

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for September 14, 1986**

**Oh, Ye of Little Faith**  
**Matthew 17:14-21**  
**Dale Whitehead**

Introduction: God's promises

He promises many things. Wisdom, "seek first the kingdom and these things will be added unto you." If we do not continue in prayer for what God has promised we have a faith problem.

The disciples experienced this faith problem.

1. The father pleads for his son. **Verses 14-15**

**Mark 9** tells us that the son is mute and possessed by a spirit that throws him into seizures.

2. In **Matthew 10** the disciples had been given authority over unclean spirits. So now why do they fail?

3. **Verse 17**, "O you unbelieving and perverted generation, how long shall I put up with you."

We see that Jesus is grieved by the failure of the disciples. They are not honoring the promises of God! How about God's promises to us? When we do not honor God's promises we grieve Him just as the disciples did.

4. **Verse 19**, The disciples ask why they could not cast out the demon.

This is the 5th time in Matthew that Jesus has said to them, "O men of little faith."

If the disciples had had even a little faith they could have cast out the demon.

Littleness of faith is not faith. This no faith happens in hard times in difficult circumstances.

5. **Verse 21**, “But this kind of faith does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”  
Talking about persevering in prayer during hard times.