

**Don't Just Stand There...Pray Something, Part 1  
How Much Faith Does It Take?**

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Bible Passage Today: Mark 9:14-32

**1. Examples of Faith in the Bible**

*If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer. Matthew 21:22*

*If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord. James 1:5-7*

Roman Soldier — *"I tell you the truth, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith...Go, it will be done just as you believed it would."*  
Matthew 8:10-13

Blind Man — *"Go. Your faith has healed you."* Mark 10:52

A Very Sick Woman — *"Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."* Mark 5:34

**2. How Much Faith Does it Take?**

*But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us. "If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for him who believes."* Mark 9:22b-23

*I do believe. Help me overcome my unbelief!* Mark 9:24

It's not great \_\_\_\_\_ that I need; but faith in a \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus prefers honesty to \_\_\_\_\_.

The only prayer that God cannot answer is the one I \_\_\_\_\_.

**Going Deeper:**

1. How often does God want to give you help or something, and you don't ask? How many times do you go through a day with anger, or fear, or joylessness or selfish preoccupation, because you just don't ask?
2. What do you think of the phrase, "It is not great faith that we need, but faith in a great God"? Is our faith in our faith? Or is our faith in God?
3. In our text, the man was honest in his doubt when he said "If you can...". Jesus seemed to prefer honesty over insincere certainty. When you pray, are you real? Are you sincere in what you ask and how you ask?
4. What is your "If You Can" prayer? The request that is so big, so beyond your power...the one that has broken your heart...the one that, to be honest, you're not even sure could ever happen.
5. If you bring a thimble, He'll probably fill it. If you bring Him a bucket, He will probably fill it. How does this apply to how you are praying today?

