

# **“Lord, I Believe! Help My Unbelief!”**

Mark 9:24





## The Situation

- One boy + One Savior = Greater Faith
- The disciples had just witnessed the transfiguration of Christ
  - Peter, James and John had seen Moses and Elijah
  - How much faith would you have?



## The Verse – Mark 9:24

“Lord, I believe! Help my unbelief!”

- Imagine his grief and pain.
- Imagine him hearing the apostles of Jesus are nearby.
- Imagine him hearing of the Messiah near his town.
- Imagine his disappointment.



## **“Lord, I Believe! Help my unbelief!”**

- Better rendering: “Lord, I believe! Help my unfaithfulness.”
- The Greek:
  - “pisteuo” - meaning belief
  - “apistia” – meaning unfaithfulness



## Belief vs. Faithfulness

- The demons believe and tremble.  
*(James 2:19)*
- The Hebrews writer describes faith.  
*(Hebrews 11:6)*
- *Is there a difference between belief and faith?*
  - *Definitely!*



## What about you?

- Are you like the father of this young boy?
- Do you believe but lack faith?
  - Do you show up Sunday mornings because of belief, but lack the faith during the week?
  - Do you believe that Jesus died, was buried, then raised for you but lack the faith to tell others.



## Do you need an increase of faith?

- The boy's father had belief in Christ, even in his power, but he needed more faith!
- He was not the only one – The disciples needed more faith.
- *See Luke 17:5*



## How can you increase your faith?

- Know where faith is found. (*Romans 10:17*)
- Decide that now is the time.
  - Renew yourself to Christ. (*Galatians 6:1-10*)
- Place yourself in uplifting events. (*Hebrews 10:24-25*)



## How can you increase your faith?

- Find contentment and joy in God.  
*(Phillippians 4)*
- When in doubt, pray! *(1 Thessalonians 5:17)*
- Depend on the family of God.
  - *Romans 15:1*
  - *Acts 9:19, 26*
  - *James 5:16*



## Where are you now?

- Are you believing?
- Are you faithful?
- Are you believing and faithful?

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*Tough questions deserve tough answers!*