

## When The Recipe Doesn't Work

### The passage:

Matthew 17:14-20/ Mark 9:22-24/ Matthew 14:29-31 & Matthew 16:8

### 4 life lessons to take home:

1. Never turn your **RELATIONSHIP** *with* God into a **RELIGION** *for* God.

Relationship: **NO TWO ARE EVER ALIKE**

Religion: **ONE SIZE FITS ALL**

2. God **SELDOM** uses the same game plan **TWICE**.

Joshua 3:1-17 / 1 Samuel 4:1-11 / Mark 9:29

3. God isn't a **POWER** we harness; He's a Lord we **SERVE**.

Acts 3:1-10 & 4:22/ Luke 10:17-20

4. There are three basic answers to our mustard seed prayers:

1. **YES**

2. **NOT YET - KEEP PRAYING**

Luke 11:5-13 & Luke 18:1-8

3. **NO**

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 / Matthew 26:39-44

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1. Never turn your \_\_\_\_\_ *with* God into a \_\_\_\_\_ *for* God.

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

2. God \_\_\_\_\_ uses the same game plan \_\_\_\_\_.

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3. God isn't a \_\_\_\_\_ we harness; He's a Lord we \_\_\_\_\_.

Acts 3:1-10 & 4:22/ Luke 10:17-20

4. There are three basic answers to our mustard seed prayers:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 11:5-13 & Luke 18:1-8

3. \_\_\_\_\_

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 / Matthew 26:39-44

# LIFE GROUPS

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

These questions are designed to help groups discuss the weekend teaching while building relationships with each other and applying God's Word to our lives.

April 26, 2026

### WARM UP



1. This weekend, Larry talked about the trap of treating faith like a "recipe." Is there a family recipe or a restaurant meal you swear by, something you think tastes better than anything else? What is it?
2. Sometimes we want to look for God to work the same way every time because it worked the first time. Do you have any superstitious routines you've picked up because they worked once? Like an athlete wearing "lucky" socks before a game?
3. Which of Larry's "Lessons to Take Home" did you feel like you needed the most?

### KNOW IT



1. Jesus called the disciples' faith "little" (oligopistos in the Greek), referring to the quality, not the quantity, meaning theirs was easily shaken and inconsistent. After hearing this message, do you better understand what Jesus was correcting? What stands out to you about the difference between weak or inconsistent faith and small but genuine trust in God?
2. Larry pointed out that no two relationships are alike, whereas religion is one size fits all. Hebrews 11 is full of people who each had a different relationship with God and different faith "recipes," but they each acted by faith. As you read their stories, what do you notice about their similarities and differences?
  - a. Which example of faith resonates the most with you right now, and why?

## SHARE IT



1. God has wired each of us uniquely, and no two relationships with Him are exactly the same. What's something unique about your relationship with God? As you think about different ways people relate to God, what personally feels most natural and life-giving in your walk with Him?

2. As much as God works in new and different ways, we tend to be creatures of habit who look for repeating patterns. Have you ever had an experience where God worked in your life, and you then found yourself trying to recreate it, only to realize it didn't happen the same way again?

## LIVE IT



1. Larry reminded us that God isn't a power we harness; He's a Lord we serve. Is there an area in your life where God is calling you to rest in Him and trust His goodness, rather than pushing for a specific outcome?

2. How can you move from simply understanding faith to actually living it out this week?