



Daily Verse and Comment

Matthew 17:20-21

(20) And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: 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. (21) Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

King James Version

The disciples' question, "Why could we not cast [the demon] out?" suggests that they could not see any reason for their failure. [Jesus](#) replies emphatically, "Because of your unbelief. . . . [T]his kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting" ([Matthew 17:20-21](#)). Here He emphasizes the necessity and power of *faith*, as well as the need of intercession and self-denial. Their great lack of [faith](#) was not a lack of intellectual acceptance of all Christ stood for, but the lack of living faith in His divine omnipotence. He taught with excellence and performed many miracles, yet His teaching and miracle-working made little progress in the people's faith. Unbelief still dominated them ([Romans 3:3-4](#)).

However, Christ continued in [patience](#) to teach the people and to work mighty miracles for them. Thankfully, our Savior is patient in dealing with our sluggishness and dullness in learning God's truth and faithfully living His way of life.

— Martin G. Collins

To learn more, see:

[The Miracles of Jesus Christ: Exorcising a Young Boy \(Part One\)](#)

Related Topics:

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[Faith, Lack of](#)

[Jesus Christ's Exorcising a Young Boy](#)

[Jesus Christ's Miracles](#)

[Neglected Prayer and Fasting](#)

[Unbelief](#)