



Today, we're continuing our study of the book of Mark. We've named the series "Unreasonable God" because God has done the unreasonable by going above and beyond in giving us Jesus. Furthermore, God calls us to unreasonable obedience as we follow Him. Throughout the book of Mark, we see this God doing amazing - unreasonable things. Today's story is no different. In Mark 9, we encounter unreasonable warfare through a dramatic scene in which Jesus heals a boy possessed by a powerful unclean spirit, demonstrating His compassion and authority. In these verses, we see the struggles of faith experienced by the boy's father, the disciples, and the crowd gathered to witness this miracle. Jesus' interaction with the father, who cries out, "I believe; help my unbelief," reveals the struggle of genuine faith when facing difficult situations.

Key Passage: Mark 9:14-29

Discussion Questions:

1. What lessons do we learn from this passage regarding demons?
2. What stands out about the disciples' inability to cast out the unclean spirit? Compare and contrast Mark 9:28 with Mark 6:7-13.
3. How does the father's statement, "I believe; help my unbelief!" reflect the complexities of faith? How have you found yourself experiencing a similar kind of inner wrestling?
4. Why does Jesus emphasize that "this kind can come out only by prayer" (verse 29)? What does this teach about spiritual authority?
5. What does this passage reveal about Jesus' compassion for our suffering? How does this encourage us?
6. In what ways does this story encourage us to persist in prayer, especially in difficult situations?
7. What does this passage teach about the intersection of human weakness and divine power?
8. What about this study has challenged you most? What's your biggest takeaway?