

Are You Ready?

Mark 9:14-29

1. Jesus wants to be close to people who are far from God. When Jesus saw the scribes and disciples arguing while the boy suffered from the evil spirit, he replied, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." (Mark 9:19)
 - a. *Where do you see a lack of faith around us?*
 - b. *What part of your faith do you struggle with?*
2. Jesus wants to help us in our unbelief. In response to the father's request "If you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us," Jesus replied, "If you can! All things are possible for the one who believes." (Mark 9:22-23)
 - a. *Are there areas of your life where you've set limits on the power of God?*
 - b. *How will you rely on Jesus to help your unbelief?*
3. Jesus wants us to depend on him. The disciples asked Jesus privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And Jesus replied, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer." (Mark 9:28-29)
 - a. *Where have you been complacent in your closeness to God?*
 - b. *Like the fisherman who "knows the ice", what steps will you take to know God more this week?*