



Journey through the Gospel of Mark: Help My Unbelief

July 30, 2023

Speaker: Pastor Joel Schmidgall

Scripture: Mark 9:2-29, John 6:29, Deuteronomy 11:11

Sermon Overview: Jesus led Peter, James, and John with him up a high mountain, where He was transfigured before them. The glory of God was radiating from Jesus; Elijah and Moses appeared; and the disciples were in awe. But then it was time to come down from the mountain top, and they were once again confronted with the realities of sin and unbelief. Following Jesus means knowing that He is God most High on the mountain, and He is God most Nigh in the valley.

Sermon Series Question:

1. If all things are possible to the person who believes, what is possible for you (Mark 9:23)?

Sermon-Specific Questions:

1. Desperation: Have you ever been in such a desperate situation that all you could do was to cry out to God? What was that like? How was your cry a mixture of belief and unbelief?
2. Honest faith: Why did Jesus rebuke the father in Mark 9:23? How did the father respond to Jesus? What did Jesus' actions reveal about His heart for the father and the child? What does this mean for you?
3. Resilient faith: How did the father's actions reveal a resilient faith for his son? When was a time you had to be resilient in your faith, where you had to keep believing? Who can you tell about your breakthrough and stir up their faith?
4. Inciting faith: To whose faith did Jesus respond when He healed the boy?
5. Praying faith: Read Mark 9:29. What gives you a clue that the disciples were more focused on their assignment, as opposed to their relationship with God? Why do you think we so easily focus on the assignment and lose focus on the relationship? How can you prompt yourself to return your attention to God during your day?

Digging Deeper:

1. Read John 6:29, Hebrews 3:16-19, and Deuteronomy 11:8-16. What is the work that is required of us?
2. This week, as you encounter difficulty, practice the prayer: *Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.*

Practical Application:

- Where are you planted? In that place – where you live, where you work, where you play – with whom can you share your testimony? Tell them the story of how Jesus' love and power grabbed hold of you.
- Download the NCC app or visit ncc.re/daily to listen to short, daily teachings M-F accompanying this series.
- Make a Bible reading plan and/or gratitude journal a daily discipline and connect with NCC Daily. (Download the [NCC app](#) to find our plan).