

Where's the Faith?
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USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon
and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group.
For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority
to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will
foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Mark 6:5, ESV]

⁵ And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them.

[Matthew 13:58, ESV]

⁵⁸ And he did not do many mighty works there, because of their unbelief.

Admitting that you're sick is not a lack of faith. If anything, it's the opposite; it's admitting that you need God.

[Matthew 6:30, ESV]

³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

Think of God's providence. He cares about Creation, and He cares about you!

[Matthew 8:26, ESV]

²⁶ And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.

[Matthew 16:7-8, ESV]

⁷ And they began discussing it among themselves, saying, "We brought no bread." ⁸ But Jesus, aware of this, said, "O you of little faith, why are you discussing among yourselves the fact that you have no bread?"

In a "season of silence," God is speaking to you. He just may not be talking about what you want Him to talk about.

We may look at situations through natural eyes, but He sees through a spiritual lens.

[Romans 10:17, ESV]

¹⁷ So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Faith does not begin with me. It comes from God and is not the by-product of our assumptions and presumptions.

[Matthew 14:22-33, ESV]

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but the boat by this time was a long way^a from the land,^b beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And in the fourth watch of the night^c he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

²⁸ And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind,^d he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

God has a word for you. It's unique for you. Peter had faith to walk on the water because Jesus called to him. The other followers had faith to stay in the boat, and sometimes it takes more faith to stay in the boat...Stay on this journey of learning to trust in the Lord.

[Mark 9:20-25, ESV]

²⁰ And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. ²² And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." ²³ And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes." ²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" ²⁵ And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again."

FOR MONDAY

1. Invest in quality time with God, intentionally listening for what He's speaking to you. Restrain yourself from coming in with preconceived ideas of what you would like Jesus to say.
2. Give God glory and praise, acknowledging His power at work in us.

TALK IT THROUGH

- 1.** When you think of the word “faith,” what comes to mind? Was that impression the same for you as a child as it is for you now? Do you put more pressure on yourself or weight on God?
- 2.** Have you ever been in a place where you’re believing in faith for something and it wasn’t happening? Even if things worked differently than expected, how did God “sort it all out” on your behalf?
- 3.** In Scripture, if there are specific promises of faith, how come the expressions don’t always manifest the way we want them to manifest?
- 4.** What does a posture of faith look like? Why do you think faith comes through hearing?
- 5.** Why do you think the disciples lacked revelation when it came to moments like the multiplication of the loaves and fish?
- 6.** How can we know how to operate in faith? Why do some lean toward assumption and presumption in prayer?
- 7.** Through the life of Abraham, how do we witness true faith in action? Why would he be identified as the father of faith, even though he was imperfect?
- 8.** What is something God is asking you to sacrifice to reach a new level of faith?