



Luke 17:5 NLT The apostles said to the Lord,
 "Show us HOW TO INCREASE OUR FAITH."

Enlarging our ability to confidently trust in God and in his power
 IN Favor Resource video teaching series

#1c OUR PURPOSE AND OUR PRAYER

<p>¹⁹ Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"</p> <p>²⁰ He replied, "Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, 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."</p>	<p>²⁸ After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"</p> <p>²⁹ He replied, "This kind can come out only by prayer. "</p>	
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The disciples were surprised and disappointed at their failure to expel the demon.

- The mustard seed was proverbial for the _____ of things. "Jesus is saying that even a little faith would enable the disciples to do what they had just proved they could not do. It is not necessary to have great faith; even a small faith is enough, as long as it is faith in the great God" (Morris, *Matthew*).
- Moving mountains was proverbial for accomplishing something of _____ difficulty. It was said that Rabbah was "an uprooter of mountains," *Ber.* 64a; one who saw Resh Lakish in debate "would think he was uprooting mountains and grinding them against each other," *Sanh.* 24a. Mountainous difficulties can be removed by the exercise of faith!

"The disciples had been tempted to believe that the gift they had received from Jesus (6:7) was *in their control and could be exercised at their disposal. This was a subtle form of unbelief, for it encouraged them to trust in themselves rather than God*" (Lane, *Mark*).

"Perhaps the disciples had been treating their power to cast out devils as a *new possession of their own—a kind of magic—they would go through their routine and the devil would come out!* But that is not the way it was. There was nothing in the disciples themselves that overcame demons. It was God who in every case gave the power, and it was necessary for them to look to him and to act in humble faith" (Morris, *Matthew*).

Pressing in:

Jesus promises: if the right kind of FAITH is expressed through PRAYER,
 "Nothing will be impossible for you"



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