



We Should Have Improbable Faith

Scripture: Mark 5:21-6:6

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What is faith?

- **Hebrews 11:1**, *Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.*
- **Hebrews 11:6**, *And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*
- **Martin Luther**, "This is true faith, a living confidence in the goodness of God."
- **Romans 10:17**, *Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.*

We can trust Jesus through every obstacle because it's not the greatness of our faith that overcomes our trials, but the greatness of our Savior.

Mark 5:21-34, ...22 one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. 23 He pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." 24 So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him. 25 And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. 26 She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. 27 When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28 because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." 29 Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. 30 At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" 31 "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'" 32 But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. 33 Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. 34 He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

Do we have faith for IMPROBABLE situations?

#1 Have faith no matter your position

#2 Have faith in all levels of desperation

#3 Have faith that perseveres after years of disappointment

#4 Have faith beyond all your resources

#5 Have faith that reaches for Jesus

#6 Have faith to receive whatever grace God gives

Corrie Ten Boom, "Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God."

Martin Luther, "Use medicine; take potions which can help you..." He later warned that refusing medicine God has provided is "not trusting God but tempting Him."

Mark 5:35-43, 35 While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?" 36 Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe." 37 He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. 38 When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. 39 He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." 40 But they laughed at him. After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. 41 He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha koum!" (which means "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"). 42 Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. 43 He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Do we have faith for IMPOSSIBLE situations?

#7 Have faith despite worsening circumstances

#8 Have faith over fearful voices

#9 Have faith that ignores doubters & mockers

#10 Have faith because Christ's power has no limits

A.W. Tozer, "Anything God has ever done, He can do now."

Mark 6:1-6, 1 Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. 2 When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. "Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?" 3 Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. 4 Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home." 5 He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. 6 He was amazed at their lack of faith. Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.

Do we have faith AT ALL?

- **Unbelief can flow from familiarity**
- **Unbelief forfeits blessing**
- **Unbelief cannot stop God's mercy**
- **Unbelief amazes Jesus**

What about when I have faith & the worst thing happens!

- **Hebrews 11:39-40**, *These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.*
- **Hebrews 12:1-2**, *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*
- **Romans 8:18**, *I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.*
- If our suffering drives us closer to God than we were before, then it was not in vain!
- Remember, even a weak faith laying hold of a strong Christ is enough! We can trust Jesus through every obstacle because it's not the greatness of our faith that overcomes our trials, but the greatness of our Savior.

If you need prayer today for a struggle of yours, would you please come forward and talk with our prayer team after service?



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