



“Faith”

Pastor Jason Mayer / September 2, 2018

ICEBREAKER:

If you could have any vehicle for free, what is your 'dream' car/vehicle?

ENCOURAGEMENT:

(if your group is large, suggest breaking into smaller groups of 2-4 for this section)

Pastor Mayer's message was on spiritual breakthrough of faith. Think of something you worked on for a long time. What did it feel like when you finally completed it? Did you need the help of others to complete it? Take turns sharing.

SCRIPTURES:

Read Mark 9:14-18 - When Jesus came down from the mountain, He found:

- disputing scribes,
- a distracted father,
- a demon-possessed boy,
- and defeated disciples

What did Jesus do about the 2 individuals and the 2 groups?

Hint: He silenced the scribes, He comforted the father, He healed the boy, He instructed the disciples.

Read Mark 9:19-27 - Focus on the word "if" in verses 22, 23. What was the father unsure about?

What was the uncertainty Jesus referred to?

What areas of uncertainty have you experienced?

What areas of faith in your Christian walk have you experienced?

Pastor Jason quoted philosopher Michael Novak's 3 levels of belief:

- * public (what you say or post on social media) only show your best side in pictures.
- * private (what you think or believe - "It's good to be generous.")
- * personal (what you do, your actions)

As fallible humans, there are gaps between what we say vs. what we believe vs. what we do. Jesus provided us with examples of no gaps between public/private/personal levels of belief. What area is there a large gap in your life?

What area is there a small gap? (Meaning there is alignment or peace in that area of life).

PRAYER:

Driving is one area many of us have large gaps in what we say about how we should drive vs. what we believe about being a courteous driver vs. actions when someone cuts us off in traffic. Pastor Jason had his plain, older vehicle on the stage to point out that he is going to work on making the 'gap' between what he says vs. his beliefs and what he does get smaller in the area of not being an "angry driver". What better way to show the whole church what he drives so we can be on the alert to notice how h he now behaves as a driver?

Spend a few moments in prayer - What is your equivalent of a 2009 Hyundai Sonata (an area you would be more motivated to improve if people around you knew about a shortcoming between what you say/believe/do?).

Now begin the process of helping with your unbelief by sharing with someone else.

NEXT STEPS:

Pastor Jason challenged us to make some specific changes in our 3 levels of belief.

1. Post an unflattering picture of yourself on social media.
2. Change how we think and what we tell ourselves. Use a more humble attitude - we are not as good as we think we are. This does not mean to think negatively about ourselves, but to align our faith more closely with what Jesus taught.
3. Change your plans if necessary to attend the **September 15 simulcast from 9-11 am**. use this link to register: <https://www.sdrock.com/events/20152/>
- 4 TEXT "OPINION" to 52525 and fill out the short survey for Pastor Miles.

"The proof of Jesus' love is the cross. The proof of Jesus' power is the empty grave."

~Pastor Jason

NOTES:
