

"And They Could Not"

(1)

MARK 9:14-29, vs. 18

A.

Intro. There are two things that God's people fear.

1. We fear success. If we know God's will and we by faith launch into it we fear the work and the pressure that will surely come to us.
2. We also fear failure. We fear embarrassment and ridicule. We believe it is better to never try than to try and fail.

B.

In this verse we see the disciples failing.

1. A man asked them to heal his son.
2. The Bible tells us that, "they could not."

vs. 18

C.

This study will not provide us with a secret to success.

1. It will allow us to know why they failed.
2. There will be profitable principles...

I. The Setting of The Disciples' Failure.

A.

Jesus left the mount of transfiguration.

1. He had been there with Peter, James + John.
2. He returned to His disciples.
3. The scribes were questioning them.
4. All the people ran to Him.

vs. 14

vs. 15 5. They were amazed = ἐκθαμβέομαι = to be astonished, to be thoroughly amazed.

6. They greeted Jesus

B.

Jesus questioned them.

vs. 16

1. "What question ye with them?"

vs. 17

2. An anonymous man answered.

C. The plea of the father.

Vs. 22b 1. "...if thou canst do anything". Here we detect a spiritual flaw, "if thou"...

2. "... have compassion on us..." σπλαγχνίζομαι = to feel a strong inner yearning, to have pity.

3. "... and help us". βοηθεω = come to the rescue, to run to help".

III. The Will of God And Faith.

A. "... If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

Vs. 23 1. "believe" = πιστεω = "be persuaded", "to rely upon", "to trust", "to have faith", "to give fidelity to one".

2. "possible" = δυνατος = capable of being done, able of being done.

3. If you can trust Me (God) anything that is in God's will can be done, if you will trust God. This is NOT a blank check!

4. Faith does not have power. Power belongs to God. Human effort and divine power are not the same. Much can be done by human power. Only God's power could do what this man desired. There is no power in an electric cord. There is no power in a microwave. The power comes from another source. The cord carries the current and the microwave uses it.

5. The tiniest bit of faith carries and converts huge amounts of God's power. Luke 17:6

B. The man's tearful reply. "with tears"

Vs. 24 1. "... Lord, I believe..."

2. "... help thou my unbelief..."