

**FAITH**



Faith = act of BELIEVING

- your faith in God has become known everywhere (*1 Thess. 1:8*)
- I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus  
(*Acts 20:21*)

Faith = NORMAL condition of the Christian life.

Faith = NECESSARY condition for God's  
power.

Believing = certainty of CONVICITON

- belief can be **present** yet small
- belief produces **action**  
and **obedience**
- belief can **absorb** and **handle** trials  
or persecution.

- With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible (*Mt. 19:26*).
- Everything is possible for him who believes (*Mk. 9:23*)
- But he [Jesus] did NOT do many miracles there [Capernaum] because of their lack of faith (*Mt. 13:58*)

**Mathew 17:20** "Why could we not drive the demon out?" He replied, "Because you have so little faith. Truly, 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."

**Luke 17:6** 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.”

**mountain** = METAPHOR for life's challenges and **insurmountable** obstacles

- a **barrier** or **hindrance** to victory, growth, or achievement

- could be PHYSICAL/MATERIAL  
but is usually

EMOTIONAL/RELATIONAL/ SPIRITUAL



Is this promise a BLANK CHECK? NO.

- This is a promise to achieve **victory** when facing an obstacle (mountain, etc.)
- This is not a promise to remove **suffering** or avoid **hardship** or have **whatever we want.**

WHY DO WE NOT SEE MOUNTAINS MOVED  
BY CHRISTIANS WHO PRAY AND BELIEVE?

## **Literally?**

✓ In giving us dominion over the earth and intelligence to create tools, etc. mountains are moved, tunneled through, bridged across, etc. But this was not Christ's point.

✓ Why would it be necessary or good to move the mountain into the sea? There are many many issues which this would involve. Moving the mountain may be more harmful to some than helpful to others!

WHY DO WE NOT SEE MOUNTAINS MOVED  
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## **Metaphorically?**

We do see mountains moved... many mountains, intimidating mountains, large mountains! There are countless testimonies of God's intervention which miraculously removed barriers for Christians seeking to do God's will or carry out God's calling!

God DOES, CAN, and WILL move  
mountains in response to our FAITH!

Decide that your faith will be **genuine**, even if it seems [mustard seed] small to you!



Develop your **relationship** with God. As you pursue intimacy with him, faith will grow!

Observe faith/results in the lives  
of **others**, past and present.

**Ask** God to give you the “gift” of faith.

**Mt. 7:11**... How much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask.

**1 Cor. 12:9**... To another there is given faith (by the same Spirit)

**Luke 17:5** The apostles said to him, “Lord, increase our faith!”

When you present requests to God [“move this mountain!”] submit your **will** to God.