

PRAYER LESSON 206

Pray With Faith

Have you moved any mountains lately? In fact, have you received anything you have asked God for? Jesus said in Matthew 21:21-22, **"I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done. If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."** You don't actually believe Jesus, do you? Whatever you ask for you will receive, really?

I suspect that most of us experience few answers to prayer. Several years ago I participated in an interview with three pastors. One of the questions they were asked was if they had ever had a miraculous answer to a prayer. All three said they had not. I suggested that this was a problem. These were ordained men of God who had never received an answer to prayer that they could not explain by worldly reasoning and logic.

How do you explain this seeming contradiction. Jesus said it is a matter of faith. He says if you believe, you will receive. There is no hint of "maybe" or "possibly." He does not say you must maintain the correct posture, on your knees with hands folded and eyes closed. He simply says if you have faith, you really can move mountains. Do you believe that?

Jesus says that if you have faith and do not doubt, your prayers will be answered. Do you see where the problem might be. We tend to pray wimpy prayers with little conviction. We pray general prayers for God to bless someone or to care for someone. How would you even know if those prayers were answered. Actually, how would God know what you were asking for?

Here's a suggestion: Begin praying with great detail as to what you want God to do, be specific. Assume that God will answer, be disappointed if he does not. Check your faith often, do you really believe what Jesus said or don't you? If you do then pray like you do.