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Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" Matthew 14v31

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Did Peter act in faith in this passage?

What spoiled Peters faith?

What is doubt?

Starting with faith means we need to continue in faith.

Most of us are dead scared that one moments doubt will undo all our faith. **Do you think it works this way?** Some kind of doubt is inevitable, doubt after all is a temptation and you can't stop being tempted. The question is what you do with that doubt, whether you indulge it or raise above it. Faith conquerors doubt and doubt is the background against which faith shines.

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Then Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed from that very hour. Matthew 15:28

6

Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith will it be done to you"; Matthew 9v29

How did this person show faith?

Does God still deal with us according to our faith?

What do we miss out on when we lack faith?

Faith links into God's purposes, it does not establish our own. Our faith cannot manipulate God but it does enable God to do remarkable things in our lives. Many of us miss out on miracles because God, does to us according to our faith.

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Why did Jesus do so few miracles in His home town? Matthew 13:58 Mark 6v6

Do you think this may be a factor in the number of miracles we see?

7

Some men brought to him a paralytic, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven." Matthew 9v2 Mark 2v5 Luke 5v20

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How do you see faith?

Is there a difference between having faith and acting in faith?

What does your faith make you do? - (or when is the last time you acted in faith?)

Can your faith be seen?

Faith does not have to be seen in dramatic ways, giving and forgiving are acts of faith because they demonstrate a trust in God.

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What other acts of faith can you think of?

Who had the faith in this passage?

Do you have to have faith on behalf of others?

8

He replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, 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. Nothing will be impossible for you." Matthew 17v20 Mark 11v22, Matthew 21:21 Luke 17:5-6

What provoked this teaching? v19

Faith in this passage is not to receive but to do. The disciples did not have the faith they needed.

Most people assume that this passage teaches that faith has to grow. Mustard seed faith moves mustard seed. (the context of the Luke passage is that the disciples wanted their faith to grow.)

In this passage what does mustard seed faith do?

The point is that small faith does big things.

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What do you think the mountains are in this passage?

How does faith grow?

Does faith shrink?

9

I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:8

This is a difficult verse to interpret, it is not clear what Jesus means.

What do you think this verse is about?

The context is the passage bout the widow who refused to give up and finally got Justice. Jesus tells us that this means we should pray and never give up. That means sometimes our faith has to persevere.

The most probable meaning of this verse is that when Jesus returns will his church be found faithful. Living in faith, acting in faith, doing faith. (faith and faithful are the same word in Greek) cf the parables of Mat 26. The question is will we persevere until the end?

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In what way is this verse a challenge for us?

10

I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. John 14:12

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Is this a promise or a command?

What do you need to do greater things?

What do you think the greater things are?

Bible Study

Ten Verses From the Gospels on Faith

Jesus spoke a lot about faith, it is obviously something He considered important. For Paul faith is linked to salvation, it is faith that enables us to be saved. But when Jesus spoke about faith He emphasised it as the thing that enabled God to work in our lives and us to work in God's kingdom. As a result Jesus talked about faith in terms of healing miracles and service.



As we will see, Jesus tended to talk about little faith and great faith. In doing this He laid down a challenge for us.



He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering." Mark 5v34 Luke 8v48 Luke 18v42



What did faith do for this women?
Who was the daughter and how was she healed?
How did she show faith?

What did this women have to do to be healed?
What did Jesus have to do to heal here?

The women had to touch Jesus. This was easier said than done there was a crowd and because she had a discharge of blood she was ceremonially unclean and not supposed to be around people. She took a risk and took initiative. She did not wait for Jesus to come to her.



The only thing Jesus did to heal her was to be there and to be Himself.
Does Jesus still heal this way?

In times like worship or whenever we feel the presence of God we can still expect God to act like this.



"Go," said Jesus, "your faith has healed you." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road. Mark 10:52 Luke 17v19



If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Matthew 6v30 Luke 12v28

In this passage what did the disciples have to have faith for?
Why did Jesus criticise them for having little faith?
What were they doing that demonstrated a lack of faith?

Faith in this passage is for our daily needs, the necessities of life. Jesus criticised them for having little faith because they could not trust God to provide for their needs. Instead they were worrying.



Does worrying negate faith?
When faced with losing your job what should you do?
What do you worry about?



Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." Luke 7v50

How did this women show her faith?

Like the women in the previous verse this woman took a risk in anointing Jesus' feet. It cost her something both physically and emotionally. The woman in the previous passage wanted something. This woman didn't.

Why did she do it?



She was responding to something deep inside, she had met Jesus, she had been forgiven, she felt different. Her action was an outward expression of what had happened to her on the inside.

How did her faith save her?
How does faith save us?



He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. Matthew 8v26 Mark 4v40

In this verse how did the disciples demonstrate their lack of faith?
When the disciples cried out to Jesus, was it in fear or faith?



In this passage faith is the opposite of fear. The disciples called on Jesus to deal with the problem which was good, but Jesus' presence with them should have meant they did not need to fear.
When might you need to exercise faith like this?