

June 11, 2023 "If I Only Had More Faith" Rick Raines rraines@fairmountcc.org

In our current series, we have been delving into some oft misused ideas from Scripture.

"God never said ..."

Today, we want to consider our **personal faith**.

"If I only had more faith ..."

The desire for "more faith" is a **noble desire**.

Matthew 17:20

He replied, "Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

We fall into error when we believe that faith is going to fix everything.

Growing our faith is the goal.

1. Ask God for more faith.

Mark 9:24

Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

2. Focus on obedience.

James 2:14-17

What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

3. Embrace God's Word.

Romans 10:17

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

4. Get out of the boat.

Matthew 14:25-29

Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

"Come," he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.

If I had more faith ... I would be closer to God.