

MEMORY VERSE

(Jesus)“I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it would move. Nothing would be impossible.”
Matthew 17:20

MY NEXT STEP IS TO. . .

- ☐ Commit my life to Jesus Christ for the first time
- ☐ Memorize Matthew 17:20
- ☐ Pray and ask God to help me overcome doubt in the area of

- ☐ Commit to attend, as much as possible, each weekend during the Following Jesus” series
- ☐ Get the most out of today’s message by attending my LIFE group



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www.EAGLEROCKBAPTIST.com



February 18, 2024
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Jesus Heals A Demon-Possessed Boy

¹⁴When they returned to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd surrounding them, and some teachers of religious law were arguing with them. . . ¹⁷One of the men in the crowd spoke up and said, “Teacher, I brought my son so you could heal him. He is possessed by an evil spirit that won’t let him talk. ¹⁸And whenever this spirit seizes him, it throws him violently to the ground. Then he foams at the mouth and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast out the evil spirit, but they couldn’t do it.” ¹⁹Jesus said to them, “You faithless people! How long must I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring the boy to me.” ²⁰So they brought the boy. But when the evil spirit saw Jesus, it threw the child into a violent convulsion, and he fell to the ground, writhing and foaming at the mouth. ²¹How long has this been happening?’ Jesus asked the boy’s father. He replied, “Since he was a little boy. ²²The spirit often throws him into the fire or into water, trying to kill him. Have mercy on us and help us, if you can.” ²³‘What do you mean, ‘If I can’?’ Jesus asked. ‘Anything is possible if a person believes.’ ²⁴The father instantly cried out, ‘I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief!’ ²⁵When Jesus saw that the crowd of onlookers was growing, he rebuked the evil spirit. ‘Listen, you spirit that makes this boy unable to hear and speak,’ he said. ‘I command you to come out of this child and never enter him again!’ ²⁶Then the spirit screamed and threw the boy into another violent convulsion and left him. The boy appeared to be dead. A murmur ran through the crowd as people said, ‘He’s dead.’ ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and helped him to his feet, and he stood up. ²⁸Afterward, when Jesus was alone in the house with his disciples, they asked him, ‘Why couldn’t we cast out that evil spirit?’ ²⁹Jesus replied, ‘This kind can be cast out only by prayer.’”
Mark 9:14-29

KEY TRUTHS ABOUT DOUBT:

- It's easy to have faith on the _____
but it's hard not to doubt in the _____
- Doubt is not the _____ of faith
_____ is
- _____ can limit God's _____ in my life
- Jesus only requires a _____ of faith
- An essential tool to overcome doubt is _____

OVERCOMING 3 DIFFERENT KINDS OF DOUBT

1. When Difficult Circumstances cause doubt prayer can release God's _____ in my life.

"... He is possessed by an evil spirit that won't let him talk.
And whenever this spirit seizes him, it throws him
violently to the ground."
Mark 9:17-18

"Jesus replied, 'This kind can be cast out only by prayer.'
Mark 9:29

2. When Imperfect Christians cause doubt prayer can enable me to look past them to God's _____ .

"... I asked your disciples to cast out the evil spirit,
but they couldn't do it."
Mark 9:18

"When Jesus saw that the crowd of onlookers was growing, he rebuked
the evil spirit. ... But Jesus took him by the hand and helped him to his
feet, and he stood up. "
Mark 9:25, 27

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfector of our faith, who
for the joy set before Him, endured the cross, scorning the shame, and
sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."
Hebrews 12:2

3. When times of SPIRITUAL DRYNESS cause doubt prayer can allow me to hear God's _____

"The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help. He rescues
them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted;
he rescues those whose spirits are crushed."
Psalm 34:17-18

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Mark 9:14-29

KEY TRUTHS ABOUT DOUBT:

- It's easy to have faith on the Mountaintop but it's hard not to doubt in the Valley
- Doubt is not the Opposite of faith Unbelief is
- Unbelief can limit God's Power in my life
- Jesus only requires a Small Amount of faith
- An essential tool to overcome doubt is Prayer

OVERCOMING 3 DIFFERENT KINDS OF DOUBT

1. When Difficult Circumstances cause doubt prayer can release God's Power in my life.

"... He is possessed by an evil spirit that won't let him talk. And whenever this spirit seizes him, it throws him violently to the ground."
Mark 9:17-18

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Discussion Questions - Week #4

LIFEGROUPS

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the weekend sermon, "Good News For The Weak And Doubting," summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Do you plan on taking any practical steps this week in response to the message?

GETTING STARTED

Which miracle recorded in Scripture is most difficult for you to believe, and why?

Why do you think more Christians don't discuss doubts more openly?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read John 20:19-29 and Matthew 28:16-17. While we often think of Thomas as the doubting disciple, Matthew 28:17 makes it clear that he wasn't the only one. Why do you think Thomas' reputation as a doubter stuck?

Do you think how we talk about doubting Thomas impacts how freely we share our doubts?

How could knowing that some of Jesus' first disciples had doubts be an encouragement to you?

In several instances in this passage, Jesus strengthens the disciples' faith by proving He is who He says. What has Jesus done in your life to strengthen your faith?

How does Jesus demonstrate compassion in dealing with Thomas' doubt?

What steps can we take to become a safer community for people to share their doubts?

2. In Luke 1:5-38 we encounter two angelic visitations, with similar responses but strikingly different results. Read the passage together. What stands out to you?

What was the result of the righteous Zechariah's disbelief?

How did Mary respond to the angel's promise in her visitation (v.34)?

How would you explain the difference in how God treated these two?

What, if anything, can we learn from these encounters about how God deals with our doubts?

FOR PRACTICE

☞ This weekend's worship folder included an insert for the 40-Day Easter Challenge, containing seven ways to prepare our hearts and minds for Easter on March 31. If you haven't done so, take some time this week to review the list and prayerfully consider what practice God is leading you to draw ever nearer to Him this Easter season.

SHARE IT

☞ Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

PRAYER REQUESTS

☞ Pray for peace in the ongoing conflict in Gaza. Pray for the Israeli families who mourn for loved ones who were killed or taken hostage. Pray that God's provision and hand of protection would be on the innocent. Lastly, pray that God will work through this situation to draw others to Himself.