



unseen foe

What must we do to overcome?

1. To overcome we must remember that attacks will

_____. Luke 9:37-40

a. Keep your focus on _____, not your _____.

2. To overcome we must remember that attacks will

_____. Luke 9:41

a. Understand the _____ side of the

_____.

Take Home Truth

To _____ the enemy we must be _____ Christ.

Luke 9:42-44

Today's Core Belief:

Jesus Christ: I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin – that He suffered, was crucified and buried, but rose on the third day, after which He ascended into heaven where He sits at the Father's right hand.

(from Hebrews 1:3)



Deeper Connection Study

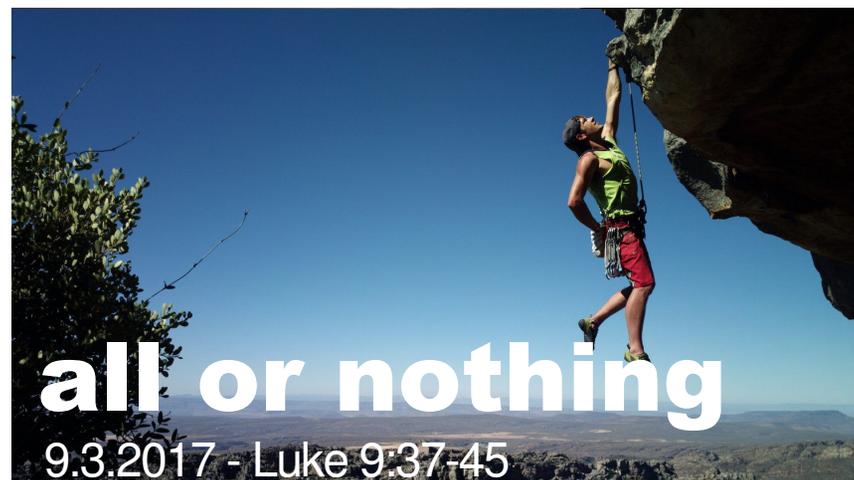
After having a mountain-top experience, Jesus gets back to the thick of ministry. He is confronted once again with an audience, including his own disciples, in need of faith. Don't be surprised by the emotion in Jesus' words as he seeks to point people to an essential element of God's kingdom work.

Today's Core Belief discussed: Jesus Christ.

Read Luke 9:37-45 [par. Matthew 17:14-19, 22-23; Mark 9:14-28, 30-32]

1. What is the situation that confronts Jesus after his retreat on the mountain (vv. 37-40)? Why is this scenario not your typical healing event?
2. What is the reason for Jesus' strong lament (v. 41)? What names does he call his audience and why is this significant (cf. Deut. 32:5; Phil. 2:15; Titus 1:15; Heb. 3:12)?
Why are the disciples powerless to act (vv. 19-21)? What does Jesus say to help them understand the fullness of what he expects (cf. Heb. 11:6; I Jn. 5:14-15)?
4. How does Mark describe this incident in a different way than Matthew and Luke (Mk. 9:14-32)? What does he include that the others do not?
5. What does Jesus say that grieves his disciples (vv. 44-45)? What element is added to this second prediction in Matthew's gospel (cf. Matt. 16:21; 17:23)?
6. What are some "mountains" you are facing? In light of Jesus' words, how can you exhibit a little faith?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Praise God for the love of Jesus and his invitation for us to follow him. Pray for a deeper understanding and exercise of faith in Christ. Ask God to help your faith grow as you encounter various situations.



When it comes to the devil and spiritual warfare, it seems that Christians are all over the map. Some believers appear to operate in oblivion and behave as if the devil is some type of fictional character that was crafted by Hollywood. While, on the other end of the spectrum, there are believers who treat the devil as if he were sovereign over all of life's affairs. What is the appropriate view, and even more relevant, what must we do to overcome the attacks of the enemy?

In this particular narrative Luke records the account of a boy who is possessed by a demon. The story informs us that, while Jesus and three of his disciples were up on the mountain, the boy's father brought him to the other nine disciples to be healed. Unfortunately after a failed attempt by the disciples the boy remained under the harmful power of the demon. When Jesus arrives he is informed of the circumstances and then proceeds to exercise his authority and rid the boy of his tormentor. This short account reveals to us the things we must do to avoid the spiritual failure of the disciples and remain victorious.

