

# GOD USES THE SMALL THINGS

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I never fail to be amazed when God speaks directly to people. I have heard testimonies from friends and other believers who have received visions, dreams, and signs from God guiding them in a decision or speaking into their future.

For a while, I thought: God, why don't You speak to me like that? I had a relationship with Him, studied His Word, and served Him, yet I felt I could not recall an instance in which He directly spoke to me. Not in such an explicit way, at least. Although I prayed to experience God in the same way others had, I did not see Him working and became frustrated.

During quiet time one morning, this began to change. I came across a familiar verse in Matthew that exposed the error in my thinking:

"He replied, "Because you have so little faith. 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 17:20 (NIV).

By comparing my life to others, I was limiting a limitless God. I tried to convince Him to act in one way, when He worked in several ways, without boundaries. Seeing God move in our lives is based on faith. We can know the Word, go to church, and serve in ministry, but if we do not allow Him to fully penetrate our hearts, our hope will not last. Romans 10:17 states that faith comes by hearing the Word of God. Before seeing anything, faith comes from believing that God is who He says He is in the Word. This foundation is formed by our own personal

relationship with Him—and no one else's.

While I had a relationship with God, I turned my heart from the Bible and focused on other people, which made me believe He was not working in my life at all. Setting my eyes back on Christ, I realized this thinking was completely unbiblical.

No matter what we do for God, it will never amount to what He has done for us—sacrificing His Son for our eternal life in heaven and giving us access to a full life on Earth: "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all—how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?" Romans 8:31-32 (NIV).

While we can be encouraged by testimonies of God's faithfulness, we must be careful not to compare our blessings to those of others. Through comparison, we often miss the miracle God is working out in front of our eyes. Just as God used one verse to speak truth into my heart, He can at times speak in subtle ways to anyone. This "small" encounter grew my faith to move a mountain of doubt.

Faith as small as a mustard seed does not mean that our faith itself is small but that it can take something small and make it into big things. We ourselves are small compared to God. However, through the power of Christ Jesus, He can use our trust in Him to work tremendously in our lives.