



PART 5: Prayer that Moves Mountains 1

→ Do you believe that prayer moves mountains? When Jesus spoke of 'mountains,' what do you think He had in mind? What exactly happens in the natural and spiritual realms when we pray 'powerful and effective' prayers?

→ When Jesus said 'Anyone' in Mark 11:23, did He really mean anyone? Is anyone excluded? Are you included?

BIG IDEA: Whilst there's no doubt God answers bold prayers of FAITH; many go into this without the FULL PICTURE.

For 'Prayer that Moves Mountains,' you need these SIX components.



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| 1. BELIEVING | 4. NAME OF JESUS |
| 2. CONFESSING | 5. WAITING |
| 3. ABIDING | 6. OBEYING |

- * You can't OVER-EMPHASISE one or two at the EXPENSE of all the others.
- * If you completely BYPASS one, you may SHORT-CIRCUIT your prayers.

Side #1 = BELIEVING (Mark 11:22-24, 9:23, 5:36, John 11:40, Matt 8:8-13).

* God is a FAITH God; His Kingdom is a FAITH kingdom.
→ What do we mean by the 'God-kind of faith?' What does it mean to say that Jesus operated by faith? Who are the heroes of faith that have inspired you: biblical, historical or contemporary?

→ Hebrews 11:6 says that it's impossible to please God without faith. Why is it impossible? What is 'faith' really and how does it work?

→ Jesus made a point of consistently highlighting weak faith and commending strong faith. Where would you say you register along the scale? How do you get stronger faith?

- * Greek Word 'PISTIS' means FIRM PERSUASION.
- * That God IS who He SAYS He IS, DID precisely what the Bible SAID He DID, and WILL DO exactly what the Bible promises He WILL DO (Romans 4:20-21).
- * A significant part of our maturing as Christians is to transition from being dominated by our FEELINGS to operating in FAITH.

→ What is the difference between being led by your feelings and by your faith? How does that change as you mature spiritually? How can feelings train-wreck your faith?

- * To move from NATURAL to SUPERNATURAL, from FRUSTRATED to FRUITFUL, from WISHFUL THINKING to PRAYER THAT MOVES MOUNTAINS, we must learn to operate by faith.

Side #2 = CONFESSING (Romans 10:9-10)

- * BELIEVING & CONFESSING are co-joined TWINS.
- Reading Romans 10:9-10 and Mark 11:22-24, how do these two facets work together? Can you think of any other helpful examples from scripture where we see them working together?
- Why does what you believe have to be released through your mouth?
- What are the potential 'name it and claim it' excesses? How do the other 5 sides of our dice help to keep you in balance?
- "God is not your heavenly butler, fairy godmother or cosmic Santa." Discuss!
- * It's not enough to talk constantly ABOUT your mountain; you must speak TO your mountain (Mark 11:23).
- * Greek word for confession = HOMOLOGEO (Hebrews 10:23).
- * Literally, SAY (logos) the SAME THING AS (homo).
- * In essence, confession is saying what GOD has ALREADY SAID.
- * So, there are LIMITS on what we can MANE and CLAIM. But, if God has NAMED it, we can CLAIM it with confidence (1 John 5:14-15).

Side #3 = ABIDING (John 15:7)

- * The picture in John 15 is of us being ENGRAFTED as BRANCHES into the VINE, which is Jesus.
- * It speaks of CONNECTIVITY, RELATIONSHIP, INTIMACY.
- * We are IN JESUS and Jesus is IN US ... As we ABIDE in Him & His words ABIDE in us.
→ What does 'abiding' mean to you? How do you abide in Him? How does His Word abide in you? [You could try looking up some other translations of John 15:7 or reading the whole passage from v1-17].
- * In John 15:7, ABIDING is directly related to ASKING and RECEIVING.
- * Just as a branch has NO LIFE if it is DISCONNECTED from the vine, so our prayer has NO POWER if we are DISCONNECTED from Christ.
→ How effective is this metaphor? What happens to a branch when it is disconnected from a real grapevine? What happens to a Christian when they're disconnected from the Lord? How, then, does that affect our prayer lives, & particularly our prayers of faith?
- * Our REQUESTS should FLOW NATURALLY from our relationship with Him (Ps 37:4).
→ Take a look at Psalm 37:4. What desires? Your desires? His desires? Perhaps they become one and the same? And how do you 'delight in the Lord?' [Try looking at Job 22:21-28 for some helpful clues!]
- * When you're not WALKING with God or strong in the WORD, you relinquish your AUTHORITY.
- * If you're walking in the FLESH rather than the SPIRIT, you've lost touch with the SOURCE of inspiration and power.

THE POINT: If you want to pray 'prayers that move mountains,' you must DEVELOP in EACH of these areas.

→ So, in the three areas we've looked at so far, are you strong or weak? Where might you grow and how could you go about doing so?