

Devotion: Mustard Seed Faith

Theme Scripture: *Matthew 17:20* – “...If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”

1. Opening

- Begin with a short prayer asking God to open hearts to His Word.
- Hold up a mustard seed (or show a picture). Point out how tiny it is—yet Jesus used it to teach us about faith.

Ask: *“Have you ever felt like your faith was too small? Jesus says even a little faith in a great God can do mighty things.”*

2. Scripture Exploration

(a) Faith starts small but grows

- **Matthew 17:20** – “...If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”
- Jesus shows us that even the tiniest faith has great potential when placed in Him.
- Emphasize: It’s not the size of our faith, but the size of our God.

But our faith, though small as a mustard seed, when tested and proven, can grow into the mightiest of faiths because it grows through time spent in study, prayer, and tribulation

Matthew 13:31-32 – Another parable He put forth to them, saying: The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches.

Faith always starts small and when you see the results of a little faith, it begins to grow into a great faith.

Luke 17:5-6 - The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.”

Jesus even compares the kingdom of God to a small mustard seed:

Luke 13:18-19 - Then Jesus asked, “What is the kingdom of God like? What shall I compare it to? ¹⁹ It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his garden. It grew and became a tree, and the birds perched in its branches.”

(c) Faith comes by hearing and studying God’s Word

- **Romans 10:17** – “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”
- Point: The more we soak in Scripture, the more our faith strengthens. Like watering a seed, God’s Word makes it grow.

(d) Faith pleases God and brings reward

- **Hebrews 11:6** – “But without faith it is impossible to please God, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”
- Faith connects us to God’s power and promises. When we trust Him, even in small ways, He honors it.

3. Life Application

- **Mountains in our lives:** Fear, doubt, illness, financial struggles, broken relationships.
- Challenge: What “mountain” are you facing today? What would happen if you applied mustard seed faith to it?

Illustration:

Think of a child jumping into a parent’s arms. The child doesn’t calculate whether the parent can catch them—they just trust. That’s what faith looks like, even when it’s small.

Practical Steps to Grow Faith:

1. **Pray with expectation** – even simple prayers.
2. **Read and speak God’s Word daily** – let it shape your outlook.
3. **Remember past victories** – recall what God has already done.
4. **Encourage others** – faith grows when shared.

4. Closing

- Re-read **Matthew 17:20** aloud together.
- Encourage: “Don’t be discouraged if your faith feels small. A little faith in a powerful God can move mountains in your life.”
- Close with a prayer asking God to strengthen each person’s faith and help them trust Him in their daily walk.