

Prayer: the soul's dependence upon God. It is weakness leaning on Almightyness!

Much self love, self esteem, self confidence and self seeking remain in the saved person's heart. From all of this **self**, our Father seeks to wean us. (Octavius Winslow)

- This passage shows the essence of **discipleship**: great faith in a great God shown in believing prayer!

THESIS — THIS TEXT SHOWS US THE IMPORTANCE OF GREAT FAITH IN A GREAT GOD!

I. THE SCARY SITUATION! (14-27)

A. Demonism (14-18)

B. Disbelief (19-24)

C. Deliverance (25-27)

we need MIGHTY faith in a MIGHTY God.

II. THE SINGULAR SOLUTION! (28-29)

What the Church needs today is not more or better machinery, not new organizations or more and novel methods — but men mighty in prayer. — EM BOUNDS

Mark 9:14-29 — “Dangerous Ministry Demands Believing Prayer”

“They had failed to maintain their continued sense of dependence upon God’s power through continued communion with Him. Having known the power to cast out demons, they had taken it for granted. ... This demon’s stubborn refusal to obey their command resulted from their failure to resort to prayer for God’s power to overcome the demon.” — D. Edmond Hiebert

What is lacking? Why can’t the disciples cast out the demon?

1. **Faith** (Matt 17.19-20) — “Faith is NOT an aimless act of the soul, but a looking to God and a resting upon His promises.” (EM Bounds).
2. **Prayer** (& fasting?) (Mark 9.29)
We must pray with: desperation, faith, priority, importunity, and even fasting.

- In his autobiography, George Mueller provides some helpful guidelines to help believers build their faith -- a strong, mighty, believing, praying faith:
 - 1) Carefully read the Word & meditate on it.
 - 2) Diligently maintain an upright heart & a good conscience & forsake all known sin.
 - 3) Courageously go where your faith will be stretched. Don’t shrink from hardships.
 - 4) Patiently pray & actively wait for God to bring deliverance in hardships. Present moments are yours to serve the Lord -- for tomorrow may never come. Life is worth as much as it is spent for the Lord’s service.

Let us pray: “O God, let me not live in my strength today” [JC Ryle]

MY HOPE IS IN THE LORD

My hope is in the Lord
Who gave Himself for me
And paid the price
Of all my sin at Calvary.

*For me He died; For me He lives,
And everlasting life
And light He freely gives.*

No merit of my own
His anger to suppress
My only hope is found
In Jesus' righteousness

And now for me He stands
Before the Father's throne
He shows His wounded hands
And names me as His own

His grace has planned it all
'Tis mine but to believe
And recognize His work of love
And Christ receive!

WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful

who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

MY JESUS I LOVE THEE

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
my gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;

I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

PRAYER MEETING GUIDE:*The Mission of CFBC:*

We exist to glorify God by:

- preaching the Word,
 - evangelizing the lost,
 - discipling the saved, and
 - obeying Jesus Christ,
- all by the power of the Spirit.

The Vision of CFBC:

Our vision is to be a disciple-making Church.

The Pillars of CFBC:

1. An all-encompassing passion for the glory of God.
2. The expository preaching of the Word of God.
3. The zealous pursuit of consistent holiness of life.
4. The continuous evangelizing of the local community.
5. The global commitment to proclaim the gospel to the nations.

We may leave the passage with comfortable feelings. Greater is He that is for us than all they that are against us. Satan is strong, busy, active, malicious. But Jesus is able to save to the uttermost all that come unto God by Him—from the devil, as well as from sin—from the devil, as well as from the world. Let us possess our souls in patience. Jesus still lives, and will not let Satan pluck us out of His hand. Jesus still lives, and will soon come again to deliver us entirely from the fiery darts of the wicked one. The great chain is prepared. (Revelation 20:1.) Satan shall one day be bound. The God of peace shall bruise Satan under our feet shortly." (Romans 16:20.) — JC Ryle