



Mustard Seeds & Mountains

WK 69 Mt. 17:14-23, Mk 9:14-29, Lk 9:37-45

WARM UP: *When has a mountaintop experience in your life been followed by a valley-drop that you didn't see coming?*

Great victories are often followed by great challenges and even defeats. While this might surprise you, it shouldn't. This is not the exception to the rule. It is the rule. Spiritual victories are almost always followed by times of spiritual struggle because your faith is going to be challenged if it is to grow. While great truths may be learned on the mountaintops of life they only become a part of us when they are worked out and applied in the valleys of life..

READ ABOUT IT: Matt. 17:14-23, Mk 19:14-29

1. *What has evidently been going in the valley while Jesus and The Three have been on the mountaintop?*
2. **Read Mark 9:14-31.** *What information does Mark give us that the others do not? Why is this important?*
3. *Whom do you believe Jesus is most frustrated with at this moment: the crowds, the boy's father, the teachers of the law, or the disciples? Why?*
4. *As the boy's father, how would you have felt about this argument? What impact do you think this had on the father's faith in Jesus?*
5. *When the demon possessed boy is brought into Jesus' presence, what happens? Why does Jesus ask the father how long the boy had been this way?*
6. *When have you felt like this father? Wanting to believe but struggling to overcome your own unbelief?*
7. *Why were the disciples unsuccessful in driving the demon out of the boy? How does Jesus explain it to them?*
8. *What kind of doubts hit you the hardest: concerns about the future? Faith issues? Self-esteem issues?*
9. *What would help you silence the doubts you feel: Admitting them? Praying through them? Experiencing a miracle? Asking others to pray for you?*
10. *In which areas of your life do you long to see more faith?*