Who Then Is This?: The Miracles of Jesus in Mark "I Believe; Help My Unbelief!" Mark 9:14–29

Main Point

Jesus' disciples fail, but he never does.

Context: The Transfiguration (Mark 9:2-13)

"His clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them." (Mark 9:3)

"His face shone like the sun." (Matthew 17:2)

"This is my beloved Son; listen to him." (Mark 9:7)

The Failure (Mark 9:14-19)

"And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, 'He is possessed by Beelzebul,' and 'by the prince of demons he casts out the demons."" (Mark 3:22)

The Conversation (Mark 9:20-24)

"Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child." (Luke 9:38)

"We walk by faith, not by sight." (2 Corinthians 5:7)

The Miracle (Mark 9:25-27)

"And all were astonished at the majesty of God." (Luke 9:43)

"Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world." (1 John 4:4)

"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." (Matthew 6:13)

The Lesson (Mark 9:27-28)

"And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits." (Mark 6:7)

"And they cast out many demons." (Mark 6:13)

"And He said to them, 'Because of your meager faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there," and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you."" (Matthew 17:20)

"Apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

"Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall." (1 Corinthians 10:12)

Notes

Discuss

- Have you ever failed in a way that taught you the importance of trusting in Jesus and prayer?
- How does it affect you when you see Christians or churches failing, and people criticizing them?
- How would you respond if someone told you that they thought that the child in this story was simply suffering from an epilepsy-like condition, not demon possession?
- What does it look like for you to practically follow the example of the father by both fighting for faith and asking for faith?

Read

Mark 5:1-20; 9:2-13; Ephesians 6:10-20

Pray

- That God would help your unbelief.
- That God would protect you, your family, and members of your church from evil—"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil" (Matthew 6:13).
- That God would protect you from self-reliance and teach you to live by faith and in prayer.