

Series: Move Sermon: Moving Mountains (RUBBER BANDS)

By: D. Karl Thomas, Oct. 4-20

Mark 11-12 "Now when they drew near Jerusalem, ..." **The beginning of Jesus passion week.**

Passover feast ... Triumphal entry ... Lamb of God coming for inspection ... time to take away the sins of the whole world.

Luke 19:41-44 "Now as He drew near, He saw the city and **wept over it**, ... surround you and close you in on every side, ... because you **did not know the time of your visitation.**"

Rejected Jesus as Messiah. Unbelief

Jesus **cleansed the temple and cursed the fig tree**. He is declaring that Israel's leaders are **outwardly fruitless and inwardly corrupt**. Destroyed by their enemies.

Mark 11:12-14 "He was **hungry**. And seeing from afar a fig tree **having leaves**, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. ..."

"...When He came to it, He found **nothing but leaves**, for it was not the season for figs. In response Jesus said to it, 'Let no one eat fruit from you ever again.'" **(Cursed it) Looked like nothing happened**

Mark 11:21 "And Peter, remembering, said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which **You cursed** has withered away." **Wow! How did you do that? OR What now?**

Jesus inserts a teaching moment on exercising faith.

Mark 11:22 "So Jesus answered and said to them, 'Have faith in God.'"

Literal greek:-- "Have the faith **of** God."

Mark 11:23-24 "For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea, 'and does not doubt in his heart, ..."

"... but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask (DESIRE) when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them."

1 John 5:4 "For whatever is born of God is victorious over the world; and this is the victory that conquers the world, even **our faith**." {AMP}

"Every God-begotten person conquers the world's ways. The conquering power that brings the world to its knees is **our faith**." {MSG}

Philemon 1:6 "I pray for you that the **faith** we share may effectively **deepen your understanding** of every good thing that **belongs to you in Christ**." (TPT)

Basics Of Operating In The God Kind Of Faith:

1. Faith Is A LAW. Romans 3:27 "...but by the **law of faith**." **Spiritual Law!!!**

2. Faith Is A Gift. Mark 11:22 "Have the faith **of** God."

Romans 12:3 "God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." We all received the same faith!

3. Faith Comes By Hearing Gods Word

Romans 10:17 "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Isaiah 5:13 "...in captivity, because they have no knowledge."

Trials and difficulties don't make your faith stronger they expose the depth of your faith — **Quality**

4. Faith Works By Believing And Confessing

Mark 11:23-24 "... believe ... things which he saith..."

Romans 10:8-10 "...heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

5. Faith Thrives In A Loving Environment (Don't doubt in you heart / Don't live with unresolved stuff)

Galatians 5:6 "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision carries any weight—the only thing that matters is faith working through love."

6. Faith Is Lifestyle "The just shall live by faith." Hab. 2:4 Rom. 1:17 Galatians 3:11 Hebrews 10:38

2 Corinthians 5:7 "We live by faith, not by sight." **NON SENSE — our daily walk!!!**

7. Faith Is A Journey Hebrews 6:11-12 "... show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises."

The Journey Of Faith: **Stretch** (Vulnerable when you stretch — RUBBER BANDS)

1. The **Beginning** - God's Word

2. The **Middle** - My Endurance

Criticism, Discouragement, Seeming Contradictions ... JOY!!!

(1 Peter 1:8-9 "... whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.)

3. The **End** - Manifestation

Making Your Realities Submit To God's Word! (Rubber Band — Tugging on your Desires)

Hebrews 11:1 (NKJV) "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Hebrews 11:1 (TPT) Now faith brings our hopes into reality and becomes the foundation needed to acquire the things we long for. It is all the evidence required to prove what is still unseen.

The importance of stretching!!!

"Upon awakening, our muscles are oxygen-starved and loaded with irritating waste, and the brain needs a blood pressure increase to prepare the body for activity, especially standing up. All of those issues are addressed by a good stretch."

Isaiah 54:2 "Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes."

Moses stretched out over red sea — Elijah stretch out over death — Jesus stretched out His hand in compassion — Man with withered arm stretched out his covered shame — STRETCH!!!

WE WANT TO STRETCH OVER THIS REGION AND BEYOND!!!!

STRETCHING: FULL QUOTE NOT IN SLIDES

When our muscles are active, their constant contractions and extensions aid in the process of moving blood through the capillaries, the microscopic vessels that service most of our bodies' cells. When the muscles are inactive for long periods, the blood has a harder time moving through the capillaries; this results in a decrease of oxygen in the muscle tissue and an increase in the waste products that the blood normally carries away.

During sleep, most of our skeletal muscles are normally "switched off" by the brain to prevent potentially harmful motion, and blood pressure gradually drops. Upon awakening, our muscles are oxygen-starved and loaded with irritating waste, and the brain needs a blood pressure increase to prepare the body for activity, especially standing up. All of those issues are addressed by a good stretch. The simultaneous elongation or contraction of almost every major muscle group flushes out waste, brings in oxygen, and boosts blood pressure. Notice what happens to your heart beat next time you have a good morning stretch; the rate temporarily increases as does the force of the beat, all to handle these changes in the blood supply.

“Upon awakening, our muscles are oxygen-starved and loaded with irritating waste, and the brain needs a blood pressure increase to prepare the body for activity, especially standing up. All of those issues are addressed by a good stretch.”