

Mark 9:23-24

Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"

I think one thing we as Christians fear the most is being honest with God, because we think if God really knew the things about us that we know, that He would have nothing to do with us. But that's the furthest thing from the truth, because the psalmist says:

† **Psalm 139:2** *You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off.*

The truth is that God's knows you better than you know yourself. He knows those deep dark hidden things that you don't even know about or have forgotten about or choose not to remember. Yet because we feel that way, we are afraid to be honest with God, so we sugar coat our prayers and refuse to be honest with Him. Sometimes the only times we are honest with God is when we are in desperate need or want.

Think of today's devotional verses where a dad has brought his child to the disciples and wanted a demon cast out of his son. Now talk about desperate, who wouldn't be desperate if their child was demon possessed.

† **Mark 9:17-18** *Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not."*

Before we go further in today's devotional, one side note which is; when you read this description of what is happening to this little boy, does it sound familiar? Does it possible sound like one of your favorite tv shows (maybe The Walking Dead) or movies? Something to think about next time you watch it. What you call entertainment, this dad saw as hell literally taking over his son. Would it be entertaining to see your own child go through this? Something to think about.

Anyway, this dad brings his son to Jesus, and Jesus says to him: ***"If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."*** And the man's reply is so encouraging to me: ***"Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"*** Pure honesty to the Lord. No excuses as to why he doesn't believe or possibly doesn't believe enough. All he knew is he wanted his son to be healed of this demon, and he was honest because he wasn't sure if he fit up to what Jesus had said: ***all things are possible to him who believes.***

So, what was Jesus' response to the dad? You idiot, what do you mean you don't believe, get out of here and come back when you really believe.

No, that wasn't it, instead Jesus said, *"Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!"*

† **Mark 9:25** *When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!"*

Are you afraid that the Lord won't answer your prayer if you are honest with Him? What kind of a relationship is that where you can't trust someone enough to be honest with them? People dating will not always be honest with the person that they are dating, because they feel that if they are honest that the other person won't like them or want to be with them anymore. If that's the case, you don't want to be with that person anyway, because we all have stuff we are not proud of, so you should be able to be honest with someone you are dating, especially if you are considering marrying that person.

We are the bride of Christ, and as His bride, we need to be honest with our Bridegroom. Or do you not trust that Lord that much? Do you trust your best friend or your spouse with those deep dark secrets, yet you don't trust the Lord with every part of your being ... that He already knows about?

† **Isaiah 2:22 (NLT)** *Don't put your trust in mere humans. They are as frail as breath. What good are they?*

Man, and woman will fail you, but the LORD never will!!!

My trust is in the Lord, because He knows everything about me, and honestly, we have had some heated conversations. Okay, I was the one speaking heatedly. But God allowed me to be honest with Him, and I am still alive and He didn't crush me or chastise me. No, He waited patiently for me to blow off some steam, then you know what He did? He loved me and comforted me, letting me know that everything is going to be okay, because He is God, and I'm not!

So be honest with God. Why? Because He is GOD!!!
He knows everything about you and He loves you anyway.

† **Psalms 4:5** *Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, And put your trust in the LORD.*

