

# Jesus Heals A Demon-Possessed Boy

(Matthew 17.14-21; Mark 9.14-29; Luke 9.37-43)      Sunday AM 08/05/18

## Introduction:

Jesus along with Peter, James, and John come down from the Mount of Transfiguration to meet a crowd of people. Moses came down from Mount Sinai to meet disobedience in the camp, *Exodus 32*. Jesus comes down to find unbelief and failure.

### I) Facts

#### A) A man brought his only son to be healed.

1. Not the first-time people had brought a loved one to be healed but this time Jesus was not there.
2. The man seems to emphasize this was his only son. *Luke 9.38*
  - a. The Jews valued children and especially sons in order to carry on the family lineage.
  - b. Children were also going to take care of their parents later on in life.
  - c. But mainly the sadness of seeing your child in this condition.
3. Whether of pure desperation or because of faith he brought his son to Jesus.

#### B) The young man was demon possessed.

1. *Luke 9.39* "a spirit seizes him and he suddenly

screams"; "throws into convulsions with foaming at the mouth and it bruises him"

2. *Mark 9.17-18*

- a. Spirit makes him mute
- b. He foams at the mouth
- c. Grinds his teeth
- d. Stiffens out

3. *Matthew 17.15*

- a. a lunatic and very ill
- b. often falling into the fire and water
- c. Literally - lunatic- moonstruck- ancient superstition that seizures were caused by the moon.

- 4. This man was not suffering from epileptic fits but was demon possessed.

**C) The disciples failed to cast out the demon**

- 1. One can imagine their bewilderment at this failure. Earlier Jesus had given them power to perform some miracles, *Matthew 10.1*.
- 2. This resulted in the father questioning Jesus' ability to heal his son, *Mark 9.22b*.

**D) Jesus' frustration with the disciples and the crowd**

- 1. Calls them unbelieving and perverted generation.

2. Peter would later on tell the people on the Day of Pentecost to be saved from this perverted generation, *Acts 2.40*.

**E) Jesus heals the young man**

1. The demon is cast out
2. How do we know? The young man quits moving to the point the people thought he was dead, but Jesus took him by the hand and he got up.
3. The reaction of the crowd- they were all amazed at the greatness of God.

**II) The Importance of Faith**

**A) The importance of faith is mentioned in many passages.**

1. *Hebrews 11.6* without faith it is impossible to please God
2. *2 Corinthians 5.7* we walk by faith and not by sight.
3. In this passage we are told "all things are possible with a little faith" *Mark 9.23b*.
4. Jesus casting out the demon was a demonstration of what He was talking about.
5. Faith can move mountains, overcome obstacles.

**B) Their failure was due to a lack of faith and so is ours.**

1. The disciples failed-perhaps they concentrated too much on themselves and not enough on Jesus.
2. The father's faith was shaken as he said "if you can" to Jesus. His faith was shaken by the disciple's failure.

**C) The faith of a mustard seed**

1. Mustard seed is small but is real. Our faith needs to be in Jesus. Not the preacher, or some disciples but in the word of God.
2. Mustard seed is small but alive, as our faith should be. *James 2.26.*
3. Mustard seed is small but has great potential. *Luke 13.19*
4. Mustard seed is small and weak, but it accepts the strength of the soil that surrounds it. Our faith can grow from studying and doing the word of God.

**D) Our faith needs prayer and dedication to God.**

**Conclusion:**

Story of man taking his son and a friend out to fish on a boat.