

# Short Talk

(SHT004)

## Faith

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## SHORT TALK: “FAITH” (SHT004)

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| <b>Aim of Short talk:</b>   | To encourage people that it isn't how much faith they have, but who they put their faith in that counts.                       |
| <b>Main themes:</b>         | Faith  |
| <b>Biblical references:</b> | Matthew 17:20b   |
| <b>Props:</b>               | Bucket of large stones, (Around the side of the bucket is a sign that says, “BUCKET OF FAITH”) table for stones, mustard seed. |

I need three people to come and help me this morning.

- Please come and join me here.
- Imagine that this bucket of stones is a bucket of faith. (*Point at bucket of stones*)

N1, I want you to imagine that your friend has a headache.

- How much faith do you think you will need to pray that Jesus will heal your friend from that headache?
- Can you show me by taking some stones out of my “bucket of faith” and putting them on the table? (*Put stones in a pile on the table*)

Thank you....

- so this pile of stones is like the amount of faith we think we need to pray that someone will be healed from a headache.

N2, I want you to imagine that your two best friends have had a big fight and are not speaking to each other anymore.

- How much faith do you think you will need to pray that Jesus will help your two friends make up with each other?
- Can you show me by taking some stones out of my “bucket of faith” and putting them on the table? (*Put stones in a pile on the table*)

Thank you....

- so this pile of stones is like the amount of faith we think we need to pray that two people will be reconciled.....in other words be friends again.

N3, I want you to imagine that one of your neighbours is a drug addict....they have been on drugs for years and can't stop taking them.

- How much faith do you think you will need to pray that Jesus will set your neighbour free from their drug addiction?
- Can you show me by taking some stones out of my “bucket of faith” and putting them on the table? (*Put stones in a pile on the table*)

Thank you....

- so this pile of stones is like the amount of faith we think we need to pray that someone is set free from an addiction.

Listen to something that Jesus said:

- *“Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”* (Matthew 17:20b)

This is a mustard seed.....(show mustard seed)

- It's tiny isn't it?
- It's much smaller than the stones in my bucket.

Jesus was making the point that when we are faced with big problems,

- like illness, or friends falling out, or addictions,
- it is not how much faith **we** have that is important.

What is important is **who** we put our faith in.....

- and Jesus says that if we put our tiny little mustard seed of faith in our great and majestic God,
- nothing is impossible!

So let's get rid of our bucket and these stone piles of faith that we thought that we needed  
(put stones back in the bucket)

- and look at our three problems again.

N1, do you believe that Jesus has the power and the love to heal your friend from their headache?

- or do you think that when Jesus looks at your friend,
- he will shake his head and think that healing headaches is way too hard for him? (N1 answers)
- That's right.....Jesus has the power and the love to heal your friend.....He is the King of Kings and He is alive today.

N2, do you believe that Jesus is able to help your two friends make up again?

- or do you think that helping people to forgive each other is way too hard for Jesus? (N2 answers)
- That's right....Jesus is the one who is able to change people's hearts and enable people to forgive each other.

N3, do you believe that Jesus has the power to set your neighbour free from their drug addiction?

- or do you think that when Jesus looks at how powerful drugs are in people's lives,
- he turns and runs in the other direction as he knows he isn't powerful enough to set a person free from their influence? (N3 answers)
- That's right.....Jesus has the power to set your friend free from drugs.

So this week, when you are faced with different problems,

- look to Jesus with your mustard seed of faith,
- and dare to ask Him for his help.

You may not know what form that help will take,

- or when it will happen,
- but you can trust that He has the power and the love to change every situation.