

Power Outage: When Your Faith Fizzles Out

Mark 9:14-29

March 17, 2019

In Mark 9, Jesus teaches His followers what causes our faith to fizzle out and how we can avoid a power outage...

Sometimes, a follower's faith _____ (vs. 14-20a)

Jesus challenges the skeptic to _____ (vs. 20b-23)

Believers experience Jesus' _____ (vs. 24-27)

Faith is demonstrated through _____ (vs. 28-29)

Are you putting your faith in your own strength or the power of Jesus today?

Thoughts for discussion...

Do you remember the first time you believed in Jesus? What was your experience of faith like?

Why did Jesus call His listeners an "unbelieving generation?"

Have you ever felt like the possessed boy's father? You believe in Jesus, but your faith is fizzling out? What are the emotions, doubts and insecurities that come along with this feeling?

When you are in these seasons of doubt, how do you get back to trusting Jesus to work in your life?

Philippians 4:13 is a well-known "coffee mug" statement of trust that many recall in difficult seasons. When we read the verse in context, however, we realize it is not just an open-ended promise of strength for whatever task we seek to accomplish. Read verses 10-13 and discuss what this passage teaches about faith.

The Bible consistently addresses Satan's opposition and our dependence upon God through prayer. For example, Ephesians 6:10-20 is a popular passage that speaks to our need for maintaining a prayerful mindset. According to this passage, what are the ingredients of an effective prayer (consider also James 5:16)?

What specific things can your loved ones, your home group and your church family pray in faith that God's Spirit would bring about in your life?