



The Gospel of Mark – Amazing Unbelief Pastor Dave Patterson 06.16.2024

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Mark 6:1]

Jesus left there and came to His hometown [Nazareth], and His disciples followed Him.

[Mark 6:2-6]

When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. "Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given to him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Jesus said to them, "**A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home.**" He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. And He was amazed at their unbelief.

Amazed/Marveled: thaumazō - thou-mad'-zo): To be surprised by, shocked and filled with wonder, to stand amazed

[Philippians 2:6-9]

Christ Jesus, though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. Therefore...

[Matthew 8:5-10]

When Jesus returned to Capernaum, a Roman officer (centurion) came and pleaded with him, "Lord, my young servant lies in bed, paralyzed and in terrible pain." Jesus said, "I will come and heal him." But the officer said, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come into my home. Just say the word from where you are, and my servant will be healed. I know this because I am under the authority of my superior officers, and I have authority over my soldiers. I only need to say, 'Go,' and they go, or 'Come,' and they come. And if I say to my servants, 'Do this,' they do it." When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. (thou-mad'-zo) Turning to those who were following him, he said, "I tell you the truth, I haven't seen faith like this in all Israel!"

Amazing Unbelief:

- 1. When the sacred becomes common, we shut the door to the miraculous.**
- 2. When we do not intentionally recognize who is among us, we shut the door to the miraculous.**
- 3. When we hold tightly to our preconceived ideas of how God will arrive, we shut the door to the miraculous.**

[Mark 6:6, AMP]

And they were [deeply] offended by Him [and their disapproval blinded them to the fact that He was anointed by God as the Messiah].

Amazing Faith:

- 1. Believes the "report" of what Jesus can do.**
- 2. Runs toward Jesus, convinced that He can change the situation.**

[Matthew, 8:5 AMP]

As Jesus went into Capernaum, a centurion came up to Him, begging Him [for help] ...

Amazing Faith:

3. Speaks the promises and proclaims God's ability.

[Matthew 8:8]

But the officer said, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come into my home. Just say the word from where you are, and my servant will be healed.

[2 Corinthians 4:13]

It is written: "I believed; therefore I have spoken." Since we have that same spirit of faith, we also believe and therefore speak...

Key Points:

Amazing Faith:

1. Believes the "report" of what Jesus can do.
2. Runs toward Jesus, convinced that He can change the situation.
3. Speaks the promises and proclaims God's ability.

Applications for the Week:

Ask God to reveal any areas in your life where you have become too familiar with the sacred, leading to a lack of reverence and expectation. Pray this prayer, **Lord, help me to see You with fresh eyes every day. Remove any complacency or familiarity that hinders my faith. Restore my awe and wonder of Your presence and works.**

Discussion Questions

1. Reflect on a time when you may have taken the sacred for granted. How did this affect your faith and expectation for God's work in your life?
2. How did the Roman centurion in Matthew 8:5-13 demonstrate his faith in Jesus' authority?
3. What does the reaction of the people of Nazareth in Mark 6:1-6 reveal about the dangers of familiarity with the sacred?
4. Reflect on a time when you may have taken the sacred for granted. How did this affect your faith and expectation for God's work in your life?
5. The centurion believed Jesus could heal his servant with just a word. How can you cultivate a similar level of faith in Jesus' power and authority in your own life?
6. What preconceived notions about how God should act might be hindering your faith? How can you remain open to God's ways, even when they don't align with your expectations? How can you actively create an atmosphere of faith in your home or church? What specific actions or words can you use to invite the supernatural into your environment?
7. Think of a situation in your life where you need to declare God's promises. What specific scriptures can you speak over this situation to build your faith and change the atmosphere?
8. How can you intentionally recognize and confess Jesus' presence and authority in your daily life? What practical steps can you take to make this a regular part of your worship and routine?
9. Consider the importance of worship and expectation in creating an atmosphere of faith. How can you contribute to this atmosphere in your church community? What changes can you make in your personal worship to enhance this?

10. Share your journey of faith with your small group. Encourage each other to recognize Jesus' presence and to create an atmosphere of faith in your homes and church.