



SERIES: Walking with Jesus
SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD
Friday, November 24, 2023
Scripture: Mark 9:20-24
TITLE: Admit Your Doubt

Why does God allow so much pain and suffering today? I mean, He is God, right? And that means He is all-knowing and all-powerful. Then why the continual mess around us? This was the discussion a buddy and I had a number of years ago. But at the end of this discussion, we both admitted that no answer would probably satisfy us. This, as we realized, was not a matter of information but an issue of doubt.

But doubt shouldn't deter us. It shouldn't defeat us. It should be leveraged to strengthen our faith. How do we strengthen our faith through doubt? Mark gives us the answer in Mark 9:20-24 (CSB). Let's continue walking with Jesus to witness an incredible encounter.

So they brought the boy to him. When the spirit saw him, it immediately threw the boy into convulsions. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. "How long has this been happening to him?" Jesus asked his father.

"From childhood," he said. "And many times, it has thrown him into fire or water to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."

Jesus said to him, "If you can'? Everything is possible for the one who believes."

Immediately, the father of the boy cried out, "I do believe; help my unbelief!"

What we didn't read is that Jesus is returning with the disciples from a literal mountain top experience. This man has been trying to find this miracle worker Jesus. He's asked the disciples for help, but they can't help. So he follows the disciples to Jesus. He says, "Jesus! Help me. Heal him if you can." And Jesus tells him that everything is possible for the one who has faith.

What is this man's response? "I believe. Help my unbelief." This man is me. This man is probably you. You do believe in the power of Christ, but you need help with your unbelief.

You see, in order to strengthen our faith, we need to admit our doubt to God. You cannot strengthen what you don't manage. You can't manage what you don't know and admit. So admit your doubt. God is not offended by it. This man admitted it. His faith was strengthened because he admitted it and asked for help from Jesus. And his son was healed.

So here's my challenge for you today: admit your doubt and ask God to turn it to faith. What is it that prevents you from trusting God completely? Admit it. He knows it. But He wants you to

come to Him honestly and humbly. It is when we are weak that He can make us strong. So admit to God and ask Him for help. If you're brave, I encourage you to share in the comments below your doubts. Let's strengthen our faith together.

When we allow God to strengthen our faith, we will win the day.