

GET OUT THE WAY

In our own way, we each have told others to get out the way. We say this because someone or something is impeding us from getting where we need to go. When you are really passionate about your destination, you are forceful with the expression, "get out the way!" But if we are the ones in the way? Are we as passionate about getting past whatever the obstacle is?

Matthew 17:14-21; Mark 9:14-29

Jesus gave two reasons why the disciples could not cast the demon out of the boy. In Matthew, He said they did not have enough faith, while in Mark, He said that the demon could come out only by prayer and fasting. Even though the disciples did pray, there was still some level of unbelief that hindered them. There was something about the way they prayed and fasted that wasn't sufficient to accomplish the task.

When we pray and fast, in essence, we are telling ourselves, "get out the way." We fast to get our own flesh—not another's—out of the way. Trying to do things on your own actually shows a lack of faith. The basketball player that doesn't trust his teammate to score will take the shot himself; the manager who doesn't trust her subordinate to complete the project to her standards will do it herself. It shows a lack of trust in another when you do things yourself. In the same way, when we try to make the situation work ourselves, we show a lack of trust in God, which impedes our progress. We are in our own way.

We must ask ourselves what we are or aren't doing that is getting in our way. If we don't believe; if we aren't passionate, our faith might as well be pointless, and we will only be further delayed from our destination. Many times we are the wall blocking us from being "there." When our flesh is in the way, we are impeded from hearing God's instructions on how to achieve that which we are praying for.

God is saying, "please get out the way!" His answer may not be what we wanted, but that's where we must trust that God's will is better than our own. God is trying to do some great things, but we are often in the way. God will sometimes remind us that He is in control (**Job 38**). The will of the Lord is always best. We're in this for the long haul, not the short term. We are making decisions that will strategically put us in place for the long run: eternity.

We sometimes build walls that prevent us from hearing God telling us to move. Like the truck preventing us from seeing traffic up ahead, we become blinded by our own pride. All God wants from us is our submission.

Ephesians 2:8-10, NLT

Sometimes God needs to get us to the point where He can say, "you can't take the credit for this!" It's a gift of God, not the result of your works. *Get out the way!*