

Further Study

The father in Matthew 17:14-15 approaches Jesus in desperation for his only son. How does this father's plea challenge or encourage the way we bring our deepest concerns (especially for family) to God?

The disciples had previously been given authority to cast out demons (Matthew 10:6-8), yet they failed here. What does this reveal about the difference between having spiritual authority and actually walking in faith and dependence on God?

Jesus calls the generation "faithless and twisted." In what ways might our own generation (or even the church) still display little faith, and how does that affect those watching us?

Jesus says faith the size of a mustard seed can move mountains. How does should we distinguish between "little faith" that gives up and mustard-seed faith that persists and grows? Which do you more often practice?

Jesus said several times "O you of little faith" (storm, walking on water, feeding the 4,000, etc.). Which of those situations feels most familiar to your own walk with God right now, and why?

Looking at the parable of the persistent widow (Luke 18:1-8), where in your life do you tend to stop praying or stop trusting when results aren't immediate?

What would it look like practically for our small group / church to grow persistent faith together?

Action

Identify and persist: Choose one area where you have been tempted to give up in prayer or obedience. Commit to praying specifically about it every day this week (set a reminder if needed), trusting God's power rather than your own effort or timeline.

Shift the focus: The next time you face a difficulty (health, family, ministry, provision), deliberately pause and remind yourself out loud: "This is not by my power but by God's."

Encourage someone else: Reach out to one person this week who is struggling or discouraged. Share a brief encouragement from this passage (mustard-seed faith, God's persistence toward us, or Jesus' compassion) and offer to pray with them.



**Connection
Card**



**Prayer/Praise
Requests**



Next Steps:
**The Gospel
Explained**

Elders

If you ever need to talk or pray, our elders are available to meet with you.

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