**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr December 10, 2023**

**Mustard Seed Faith In The Valley**

Matthew 17:14-21

**Key Truth:** Great faith trusts God even when life is uncertain.

**Chaos In The Valley**:

1. A desperate father seeking help, unwilling to give up.

2. Powerless disciples unable to carry out the work of ministry

 Jesus had entrusted to them.

3. A frustrated yet compassionate Savior.

**Diagnosing The Disciples Problem:**

1. Their lack of faith in the power of Jesus.

 A. They failed because they relied on their own power rather

 than God’s.

2. Jesus continues to remind them of His purpose. Matthew 17:22

3. Jesus reminds Peter of His provision. Matthew 17:24-27

**What We Learn:**

1. Prayer is the avenue to faith.

 A. When the church is prayerless the church becomes

 powerless.

 B. When the church is prayerful the church is powerful.

2. The church is a place of healing; emotionally, physically, and

 spiritually.

3. Faith is believing I can do what Jesus has commanded and

 promised.

 A. We will always get what we need.

 B. We won’t always get what we want.

4. We cannot operate in the flesh and expect spiritual victory.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls**: Thank Jesus for the certainty of His presence and power in your life even when your circumstances are uncertain. Ask Him to help you trust Him and to exercise that trust as you serve Him each day.

**Food for Thought:**

Who is someone you would describe as having great faith? What about him or her makes you say that?

Describe a time when you felt uncertain or helpless in life.

Would you say that your faith was strong or weak at that time? Explain.

Read Matthew 17:14-16: What do you learn about the father who approached Jesus in this passage? What do you learn about the disciples?

Read Mark 9:22-24: From Mark’s account of this story, what did the boy’s father acknowledge that the disciples had not when they tried to cast out the demon?

Why do you think Christ followers often want to seem to have it all together? Why is it so important that we acknowledge our need and unbelief?

When have you felt like the father, uncertain about God’s willingness or ability to act on your behalf? How did you handle that uncertainty?