

O FAITHLESS GENERATION

Mark 9:14-20

O FAITHLESS GENERATION

- Our story happens on the heels of Jesus's transfiguration.
- As he, Peter, James, and John are descending the mountain, they see a great crowd and observe a commotion.
- Apparently, a big argument had erupted between the scribes and the disciples over the disciples inability to heal a boy with an unclean spirit.

O FAITHLESS GENERATION

- This story is also told in Matt. 17:14-21 and Luke 9:37-43 with a few additional nuances, but by far the most detailed account of this event is found in Mark.
- Let's read Mark 9 for the full story.
- With whom do you think Jesus was frustrated when he uttered the statement, "O faithless generation...?"

O FAITHLESS GENERATION

- Could it be that this statement targeted a variety of people?
- Today, let's look at inadequate faith levels as demonstrated in this story.
- Hopefully, this will inspire us to grow our faith in Jesus Christ so that we will not be unfruitful, ineffective, or disappointing.

O FAITHLESS GENERATION

- *Our story demonstrates those who have.....*

NO FAITH

- The scribes represent these type of people.
- The inability of the disciples to heal the boy, gave them the ammunition that they needed to argue against Jesus and his crusade.
- The scribes and Pharisees were good at this- Matt. 23:13.

O FAITHLESS GENERATION

- *Our story demonstrates those who have.....*

NO FAITH

- There will always be those who do their best to drive people away from the light of the gospel and Jesus (Jn. 9) and rob them of the blessings that come with being people of faith.
- Let's not also contribute to helping them make their case through our lack of faith in Christ.

O FAITHLESS GENERATION

- *Our story demonstrates those who have.....*

SOME FAITH

- As illustrated by the father of the demon possessed boy. Look at what Jesus says in verse 23 to the man.
- He had some faith or else he would not have brought the boy out in search of Jesus in the first place.
- How many of us have some faith but are not totally convinced?

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- *Our story demonstrates those who have.....*

LITTLE FAITH

- This kind of faith characterized the disciples.- Matt. 17:20
- The ineffectiveness due to their “little faith” set a poor example for those in search of Jesus.
- If we only have a little faith then we are not going to be helpful to those in need of spiritual healing.

O FAITHLESS GENERATION

- In each of the previous examples, the level of faith proved insufficient to procure any good result.
- In fact, nothing good can truly be accomplished when any generation demonstrates these levels of faith.
- We must have a strong faith.
 - John 8:24
 - James 1:5-7; 5:15
 - James 1 & 2- Faith defined by trust and obedience.