

# Increase Our Faith

(Luke 17:5-6)

- Introduction:
1. Have you ever wanted a greater faith?
  2. Have you ever compared your faith to another's and felt inadequate?
  3. If so, you can understand this request by the apostles.
  4. Let's examine this request and the Lord's response.

## I. The Apostles' Request: Increase Our Faith

- A. (Luke 17:5)
- B. Why did the apostles make this request at this time?
1. Consider the context for the answer (Luke 17:3-4).
  2. The apostles want their faith increased to accomplish this extremely difficult task.
- C. This is a noble request.
1. Too often, people are not even concerned about increasing their faith.
  2. They are stagnant and haven't grown significantly since their conversion.
  3. They look just like they did in "good works, service, love, etc" as they did the day they were saved.
  4. Have we been growing more prayerful, benevolent, sacrificial, involved, more service oriented, forgiving, or holy?
- D. They are to be commended by turned to Jesus and making this request.
1. Faith is increased by hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17).
  2. If we want to increase our faith, we must open the Bible and listen to and learn from Jesus.

## II. The Lord's Response: Faith Is Powerful

- A. Notice that Jesus didn't give them specific steps to increase their faith, instead he told them how powerful faith can be.
- B. While it is not recorded for us whether Jesus gave them a specific or direct answer to their question, he does make it clear to them they are on the right track, and that they are absolutely right in wanting to increase their faith because of the power of faith.
- C. Consider the power of faith and what it can accomplish.
1. In conversion (Paul - Acts 7:58; Acts 8:1; Acts 9:1; 1 Tim. 1:13).
  2. In sacrifice (2 Corinthians 8:1-4)
  3. In purity and holiness (Hebrews 13:4).
  4. Forgiveness (Acts 21:8-10).
  5. Compassion (Matthew 25:31-46).

- Conclusion:
1. May we, like our first century brothers, seek to increase our faith.
  2. If we do this, we will find our lives transformed, doing things that others, and maybe we ourselves, would have at one time thought impossible.