Our Doubting Prayers

**Reading - Matthew 14:22-31**

**Remember the story of Numbers 13 & 14 where 10 spies’ report discouraged all of Israel?**

**the power of doubt**

Doubt is able to overcome .

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Doubt can replace what should have been confidence & trust with .

***(1 Peter 5:7) casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.***

**prayer and doubt**

***(Matthew 21:18-22) Now in the morning, as He returned to the city, He was hungry. {19} And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it but leaves, and said to it, "Let no fruit grow on you ever again." Immediately the fig tree withered away. {20} And when the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither away so soon?" {21} So Jesus answered and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done. {22} "And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."***

***(Mark 11:20-26) Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. {21} And Peter, remembering, said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away." {22} So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. {23} "For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. {24} "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them... {25} "And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. {26} "But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses."***

***(1 Timothy 2:8) I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;***

***(James 5:15-16) And the prayer of faith will save*** [not heal, there’s a big difference] ***the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.*** (not necessarily healed) ***{16} Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.*** (Remember to keep this in context) ***The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.***

***(2 Peter 3:9) The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is long-suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.***

***(James 1:5-8) If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. {6} But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. {7} For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; {8} he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.***

***(James 4:3) You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.***

***(Luke 11:11-13) "If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? {12} "Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? {13} "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"***