

Parable of Servant's Duty  
Luke 17:5-10

Have you ever stated that you would like to have more faith? Lord increase my faith. Why can't I have that much faith? I wish I had enough faith to believe something great could happen.

The disciples 2000 years ago were no different than us today except they had the privilege of being with Jesus in human form.

Read v5-10

Have faith and you can do anything. If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can cause great and wonderful things to happen. People will be healed. Lives will be changed.

But what is faith and where does it come from?

Faith – Greek (*conviction of the truth of anything, belief; in the NT of a conviction or belief respecting man's relationship to God and divine things, generally with the included idea of trust and holy fervour born of faith and joined with it*)

If I have enough faith, I can do almost anything? No, you can do nothing on your own power and will.

Faith is not what you can do at all. It is what God can do when we place our complete trust in Him to do what needs to be done to bring glory, praise, honor, and attention to the kingdom work.

The disciples had seen Jesus do great miracles; the disciples had preformed miracles while following Jesus and now they were asking to have more faith.

Do you and I ask for more faith? Do we desire to trust God more with our life?  
Do we want to see great things happen in our life and other's lives?  
Or are we satisfied with what we are and what we have? Are we content to go through the rest of our life like we have been?

The disciples wanted more. They were not content with where they were in their faith.

However, with increased faith comes the temptation to think you are doing great and mighty things. We begin to believe it is our power that accomplishes these things and then we are in danger.

Jesus continued His thought with a parable of a servant doing his duty.

Here is a modern day version: *You are hired to work for a man. You will live on the man's property and eat his food. You go to work during the day and come in tired and worn out. You are ready for supper. However, there is nothing prepared when you get in. The employer instead is waiting for you to fix the meal and clean the house. Matter-of-fact he doesn't even thank you for doing such a great job at work.*

The question we should consider is, "should we expect to be praised for doing what is required of us?" The problem is that when we get praised we tend to get the big head and boast about what we have done.

Jesus tells this parable as a warning. When we trust God, He will increase our faith.

We will see marvelous things happen. At the same time we need to be careful because we could start believing we did it. We might begin boasting about it. Our duty to God is to follow Him, to trust Him, to direct people to Him, to believe Him, and bring attention to Him not ourselves.

It is not our power that accomplishes things; it is God's power. We must remain humble as we serve our Heavenly Father in our world around us. We must keep pointing people to God.

I think the reason many don't seem to have the faith they desire is because they expect God to do things the way they want. Then when it doesn't happen the way they asked, they begin to doubt God's power. But it has nothing to do with God's ability. It has to do with our wants and wishes versus God's plan and direction.

What is the status of your faith?