descended into the valley to learn the lesson of their own lack of power.
- C We have a description of the suffering son. The father says he has seizures, also "suffers severely," "often falls into the fire" and often "falls into the water." (**Mark 9:17 and Luke 9:39** expand on the boys condition).
- D To make it worse, the father had brought the boy to Jesus' disciples to be healed (**v.16**).
- E The disciples were unable to do anything.
- F Now Jesus grieved alongside the father (**v.17-18**).
- G After this event, "the disciples came to Jesus privately." (**19**)

**II. A Few Points to Be Made From Our Text About Our Faith.**

- A Our failure in faith embarrasses the cause of Christ.
  1. This boys condition is much like the condition of mankind.
  2. The father represent the desperation of the world.
  3. Even the adversaries of Christ joined in the debate. (**Mark 9: 14**)
- B The failure was their lack of faith. "**Oh unbelieving and perverse generation.**" (**Vs 17**) Jesus was not excluding his disciples from this group.
- C Restoration of faith required instruction. (**Vs. 19**)