



JUST JESUS: A Journey Through Mark **PART 33 - 9:20-29**

When Obedience Shakes Things Up

READ: Mark 9:20–21; Ephesians 6:10–13

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) In Mark 9:20, the boy is thrown into a violent convulsion the moment he's brought to Jesus. Have you ever experienced things seeming to get "worse" right after you started praying, obeying, or coming back to church? What happened?
- 2) Pastor G said, "It's not getting worse. It's getting revealed." What do you think that means in the context of spiritual warfare and Ephesians 6:10–13?
- 3) Jesus remains calm and asks a question in verse 21 instead of reacting to the chaos. What does His calmness teach you about how He views your most chaotic moments?
- 4) If Jesus asked you right now, "How long has this been happening?" about some struggle in your life, what story would you tell Him? What might change if you told that story honestly in His presence this week?

Half Faith, Half Fear

READ: Mark 9:22–24; Psalm 13:1–6

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) The father says, "If You can do anything..." (v.22). Where do you hear an "If You can..." tone in your own prayers today? What usually drives that — disappointment, exhaustion, fear?
- 2) Pastor G said, "The opposite of faith isn't doubt, it's refusal." What do you think that means for someone who loves Jesus but still struggles with questions or fears, like David in Psalm 13?
- 3) "I do believe; help my unbelief" (v.24) is one of the most honest prayers in Scripture. In what area of your life could you sincerely pray that right now?
- 4) The Greek word for "help" carries the idea of "running to the cry." How does that picture of Jesus as a "first responder" to your wavering faith encourage you—or challenge how you usually think God responds to your struggles?

But Jesus ... From Destruction to Deliverance

READ: Mark 9:25–27; Ephesians 2:1–6

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) In Mark 9:25, Jesus protects the boy from becoming a public spectacle by acting before the crowd turns it into a show. What does that tell you about His heart toward people who are suffering publicly today?
- 2) Pastor G said, "Every resurrection story begins that way: 'But Jesus.'" What do you think that means when you compare Mark 9:27 with Ephesians 2:4–6?
- 3) The demon leaves with one last violent convulsion, and the boy looks "as if dead." Have you ever had a situation where it looked like faith made things worse before it got better? How did God meet you there—or how do you wish He would?
- 4) Jesus takes the boy by the hand and raises him up. Where in your life do you feel "as if dead" right now—emotionally, spiritually, relationally—and what would it look like to let Jesus "take you by the hand" in that area this week?

This Kind Only By Prayer

READ: Mark 9:28–29; John 15:4–7

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) The disciples ask privately, "Why could we not drive it out?" (v.28). Have you ever felt that way in ministry, parenting, marriage, or work—"Why isn't this working anymore?" How did you respond?
- 2) Pastor G said, "Spiritual power is never a possession; it's always a partnership." What do you think that means in light of Jesus' words in Mark 9:29 and John 15:4-7?
- 3) Jesus says, "This kind cannot come out by anything but prayer." What might "this kind" be in your life right now—something stubborn, long-term, or spiritually heavy that won't move by effort alone?
- 4) If prayer is more than a line we say and more like "the atmosphere we breathe as we walk," what is one practical change you could make this week to live more prayerfully—so that you're not just using Jesus' words, but actually abiding in Jesus' presence?