

Date 8/4/19 sf3114

Series: Faith Builders

Title: How Much Faith Does It Take to Move a Mountain?

Text: Matthew 17:14-20

Matthew 17:14 -20

Jesus Heals a Demon-Possessed Boy

Matthew 17:14-20pp (Mark 9:14-28; Luke 9:37-42)

<sup>14</sup>When they came to the crowd, a man approached Jesus and knelt before him.

<sup>15</sup>"Lord, have mercy on my son," he said. "He has seizures and is suffering greatly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. <sup>16</sup>I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him."

<sup>17</sup>"O unbelieving and perverse generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me." <sup>18</sup>Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed from that moment.

<sup>19</sup>Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"

<sup>20</sup>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."

Jesus used hyperbole to emphasize a point.

Hyperbole, from a Greek word meaning "excess," is a figure of speech that uses extreme exaggeration to make a point or show emphasis. It is the opposite of understatement. Hyperboles are not comparisons, like similes and metaphors, but extravagant and even ridiculous overstatements, not meant to be taken literally. some modern day hyperboles

I've told you to clean your room a million times!

It was so cold, I saw polar bears wearing hats and jackets.

I am so hungry I could eat a horse.

When I was young, I had to walk 15 miles to school, uphill, in the snow.

That joke is so old, the last time I heard it I was riding a dinosaur.

The points Jesus was making about faith are important to remember.

1. A little faith is better than no faith.  
mustard seed
2. Faith helps us to overcome obstacles in life.  
mountain moved into the sea
3. Faith in God opens up opportunities for God to bless us.  
the troubled boy was healed
4. Jesus desires and even demands we have faith.  
“You unbelieving and perverse generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you?”