



# MARK: THE GOSPEL IN ACTION

## “The Lesson on the Importance of Faith” Part 2

MARK 9:14-29

## Mark 9:14–29 (ESV)

**14** And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them.

**15** And immediately all the crowd, when they saw Him, were greatly amazed and ran up to Him and greeted Him.

**16** And He asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?”

## Mark 9:14–29 (ESV)

**17** And someone from the crowd answered Him, “Teacher, I brought my son to You, for he has a spirit that makes him mute.

**18** And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked Your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.”

## Mark 9:14–29 (ESV)

**19** And He answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me.”

**20** And they brought the boy to Him. And when the spirit saw Him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth.

## Mark 9:14–29 (ESV)

**21** And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood.

**22** And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”

## Mark 9:14–29 (ESV)

**23** And Jesus said to him, “‘If You can’! All things are possible for one who believes.”

**24** Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!”

## Mark 9:14–29 (ESV)

**25** And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.”

**26** And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, “He is dead.”

## Mark 9:14–29 (ESV)

**27** But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.

**28** And when He had entered the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?”

**29** And He said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”





**I. Jesus' Frustration with  
Faithlessness (vv. 14-19)**

**II. Jesus' Frustration with Faith Mixed  
with Doubt (vv. 20-24)**

**III. Jesus' Fury with Demonic  
Dominion (vv. 25-27)**

**IV. Jesus' Focus on Prayer as an  
Energizer to Faith (vv. 28-29)**

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## James 1:5–8 (ESV)

**5** If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

**6** But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.

**7** For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

## James 1:5–8 (ESV)

8 he is a double-minded man,  
unstable in all his ways.

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## James 5:13–18 (ESV)

**13** Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

**14** Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

## James 5:13–18 (ESV)

**15** And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

**16** Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

## James 5:13–18 (ESV)

**17** Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth.

**18** Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.



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1. It's easier to argue about faith than to practice faith
2. Past spiritual power, if not nurtured by prayer, can turn into present spiritual presumption.
3. Mixing faith with doubt often results in spiritual powerlessness.

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4. The remedy to “doubting faith” is acknowledging absolute and utter dependence upon the power of God.

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**5.** Jesus has absolute power over the forces of satan and always conquers him.

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6. We must learn the valuable lesson on the importance of faith, its connection to prayer, and its attending necessity if we are going to live a life whereby we are “more than conquerors through Him that loved us”. (Romans 8:37)

“You can do no more than pray,  
after you have prayed, but you  
cannot do more than pray until you  
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“Prayer will make a man cease from sin, or sin will entice a man to cease from prayer.” John Bunyan