



Daily Verse and Comment

[Matthew 17:20-21](#)

(20) So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there," and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. (21) However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."

New 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:

[Failure to Cast Out Demons](#)

[Faith, Lack of](#)

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

[Jesus Christ's Miracles](#)

[Neglected Prayer and Fasting](#)

[Unbelief](#)