

# Mark 9:14-29

## The Disciples Learn To Live "In The Valley" By Faith

Pastor Eric Douma  
July 21, 2013

Gospel of Grace Fellowship  
gospelofgracefellowship.org

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Context: The Scribes Challenge Disciples' Faith

#### Coming down the mountain:

Mark 9:11 They asked Him, saying, "Why is it that the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

#### "In the valley:"

Mark 9:14 When they came back to the disciples, they saw a large crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them.

2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Jesus Comes At The Right Time

Mark 9:15-16 Immediately, when the entire crowd saw Him, they were amazed and began running up to greet Him. And He asked them, "What are you discussing with them?"

3

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### A Father Relates The Disciples' Failure

Mark 9:17-19 And one of the crowd answered Him, "Teacher, I brought You my son, possessed with a spirit which makes him mute; and whenever it seizes him, it slams him to the ground and he foams at the mouth, and grinds his teeth and stiffens out. I told Your disciples to cast it out, and they could not do it." And He answered them and said, "O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to Me!"

4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### The Satanic Desire To Destroy Man

Mark 9:20-22 They brought the boy to Him. When he saw Him, immediately the spirit threw him into a convulsion, and falling to the ground, he began rolling around and foaming at the mouth. And He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. It has often thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. **But if You can do anything**, take pity on us and help us!"

5

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### The Just Shall Live By Faith

Mark 9:23-24 And Jesus said to him, "**If You can?**" All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the boy's father cried out and said, "**I do believe; help my unbelief.**"

6

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Jesus Overcomes A Tightening Demonic Grip

Mark 9:25-27 When Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly gathering, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You deaf and mute spirit, I command you, come out of him and do not enter him again." After crying out and throwing him into terrible convulsions, it came out; and the boy became so much like a corpse that most of them said, "He is dead!" But Jesus took him by the hand and raised him; and he got up.

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### The Necessity of Relying Upon God

Mark 9:28-29 When He came into the house, His disciples began questioning Him privately, "Why could we not drive it out?" And He said to them, "This kind cannot come out by anything but prayer."

Mark 6:7 And He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits;

8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Applications

1. We must learn to shun trusting in our own power and learn to trust in Christ alone.
2. Prayer is a means by which God can graciously act in our lives – not pietism!

9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### 1. We Must Live By Faith

Mark 9:18a-19b I told Your disciples to cast it out, and they could not do it.” And He answered them and said, “O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you?”

Zechariah 4:6 Then he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel saying, ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ says the LORD of hosts.

10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### 1. Faith In Christ Gives Us Access To God

Ephesians 2:18 for **through Him** we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.

Hebrews 4:16 **Therefore** let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### 2. Expression of Faith: Prayer Not Pietism

Mark 9:29b NASB “This kind cannot come out by anything but prayer.”

Mark 9:29b KJV “This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.”

Mark 14:38 “Keep watching and praying that you may not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Psalms 51:12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and sustain me with a willing spirit

12

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**2. Expression of Faith: Prayer Not Pietism**

Ephesians 6:18 ESV praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end **keep alert** with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints...

Colossians 4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer, **keeping alert in it** with an attitude of thanksgiving...

13

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---