



Quiet Time #4 Do you Believe I Am Able?

Scripture: Matthew 9:27-30; Mark 9:14-29

Summary & Lessons:

Our God is an all-powerful God! His desire is that the entire world would hear the gospel and that everyone should come to repentance. And yet God has left the task in our hands. The crucial question is: "Do you believe I am able?" Do we, as Jesus' disciples today, genuinely believe in God's power? Do we truly have faith?

The blind man's faith drove him to Jesus, to be persistent in pursuing Him. Truly believing in Jesus' power will drive us to Him! Jesus wanted to heal the blind men and yet he first asked if they truly believed. God desires to bless us as well, and yet calls us first to believe. It is so easy as humans to want the blessings, not receive them, and then blame God that he has forsaken us. The real issue is that we did not truly believe he could and would bless us. In our lives, just like the blind men, it is according to our faith (not our actions, words, etc.) that it will be done.

In Mark 9, the father faced hurdles he had to overcome in his faith. First, the disciples were unable to heal his son. Secondly, in Jesus asking how long the boy had been like this, the father was reminded of how impossible the task seemed. Jesus knew how long the boy had been suffering, but with his question tested the man's faith. We must face and overcome our hurdles with a faith focused on the power of Jesus, and not the size of the obstacle. You can overcome any obstacle of Satan, you can change anything you desire if God is your strength, just believe HE'S ABLE.

Personal Application:

1. Like the blind men, our faith is often tested and revealed by the effort we do or don't put forth in gaining God's blessing. How have I shown true faith in my persistence and determination in seeking Jesus and His will? What can I do to be more like the blind men?
2. What hurdles has Satan placed before me to extinguish my faith? How am I dealing with them?
3. In the goals I have set personally, along with those of the church, do I truly believe that He is able? Have I renounced doubt, and am I convinced of victory?

Take it to God:

1. Pray that you can keep your focus on Jesus' power, trusting that He is able.
2. Pray passionately for God's blessings and then act on it. Be persistent and desperate—confess your faith to God so that according to it He will answer you.
3. Thank God for His power.