

Ye of little faith

A. Luke 17:5-6 *And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith. And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.*

- a) After Jesus had shared powerful truths about forgiveness, Peter responded by asking for more faith.
 - i) Did Jesus increase his faith? Of course not! He rather reassured them that they had faith that was sufficient enough to see such and greater miracles.

B. Matthew 6:29-30 *And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. [30] Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?*

Matthew 8:26 *And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.*

- a) Many people read passages like these and conclude that the disciples needed big faith or more faith but that is not the case. We do not need more faith, but rather less unbelief. The faith as little as the size of a mustard seed is sufficient if not countered by unbelief.
- b) This was not a criticism of how small the faith of the people was. Jesus had mentioned that the faith as small as a mustard seed was what people needed to receive from God. Why would Jesus then turn around to condemn the little faith?
- c) Jesus acknowledged that they indeed were of little faith meaning they had faith, but the issue was they not only had their little faith, but that they doubted or were fearful.

d) This was where the issue was, not the smallness or littleness of their faith.

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