

## **SERMON**

**DATE: Sunday, March 16-17, 2019**

**SERIES TITLE: THE JOURNEY TO GOLGOTHA**

**SERMON TITLE: Prayer and Faith**

**SCRIPTURE: Mark 11:20-26**

[20] In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots.

[21] Peter remembered and said to Jesus, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!”

[22] “Have faith in God,” Jesus answered.

[23] “Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them.

[24] Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

[25] And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.”

[26] (*But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.*”)

**March 16-17, 2019**  
**Title: Prayer and Faith**

*What was Jesus teaching his disciples?*

**1. We are only limited by our prayerlessness.**

- *Mark 1:35* Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.
- Our mountains of difficulty are no match for the power of God.
- Prayer is not an emergency measure.
- Real prayer is a part of our constant communion with God.

**2. We are not invited to use magic but to become Heroes of Faith (*Hebrews 11*)**

- *Zechariah 4:7* “What are you, mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then he will bring out the capstone to shouts of ‘God bless it! God bless it!’”
- Have faith in God.
- Prayer is not to get man’s will to be done in heaven, but to get God’s will done on earth.

**3. Effective prayer has no limits, but it does have conditions.**

- Mountain moving faith and forgiving love go hand in hand.
- The culture for prayer is the forgiving spirit.

# Lagniappe

Last weekend I revealed my goal for Easter 2019.

My prayer and hope have been that by Easter weekend 2019 we will see many people consider their relationship with Christ and will respond to God's drawing them to Himself.

You may be one of those people who is considering such a proposal. What should you do?

Let me give you several suggestions.

Here are the things you can do.

Tell God that you want to know if He is real and if Jesus was raised from the dead. Put the responsibility on God's Spirit to make Himself known. All you need to do is to surrender to Him.

Begin reading the Gospel of John. John's Gospel is all about faith and belief. This will help you as you pray and consider opening yourself to Christ.

Read Lee Strobel's "The Case for Faith" or watch the movie. You can find both in the Connection Bookstore on our campus.

Talk with a friend, a pastor, or to me. Your believing friend is going to want you to have what he has, but your friend will be kind and gentle as you go through the process.

Finally, let the church know that you have trusted Christ. We want to rejoice with you and help you with the next step.