

## Series: Summer Camp Follow-up

## Sermon: "I Believe"

**Passage: Mark 9:14-29**

## Illustration:

Need: What God has said to and for us, what God has done for us and will do in us, require from us the response - "I believe"

**I. What's going on here?**

- Jesus' ministry is growing because of the authoritative things He said and the miracles He did.
- Jesus granted His disciples authority to preach the Kingdom and cast out demons.
- Jesus has foretold of His coming death and resurrection to follow.
- Peter, James & John had just witnessed Jesus glorified on the mount of transfiguration.
- Coming down from the mount, the four men reunited with the other 9 who were caught in an argument.

**II. Major Faith Misinterpretations.**

- Some will suggest that these verses teach that God's ability is limited in proportion to human faith.
- Others will say this verse proves that God will do whatever you ask Him to if you just believe.
- Still others will say if you haven't received what you asked God for it's because of your lack of faith.
- God does not need you in order to work and God is not a divine genie who grants wishes.

**III. Believe what?**

- God's Messiah was promised to possess power and authority. Jesus' miracles pointed to "Who" He was.
- For the man to say "If you can" demonstrated that he doubted Jesus was the promised Messiah.
- Jesus says basically, "It's not about whether I can, but whether you believe I can because of Who you believe I Am?"
- Belief is stepping into what God has said no matter how crazy it seems. **Heb. 11:1, 6**
- Will you doubt? YES! But faith steps anyway, believing God will help us overcome our doubts.
- This man confessed his belief openly, admitting his human doubt, and Jesus healed his son.
- And yet, again, even with what they saw, the scribes refused to believe.

**IV. Do You Believe?**

- Do you believe that Jesus Christ is God's Messiah, our Savior?
- Do you believe that Jesus Christ died in your place and for your sin and was raised from the dead victorious over it?  
If you are a Christian...
- Do you believe that God has saved you for a purpose to be fulfilled through your obedience?
- Do you believe that the Holy Spirit is sufficient power enough to fulfill God's purpose for you?
- Do you believe that God has given each of us a spiritual gift or gifts to be used to edify the body?
- Do you believe that no Christian is either too old or too young to be used by God fully and completely?
- Do you believe that the promises and principles of God's word are true and valid even for us today?
- Do you believe that Jesus will guide you through any trial and over any obstacle that you may face?
- Do you believe that Jesus is able to give you victory over any and all sin and brokenness in your life?
- Do you believe that Jesus is able to use you to make disciples of others?
- Do you believe that all things belong to God and that resources and funds will always be made available?
- Do you believe that no one is too broken or too lost for Jesus to restore and redeem?
- He is able. Do you believe?