

30 DAYS IN THE BIBLE

Click [here](#) to read Matthew 17

Key Verse – Matthew 17:14–20

Life is tough. Doing new things is tough. Dealing with hardship is – you guessed it – tough.

Many times in our journey through life as believers, God asks us to do these tough things for Him. It could be a new job. It could be sacrificing one dream to pursue another. It could even be trusting Him through a time of darkness and despair. Sometimes, it is very difficult to trust God, or feel like He can actually make a difference in our lives.

The disciples are experiencing somewhat the same emotions in this chapter of Matthew. They've been following Jesus around for months, curing illnesses and casting out demons in His name. This particular day, however, they come across a demon that is particularly difficult to cast out. They try multiple times to cast it out, relying on their own abilities, before finally giving up and bringing the man to Jesus.

Jesus was close to the end of His ministry at this time. He was frustrated with His disciples on this day for their lack of faith. But as always, he takes the time to cast out the demon and teach His disciples the error of their ways.

You see, the disciples knew they could cast out demons. They tried to cast out this demon with that knowledge – using their faith in themselves and their abilities. They did have a good bit of knowledge when it came to casting out demons, but they weren't even considering that God could cast out this demon in a heartbeat if only they asked. Jesus tells them this flat out. He then reminds them that with even the smallest bit of faith (If you've never seen a mustard seed, it is absolutely tiny) in God, anything is possible.



How many times in our own lives have we been working through a hard season and relying on our own abilities to do so? How many times do we default to trusting ourselves more than we trust the Lord? We serve a God who has a purpose for us, and can do absolutely anything through us. Are we trusting Him to work through us every day?

What Scripture can I meditate on today?

What did God speak to me today?

How can I respond in obedience?

How can I pray?