Bible Study Questions

He Can Do All Things - Mark 9:14-29

Focus

Jesus is the radiant Son of God who shines even brighter against the backdrop of a dark world. Therefore, to truly follow Him and to be fruitful in the work He has given us to do is to believe that He can do all things and to express that belief in humble prayer.

Read

Mark 9:14-29

Listen

CCNYC teaching on Mark 9 which can be found on our website

As you study this passage on your own or with a small group of others, here are some questions for study, reflection, and application.

Some Questions for Study and Reflection

- 1. Describe the situation that's taking place in these verses.
- 2. How does it compare with what just took place on the mountain in verses 2-8?
- 3. In verse 19, Jesus refers to this "faithless generation". In what ways do we see faithlessness exhibited in this passage?
- 4. Why were the disciples not able to drive out this demon?
- 5. This is the last exorcism that Mark records for us in his Gospel record of Jesus' life. What have you learned about demons and evil spirits from Mark's Gospel? What questions do you still have?

Closing Reflection and Application

6. How did witnessing the transfiguration prepare the disciples for this next lesson? How did this lesson bring them down to earth from their mountaintop experience?

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- 7. Why didn't the disciples pray? And what does it reveal about their hearts and thinking?
- 8. How can success be dangerous? How can failure be helpful?
- 9. Have you ever been guilty of relying on technique and method in ministry instead of on God? What did you learn?
- 10. How does our failure reflect badly on Jesus in the eyes of the world? What might we say when we've failed that would mitigate the damage done to His name?
- 11. How does turning to Jesus with questions and doubts demonstrate at least small faith rather than no faith at all? What would no faith look like?
- 12. What is the relationship between faith and prayer? (cf. John 15:7; James 5:13-18)
- 13. What changes in our understanding of what Jesus teaches about faith and prayer here if we put the emphasis on faith and prayer instead of on God as the object of our faith and prayer? How have you seen this abused in Christian circles and teaching? What are some ways we can lovingly respond to those kinds of misunderstandings?
- 14. Should our daily lives be divided into things we can do on our own and things we need Jesus' help to do? Explain.
- 15. How does self-sufficiency express pride, while prayer and humility express faith, trust, and dependency?
- 16. What are some ways you can more fully give yourself to prayer over the next few weeks?

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17. Read Colossians 2:15. Given what you learn of darkness and evil in Mark 9, how does what Jesus did on the cross fill you with gratitude and love for Him?