

9-23-2026 – With God All Things Are Possible

Q: How can we tell when there's an absence of faith in our life? We stop believing in the impossible, and we settle for living a small life.

We settle for less than God's best. Decide for ourselves... this is it.

But what if God wanted more for you?

Mark 6 - Jesus left there (Gerasenes) and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. ² When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

"Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?" ³ Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

⁴ Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home." ⁵ He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. ⁶ He was amazed at their lack of faith.

- **Nazareth's unbelief didn't diminish Jesus' divine power;** this story shows they rejected Him . . . they chose not to go to Him. No **faith**.

① That story reveals – He would have done more. He wanted to!

Our Q: What am I missing b/c I've been unwilling to go to God?

- What am I missing b/c I'm too timid to ask. Lack of faith.
- Have I settled? Think not worthy of more?

In **Mark 5**, Jesus healed a woman **when she touched His robe; didn't ask.**

- **Just touched His robe. She just believed that healing flows...**
- **That healing happened solely b/c she believed.**
- **She displayed** a spiritual truth – we need Jesus to deal w/life's problems

Heb. 11:1 – “faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”

② To have faith in life is to **live with hope**. Hope is a positive attitude.

- Faith gives us the ability to live w/o worry. Assured that God wants good for His people. Confident that all things work together for good.

Faith is the **key** to living this **life in peace**.

Peace isn't how you live when everything is perfect/great.

- Peace is how you live knowing **God** is **on** the **throne** - that **nothing** is **too difficult** – that He fights your battles – that He has your best interest at heart.
- Jesus said nothing was impossible. Do you believe Him?
 - **Matt. 17:20** - Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”
- To move a mountain is not humanly possible.
 - But faith knows God can do anything.

Maybe your faith is low right now... many struggle with this.

Last week – **Mark 9** – the father: “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief”

And in **Luke 17**: Disciples wanted more faith.

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “**Increase our faith!**”

⁶ He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.

③ **The way to increase faith is to use it**. Pray. Ask.

- **Matt. 7:7** – “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you.”
- **John 14:13** – “Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”

- ④ - Truth: our challenges are opportunities to be a witness for God.
- Jesus said we're the light of the world. We're to be examples for others.

Some challenging seasons in life exist to be witnesses. Living testimonies...

Hebrews 11 - ⁴ It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts. Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith.

⁵ It was by faith that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying—"he disappeared, because God took him." For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God. ⁶ And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

⁷ It was by faith that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before. By his faith Noah condemned the rest of the world, and he received the righteousness that comes by faith.

⁸ It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going. ⁹ And even when he reached the land God promised him, he lived there by faith—for he was like a foreigner, living in tents. And so did Isaac and Jacob, who inherited the same promise. ¹⁰ Abraham was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God.

¹¹ It was by faith that even Sarah was able to have a child, though she was barren and was too old. She believed that God would keep his promise. ¹² And so a whole nation came from this one man who was as good as dead—a nation with so many people that, like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore, there is no way to count them.

Their stories are told to be encouragement for us. Live with faith . . . believe that **God does the impossible**. Believe God has **goodness in store** for you. Believe that God can **change your situation**.

Those miracles happened not b/c they were perfect people, but b/c God is a good, loving Father to us. God is good even to imperfect people.

Look at what Paul wrote about **Abraham** in **Romans 4** – NLT

¹³ Clearly, God's promise to give the whole earth to Abraham and his descendants was based not on his obedience to God's law, but on a right relationship with God that comes by faith.

¹⁴ If God's promise is only for those who obey the law, then faith is not necessary and the promise is pointless. ¹⁵ For the law always brings punishment on those who try to obey it. (The only way to avoid breaking the law is to have no law to break!)

¹⁶ So the promise is received by faith. It is given as a free gift. And we are all certain to receive it, whether or not we live according to the law of Moses, if we have faith like Abraham's. For Abraham is the father of all who believe. ¹⁷ That is what the Scriptures mean when God told him, "I have made you the father of many nations." This happened because Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life and who creates new things out of nothing.

¹⁸ Even when there was no reason for hope, **Abraham kept hoping—believing** that he would become the father of many nations. For God had said to him, "That's how many descendants you will have!" ¹⁹ And Abraham's faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah's womb.

²⁰ Abraham never wavered in believing God's promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. ²¹ He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises. ²² And because of Abraham's faith, God counted him as righteous. ²³ And when God counted him as righteous, it wasn't just for Abraham's benefit. **It was recorded ²⁴ for our benefit, too, assuring us that God will also count us as righteous if we believe in him, the one who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.** ²⁵ He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God."

Our lives are testimonies to the greatest of Almighty God. We are examples of God's restoration, healing, life-changing power.

Look at **Job's** story. He lost everything. But even when it hurt, even when he didn't understand, he stayed faithful. He **still chose** to say, "Blessed be the name of the Lord." And on the other side of Job's story was restoration, double portion, and revelation and deeper knowledge of God.

- Job is still an example to us thousands of years later.
- Our challenges may exist so that we are examples of faith.

Our faith in God is our testimony . . . our light that shines.