

Increase Our Faith

Luke 17:1-10

A Lesson in Forgiveness

Luke 17:1-4

- The innocent must be willing to forgive the guilty party (verse 3)
- As often as your brother asks, forgiveness must be extended (verse 4)
- No finite number placed on forgiveness (verse 4)

The Request

- This resonates with the apostles
- They respond with a request, "Increase our faith" (verse 5)
- Why does this prompt the request from the apostles?

Something Required

A willingness to ...

- Forgive (2 Timothy 4:16)
- Be patient (Luke 17:4; Romans 12:12)
- Put others' needs above your own (Romans 12:20-21)
- Deny ego

Faith as a Mustard Seed

Luke 17:6

- Seed is about 1-2 millimeters in size



A Mustard Seed

Luke 17:6

- With faith as a mustard seed one may move a sycamine tree
- Not a promise of miracles
- A little bit of the right stuff has powerful potential

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

Matthew 13:31-32; Luke 13:18-19

- Grew into a tree (Matthew 13:32)



The Parable of the Mustard Seed

- Conclusion? Something small became something great
- The potential of faith is great if it germinates

A Servant's Duties

Luke 17:7-9

- Does his master let him eat, or must he complete his tasks first? (verse 7)
- "... serve me" (verse 8)
- Does he thank his servant? (verse 9)
- No
- Why? Because he did his duty

Unprofitable Servants

Luke 17:10

- When we have obeyed the commandments and say, "we are unprofitable servants," we have done our duty
- We will never be worthy in an absolute sense

Lessons Learned

Faith as a mustard seed

- Faith is the beginning – Hebrews 11:1, 6
- Faith must be cultivated – 2 Peter 1:5-8
- God will work in our lives – 1 John 5:13-15
- Must not doubt – James 1:5-8

Lessons Learned

Many Biblical Examples

- Moses – A rod (Exodus 4:1-5, 17; 10:12ff)
- Sampson – A bone (Judges 15:15)
- Widow – Two mites (Mark 12:41ff)

Do we have faith as a mustard seed?

	Lessons Learned
	<p>We must be doing our duty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Continue steadfastly – Acts 2:41-42 ■ Attend worship – Hebrews 10:24-25 ■ Study – Acts 17:11; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:16-17 ■ Visit fatherless and widows – James 1:27

	Lessons Learned
	<p>We must be doing our duty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Always look for opportunity – Titus 2:14; 3:8, 14 ■ Always abounding – 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

	Conclusion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do we have faith as a mustard seed? ■ Are we doing our duty?