



[Matthew 21:21-22](#)

(21) Then Jesus answered *and* said to them, "Truly I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only shall you do the *miracle* of the fig tree, but even if you shall say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it shall come to pass. (22) And everything that you shall ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive."

[Mark 11:22-24](#)

(22) And Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith from God. (23) For truly I say to you, whoever shall say to this mountain, 'Be taken away and be cast into the sea,' and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that what he said will take place, he shall have whatever he shall say. (24) For this reason I say to you, all the things that you ask when you are praying, believe that you will receive them, and they shall be given to you.

A Faithful Version

The miracle of Christ's withering of the fig tree reveals His divine and human natures. As [God](#), He withered the tree in judgment. As Man, He needed the sleep His friends' home in Bethany provided as well as the tree's food to sustain Him, as "He was hungry."

Although He could have satisfied His hunger with a miracle, He showed self-restraint in the use of His supernatural power to teach a valuable lesson to His disciples. He would not use it to provide for His personal wants or for those of His disciples. Nor would He work a miracle just to impress others. He would not do so to increase His earthly influence or power or to terrorize people into accepting His teaching. If a need could be fulfilled by human effort, or if lessons would be useful, [Jesus](#) would do no miracle.

Self-restraint requires [faith](#). Jesus withered the fig tree to teach His disciples a lesson in faith because, if they had genuine faith in God, they would not only be able to affect nature miraculously as Jesus did with the tree, but also move mountains ([Matthew 17:20](#)). If they truly believed and asked according to God's will, they would receive whatever they prayed for.

— Martin G. Collins

To learn more, see:

[The Miracles of Jesus Christ: The Withering of a Fig Tree](#)

Related Topics:

[Asking According to God's Will](#)

[Jesus Curses Fig Tree](#)

[Jesus' Cursing of the Fig Tree](#)

[Miracles of Christ: Cursing the Fig Tree](#)

[Miracles of Christ: Withering the Fig Tree](#)

[Purpose of Miracles](#)

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