



Nothing Good Happens Without Faith
Matthew 17:14-20; Mark 9:14-29; Luke 9:37-42

- 1) Every mountaintop experience turns back to reality (17:14)
 - a) Special times with God are given to refresh us spiritually
 - i) Youth camp; fall retreat; vacation; marriage seminars
 - ii) Sunday worship
 - b) When we come back to reality, we're spiritually nourished
- 2) God brings all His people to a place of desperation to rely upon Him (15-16)
- 3) Because of the depraved state of our humanity, we need divine deliverance (17-18)
- 4) God has granted all Christians authority, not power (19-20)
 - a) Our source of authority: God the Father
 - b) Our conduit of action: Christ the Son
 - c) Our valve of blessing: the Holy Spirit
 - d) Our means of gaining God's blessing: prayer
- 5) Observations
 - a) By arguing with fools we lose our reputation and perspective
 - b) Lack of faith prevents many efforts from coming to fruition
 - c) Sometimes our faith can heal those with no faith
 - d) Christ's presence in our lives should upset the demonic world
- 6) Application to action
 - a) Believe that God can do absolutely anything
 - b) Be willing to leave that "anything" up to Him
 - c) Stop fretting, quit interrupting, cease trying to control, and pray
 - d) Be willing to accept the answer God gives as the best answer to your prayers