

JESUS HEALS A BOY POSSESSED BY A DEMON

MARK 9:14-29



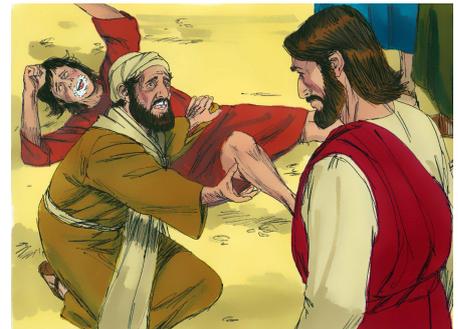
Parents Notes

Sunday 24th November, 2019

We are learning today: By faith and prayer we can ask God to heal

Summary

Mark 11: 24 "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours". That's a verse from Mark's gospel which explains why Jesus could drive out the boy's evil spirit in today's passage but the disciples could not. That's a bit weird isn't it. You've got to believe that something will happen before you can get it.



Has anyone believed they're going to get an amazing present at Christmas and then didn't get it? Of course we have! That's because we had no real reason to believe we were going to get that present. We were just **hoping** we would get it; we didn't have any real reason to believe it would be given to us. This was a bit like the disciples who were probably just hoping they could drive out the evil spirit but didn't believe enough in God's power to do it and so weren't able to do so.

But if we pray to God we can really believe he will answer our prayers because only he has the power to do so. It doesn't mean that he will always give us exactly what we want as he may have other plans that are better for us or he may want to wait a while before he gives it to us.

Prayer is an amazing thing – everyone can do it. It doesn't matter if you are in Reception or Year 5, whether you are a mum or a dad, a grandma or a granddad, we can all do it, whatever age we are. And we can pray at any time – when we're brushing our teeth, on the bus, at school, when we're playing sport or just quietly in our bedroom. God is always listening and loves to answer our prayers. And we will find that when we pray and really believe, amazing things will happen, even healings like in our story today.

Try at home

Discuss and pray: Do you pray enough? Do your prayers show that you really believe God can answer or are you just hoping he will?

How can you and your children pray together? Not just going through the motions but praying earnestly and believing God can answer our prayers.

Memory verse

'It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.' (Mark 2:17)

