

**Whose Unbelief Is It That Needs Help?
Mark 9:14-29 (page 701)**

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The Disciples are confronted with the:

Reality of Human I n s u f f i c i e n c y (vs 14-18)

The i n a b i l i t y of the disciple to cast out the demon resulted in:

- The d i s p u t e with the scribes. (v 14)
- The r e a c t i o n of the crowds to Jesus. (v 15)
- The d e s p a r a t i o n of the father of the possessed boy. (v 17-18)

Need for Personal D e p e n d e n c y (vs 19-27)

Jesus identifies the p r o b l e m – lack of f a i t h in God. (v 19a)

The inability of the disciples' to help had a f f e c t e d the father's faith in the a b i l i t y of their Master to address the situation. (v 20-22)

Jesus c h a l l e n g e s the father to *believe*. (v 23)

The father expresses his faith in Jesus, i m p e r f e c t as it was. (v 24)

The boy's deliverance is obtained by the authoritative w o r d of Jesus. (v 25)

The event p r e v i e w s the necessity of Jesus' own death and resurrection in order to d e s t r o y Satan's power.

Necessity of Divine C o m m u n i o n (vs 28-29)

Prayer is the avenue to f a i t h. (1 John 5:14-15)

An attitude of prayer keeps us in c o m m u n i o n and r e l i a n c e upon God and *His* ability rather than trusting in our own. (1 Thess 5:17-18)

Lessons to learn...

We must remember that:

Ministry takes place in the l o w l a n d s, not on the m o u n t a i n t o p.

The power to change people and circumstances is in G o d, not