

THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

Your Mountain Has A Name

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There are many "mountains" in the Bible:

- Mount of Ararat: the resting place of Noah's ark after the flood (Gen 8:1-5).
- Mount Carmel where Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal (1K 18).
- Mount Moriah where Abraham's devotion was tested through his willingness to sacrifice his son Isaac (Gen 22:1-3). Also the place of the Lord's Temple built by Solomon (2Chron 3:1).
- Mount Sinai: where the Lord gave Moses the tablet with the 10 Commandments (Ex 24:12).
- Mountain of Temptation—where Satan tempted Jesus with the kingdoms of the world (Lk 4).
- Mountain of Transfiguration where The Lord was transfigured (Mt 17:1-9).

Reflection:

- Your "mountain" has a name. Is there a "mountain" in your life that you need to move?
- This can be a "mountain" of sickness, financial needs, family or relationship problem, lust, anger, depression, fear, sadness? Or is your "mountain" all the above?

It is simple to get rid of these mountains:

- "Call to me and I will answer you; I will tell you great things beyond the reach of your knowledge" (Jer 33:3).
- "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you shall find; knock and the door will be opened to you" (Mt 7:7).
- God has the power to do what He promised. It will happen based on your faith (Rom 4:20-21).
- Abraham had faith in God's covenant to make him fertile and the father of many nations (Gen 17:5,15):
- The Centurion was healed by his faith. "As you have believed, let it be done for you" (Mt 8:13).
- The leper was made clean. The Lord said "I do will it; be made clean (Lk 5: 12-14).

By FAITH you can move mountains:

- "Do not be afraid, from the first day you made up your mind to acquire understanding and humble yourself before your God, your prayer was heard" (Dan 10:12).
- When the Lord promises, He does not say He will do it right away, but He will do it. A lot of times, He delays attending to our needs, because He wants us to work on our patience. Today, while we are on quarantine, are you worrying about what will happen on the 30th?
- When you doubt, do not expect an answer from God (Jas 1:6). It is a sin to doubt.
- Faith pleases God. No matter how impossible it may appear, the longer you wait, the better the miracle will be. Soar's testimony: In a meeting when she was hungry but only had Ps 100, God answered her prayer with abundance – somebody came bringing food not just for her for, but for all the 10 people present.
- When you have a problem or need, and you can't figure out the answer, do you exhaust all means to solve the problem? There are many who just settle. Do you just say "Whatever!" when things are not working out according to what you hope for? Oftentimes there is a way, but you don't want to take action. You need to get out of the boat and walk.
- Everyone is meant to have a life of abundance "...Call to me and I will answer you, I will tell you great things, things you could not have imagined" (Jer 33:1-2).
- In today's pandemic, let us call on God, and expect mighty things. We should have called on Him sooner. "But keep watching, I will restore the city and heal the people, and lavish them with peace and stability. (Jer 33:4). Let God be God, He will fulfill His promises.
- If God is going to do amazing things for you, you have to ask first and let Him move without your interference. Faith is hoping for the best possible outcome without the knowledge of what that might be.

- Without faith, it is impossible to please God; but, He rewards those who diligently seek Him.
- Soar has a faith that is viral. "I am sharing my faith virus with all of you because this is the only weapon we need to fight this Covid19."
- By faith you can move mountains. No one can understand the miracles of life and how our body parts are working. But you know they work. (Ecc 11:5). Then why don't we believe in God? Faith is something you believe because you trust God (Isa 55:11). Therefore, all that you ask for in prayer, believe that you will receive it and it shall be yours" (Mk 11:22-24).

Your Action:

- Name or call your "mountain" (Mountain of Fear, Mountain of Poverty, Mountain of Sickness/Cancer, Mountain of Addiction etc). Then, command this mountain "Be removed and be cast into the sea!" Whatever things you ask when you pray, BELIEVE and you will get them. However big or small your "mountain," you have to get rid of these. (Mt 17:20)
- Believe that we will be spared from this virus;
 God will not forsake us, we will all be saved.
- It is ok to make plans. But when we equate the solution to our ability, we forget that the wisdom of the world is foolishness to God. We have the privilege to give everything to God.

What kind of Faith does it take to move mountains?

- It needs only the amount of the size of a mustard seed (Mt 17:20). It is the size of a tiny insect, a gnat or 'niknik"/ fruit fly. If you trust what God will do, you can do all things through Christ, who will strengthen you.
- Why wouldn't we trust Him? God does not stop providing for us (Malachi 3:11). He is not asking for something that is impossible. He is asking for something completely possible; we already have the capability to do what He is asking us to do. He has already given us so many promises.
- "For by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you, not to think of himself more highly than one ought to think, but to think soberly, each according to the measure of our faith that God has apportioned" (Rom 12:3).

- It is important to bring our goodness to God; not by what we do, but by God who brings all this goodness to all of us (Ps 23).
- We see what we see: thus, do not see all gloom or that is what you will have. Expect to see good things, your needs being met, then that is what you will see. Just a speck of faith is all that's needed.

There are many heroes in the Bible who were not extraordinary, but used their speck of faith. Do you suppose they had more or less faith than you?

- The woman with a daughter possessed by the demon did not have a name (Mt 15:21-28).
- The leper who was healed had no name (Mt 8: 1-4).
- The bleeding woman, the lame, the blind, the insane – these were nameless people. They were all healed.
- Each one of us is a believer of the Lord. We just need a mustard-size faith to remove our "mountains".
- What God has done for those in the Bible He wants to do for all of us who are present today.
 All of us are called by God. "(Is 43:1)

CONCLUSION

 What do you have in your heart? If you have a need, I encourage you to offer to God whatever you possess. Don't try to figure it out. Just come with a measure of faith – a mustard seed sized faith. Nothing will separate us from God. All these things we will conquer (Rom 8:37).

Prayer:

Lord, we surrender everything to you, help us in our faith. We will take action and obey. Grant us peace while waiting. Soon these testings will stop. It is strengthening our faith and trust in you, Lord. In Jesus name, we can see all these mountain-sized problems gone!

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