

Who Is Jesus?: The Greatness of God

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Luke 9:37-43; Matt 17:14-21; Mark 9:14-29

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Synergy

Going Deeper – Small Groups

Body of Christ – your place to serve...

Scripture – Synoptic Gospels...

One event from three perspectives – three lessons?

Consolidated text on reverse.

Situation:

Difficult circumstance; disciples (nine) unable to resolve... now what?

Challenging Response (of Jesus):

Unbelieving

Rebellious

Mark's focus: Growing faith

Promise: "Everything is possible to the one who believes."

Response: "I do believe! Help my unbelief."

Compassionate Response (of Jesus):

Rebuked spirit; healed the boy; gave him back to his father.

Matthew's focus: Why couldn't disciples drive out the spirit?

"Little faith" (Matt 6:30; 8:26; 14:31; 16:8; 17:20)

Promise: "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed... nothing will be impossible for you."

Matthew & Mark lesson learned: "...this kind does not come out except by prayer and fasting."

Luke's summary: "And they were all astonished at the greatness of God."

Greatness of God:

Patient

Personal

Promises

Powerful

Col 1:15-22 "He is the image of the invisible God..."

Luke 9:37-43 Matthew 17:14-21 Mark 9:14-29

³⁷The next day, when they came down from the mountain to the disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and scribes disputing with them. ¹⁵All of a sudden, when the whole crowd saw [Jesus], they were amazed and ran to greet Him. ¹⁶Then He asked them, “What are you arguing with them about?”

¹⁷Out of the crowd, a man approached and knelt down before Him; [he] answered Him, ¹⁵Teacher/ Lord., I brought my son to You. I beg You to look at [him], because he’s my only child. “have mercy on [him], because he has seizures and suffers severely. He has a spirit that makes him unable to speak. ¹⁸Often it seizes him, suddenly he shrieks, it throws him down, and into convulsions until he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. He often falls into the fire and often into the water. [it] wound[s] him; it hardly ever leaves him. So ¹⁶I brought him to Your disciples, I asked [them]... ⁴⁰I begged [them] to drive it out, but they couldn’t...” they couldn’t heal him.”

¹⁹[Jesus] replied to them, “You unbelieving and rebellious generation! How long will I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring your son here to Me.” ²⁰So they brought him to Him. ⁴²As the boy was still approaching, when the spirit saw [Jesus], it immediately convulsed the boy... the demon knocked him down and threw him into severe convulsions. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. ²¹“How long has this been happening to him?” Jesus asked his father.

“From childhood,” he said. ²²“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.”

²³Then Jesus said to him, “‘If You can’? Everything is possible to the one who believes.”

²⁴Immediately the father of the boy cried out, “I do believe! Help my unbelief.”

²⁵When Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly coming together, He rebuked the unclean spirit... the demon..., saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you: come out of him and never enter him again!”

²⁶Then it came out of him, shrieking and convulsing him violently. The boy became like a corpse, so that many said, “He’s dead.” ²⁷But Jesus, cured the boy; taking him by the hand, [He] raised him, and he stood up. and from that moment the boy was healed.

and [Jesus] gave him back to his father.

²⁸After He went into a house, ¹⁹ the disciples approached [Him] privately and asked, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?”

²⁰“Because of your little faith,” He told them. “For I assure you: If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will tell this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

²⁹And He told them, “This kind can come out by nothing but prayer [and fasting].”

⁴³And they were all astonished at the greatness of God.