



Lesson 38 - Ministry

Based on Matthew 17:9-21; Mark 9:9-29; Luke 9:37-45.

- 1) Where does our lesson begin today?

Luke 9:29 And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and _____.

- 2) Other than the three Disciples, was Jesus alone?

Luke 9:30-31 And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were _____ and _____: Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem.

- 3) Did the Disciples wake up in time?

Luke 9:32 But Peter and they that were with him were heavy with sleep: and when they were awake, they saw his _____, and the two men that stood with him.

The entire night had been passed in the mountain; and as the sun arose, Jesus and His disciples descended to the plain. Absorbed in thought, the disciples were awed and silent. Even Peter had not a word to say. Gladly would they have lingered in that holy place which had been touched with the light of heaven, and where the Son of God had manifested His glory; but there was work to be done for the people, who were already searching far and near for Jesus.

- 4) What did Jesus tell His Disciples that night after what they had seen?

Matthew 17:9 And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to _____, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.

- 5) How did the three feel about what they had witnessed?

Mark 9:10 And they kept that saying with themselves, questioning one with another what the rising from the _____ should mean.

The revelation made to the disciples was to be pondered in their own hearts, not to be published abroad. To relate it to the multitudes would excite only ridicule or idle wonder. And even the nine apostles would not understand the scene until after Christ had risen from the dead. How slow of comprehension even the three favored disciples were, is seen in the fact that notwithstanding all that Christ had said of what was before Him, they queried among themselves what the rising from the dead should mean. Yet they asked no explanation from Jesus.

- 6) What scene greeted Jesus, James, John, and Peter?

Luke 9:37-38 And it came to pass, that on the next day, when they were come down from the hill, much _____ met him. And, behold, a man of the company cried out, saying, Master, I beseech thee, _____ upon my son: for he is mine only child.

As the people on the plain caught sight of Jesus, they ran to meet Him, greeting Him with expressions of reverence and joy. Yet His quick eye discerned that they were in great perplexity. The disciples appeared troubled. A circumstance had just occurred that had caused them bitter disappointment and humiliation.

The night of communion with the heavenly glory had left its trace upon the Saviour and His companions. Upon their countenances there was a light that awed the beholders. The scribes drew back in fear, while the people welcomed Jesus.



7) What was wrong?

Luke 9:39-40 And, lo, a _____ taketh him, and he suddenly crieth out; and it teareth him that he foameth again, and bruising him hardly departeth from him. And I besought thy disciples to _____ him out; and they could not.

A hush had fallen upon the entire company. Now the afflicted father made his way through the crowd, and falling at the feet of Jesus, poured out the story of his trouble and disappointment.

8) How did Jesus respond to the crowd?

Luke 9:41 And Jesus answering said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be _____, and suffer you? Bring thy son hither.

The disciples, unable to account for their defeat, felt that they were bringing dishonor upon themselves and their Master. And in the crowd, there were scribes who made the most of this opportunity to humiliate them. Pressing around the disciples, they plied them with questions, seeking to prove that they and their Master were deceivers. Here, the rabbi triumphantly declared, was an evil spirit that neither the disciples nor Christ Himself could conquer.

9) What did Jesus ask of the father?

Mark 9:21 And he asked his father, How _____ is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child.

10) How did the father reply?

Mark 9:22 And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to _____ him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us.

11) How does Jesus reply to "if" statements?

Mark 9:23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that _____.

12) What was the father's statement of faith?

Mark 9:24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine _____.

13) How did the demon-possessed child act in the presence of Jesus?

Luke 9:42 And as he was yet a coming, the devil threw him down, and tare him. And Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and _____ the child, and delivered him again to his father.

14) How did Mark describe the scene?

Mark 9:25-27 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he _____ the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter _____ into him. And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead. But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he _____.

The multitude are "**amazed at the mighty power of God,**" while the scribes, defeated and crestfallen, turn sullenly away.

15) What are the Words God has for us in this day?

Mark 9:23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are _____ to him that believeth.



It is faith that connects us with heaven and brings us strength for coping with the powers of darkness. In Christ, God has provided means for subduing every sinful trait, and resisting every temptation, however strong. But many feel that they lack faith, and therefore they remain away from Christ. Let these souls, in their helpless unworthiness, cast themselves upon the mercy of their compassionate Saviour. Look not to self, but to Christ. He who healed the sick and cast out demons when He walked among men is the same mighty Redeemer today.

16) What promise should we grasp?

John 6:37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise _____ out.

17) What should we do when we cast ourselves at the feet of Jesus?

Mark 9:24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; _____ thou mine unbelief.

You can never perish while you do this—never.

In a brief space of time the favored disciples have beheld the extreme of glory and of humiliation. They have seen humanity as transfigured into the image of God, and as debased into the likeness of Satan. From the mountain where He has talked with the heavenly messengers and has been proclaimed the Son of God by the voice from the radiant glory, they have seen Jesus descend to meet that most distressing and revolting spectacle, the maniac boy, with distorted countenance, gnashing his teeth in spasms of agony that no human power could relieve. And this mighty Redeemer, who but a few hours before stood glorified before His wondering disciples, stoops to lift the victim of Satan from the earth where he is wallowing, and in health of mind and body restores him to his father and his home.

Not alone upon the mountaintop with Jesus, in hours of spiritual illumination, is the life of Christ's servants to be spent. There is work for them down in the plain. Souls whom Satan has enslaved are waiting for the word of faith and prayer to set them free.

18) What were the nine Disciple wondering amongst themselves?

Matthew 17:19 Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not _____ cast him out?

19) How did Jesus reply to them?

Matthew 17:20-21 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your _____: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and _____.

Their unbelief, that shut them out from deeper sympathy with Christ, and the carelessness with which they regarded the sacred work committed to them, had caused their failure in the conflict with the powers of darkness.

20) What are we up against?

Ephesians 6:12 For we _____ not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual _____ in high places.



In order to succeed in such a conflict, they must come to the work in a different spirit. Their faith must be strengthened by fervent prayer and fasting, and humiliation of heart. They must be emptied of self and be filled with the Spirit and power of God. Earnest, persevering supplication to God in faith, faith that leads to entire dependence upon God, and unreserved consecration to His work, can alone avail to bring men the Holy Spirit's aid.

21) What Words of Jesus are equally important for us today?

Matthew 17:20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a _____ of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be _____ unto you.

If you have faith like this, you will lay hold upon God's word, and upon all the helpful agencies He has appointed. Thus, your faith will strengthen and will bring to your aid the power of heaven. The obstacles that are piled by Satan across your path, though apparently as insurmountable as the eternal hills, shall disappear before the demand of faith. ***“Nothing shall be impossible unto you.”***

Are you doubting?

Are you spiritually strong enough to receive God's future blessings?

When is the time to let God do great things through you?