



*Berean Family Worship Center*  
*One Church In Two Cities*  
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Tuesday-Wednesday, 11/27/18–11/28/18 – Group Studies

**Lesson Series: Curing Faithlessness**

Lesson Series Text: (*Mat. 17:14-21*)

**Lesson (1): Faith Doubt Unbelief**

Lesson (1) Text: (*Mat. 17:14-21*)

*All Scriptures are KJV; unless otherwise noted.*

*Prepared By: Dr. Walter Henderson III*

- I. My son is a lunatic. (*14-16*)
  - A. Lunatic - Luna refers to something having to do with the earth's moon. (*Luna eclipse*)
  - B. The man son attacks grew worst during the full moon.
    - a. The demon that possessed the boy, wanted people to attribute the father's son actions to different phases of the moon. (*Similar to the character of werewolves.*)
  - C. The demon was trying to kill the boy by causing him to fall into the fire or the water.
  - D. The disciple could not heal him.
  - E. Jesus described that generation by two names: (*17*)
    - a. Faithless - disbelieving
    - b. Perverse - to distort, misinterpret, or twist.
    - c. Jesus gave the disciples power to heal all manner of diseases. (*Mat. 10:1; Luke 9:1*)
    - d. Jesus expected the disciples to do what He had commissioned them to do.
    - e. The disciples had faith, but they doubted.
  - F. Jesus cured him. (*18*)
  - G. The disciples wanted to know why they couldn't heal the boy. (*19-21*)
    - a. Jesus' answer was unbelief (*apistos*) faithlessness, disbelief.<sup>1</sup>
    - b. Jesus stated that all they needed was faith the size of a mustard seed to remove this mountain before them.
    - c. With this mustard seed faith, nothing shall be impossible to them.
- II. Faith and doubt not. (*Mat. 21:21-22*)
  - A. Jesus said that, "If you have faith, and doubt not".
    - a. Is it possible to have faith and doubt at the same time?
    - b. Faith is located in the spirit and doubt is located in the soul, i.e. the mind.
  - B. **All things**, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, **believing**, ye shall receive.
    - a. Where does the ability to believe *all things* come from—from the Word of God.
    - b. The only way that we can believe all things is to have God's Word on it.

3920 North 51<sup>st</sup> Blvd, Milwaukee, WI 53216  
N112 W17655 Mequon Road, Germantown, WI 53022



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- c. Faith doesn't stay at the same level all the times. If your word level is low, then your faith level will be low.
- d. Jesus said in *John 15:7*, "*If ye abide in me, and my **words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.***"
- C. The only way that you can believe God is that you must know what He said.
- D. You must have the seed of the Word in your heart, so that it will grow faith.
- III. Faith is based on assurance. (*1 John 3:19-22*)
  - A. We assure our hearts before God If we do what pleases God; then we will have confidence toward God.
  - B. We must live what the word says. (*John 15:7*)
  - C. The mystery of faith is in a pure conscience. (*1 Tim. 1:5, 19; 3:9*)
- IV. Definitions:
  - A. Doubt is to be uncertain about; consider questionable or unlikely; hesitate to believe.<sup>ii</sup>
    - a. Doubt is the result of a lack of knowledge or knowing.
  - B. Unbelief is the state or quality of not believing; skepticism, especially in matters of doctrine or religious faith.<sup>iii</sup>
    - a. Unbelief is when you know, but choose not to believe.
- V. Instances where faith and doubt existed simultaneously.
  - A. As soon as Jesus spoke. (*Mark 1:39-42*)
    - a. I know you can, but I don't know if you will.
    - b. Jesus touched him, but nothing happen.
    - c. As soon as Jesus spoke and answered his question, he was healed.
  - B. As soon as He laid His hands on her. (*Luke 13:10-13*)
    - a. Jesus spoke, and nothing happen.
    - b. As soon as He laid His hand on her, she was healed.
  - C. The Centurion needed to hear. (*Mat. 8:5-13*)
  - D. Thomas needed to see. (*John 20:24-29*)
  - E. Peter needed to hear. (*Mat. 14:25-31*)
    - a. Peter had **little faith** and he **doubted**. Peter only needed a little faith to walk on the water, however, initially, **he had no doubt**.
    - b. To the degree you allow your view of your situation to influence you, will determine the level of your faith.
- VI. Abraham staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief. (*Rom. 4:17-21*)
  - A. How did he get to that level of faith?
- VII. The Word of God must be mixed with faith (*Heb. 4:2*)

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<sup>ii</sup> Strong's Concordance

<sup>ii</sup> Dictionary.com

<sup>iii</sup> Dictionary.com