

# Mark 9:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

## Analysis

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Straightway father child cried out with tears Lord I believe help thou my unbelief. Straightway immediately. Father patēr loving parent. Cried out ekraxen urgent plea. With tears meta dakryōn emotional desperation. Lord kyrie acknowledges authority. I believe pisteuō affirm faith. Help boēthei assist. My unbelief tē apistia lack of faith. Honest confession mixed faith doubt. Faith is not perfect unwavering always but trust despite doubt. Father wants son healed but struggles with unbelief after disciples failure. Jesus compassion meets imperfect faith. Reformed theology affirms sanctification is progressive faith grows imperfect this life. God meets us where we are.

## Historical Context

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Context disciples could not cast out demon. Father brought boy to Jesus. I believe help my unbelief captures Christian experience. Genuine faith coexists with doubts struggles. Not that doubt is good but honest confession opens way to help. Jesus did not rebuke doubt but healed boy anyway. Grace meets imperfect faith. Many believers struggle with assurance doubt. This passage comforts struggling believers. Faith is not perfection but direction. Looking to Christ amid doubts. Early church provided assurance to doubting believers. Modern church should do likewise helping strugglers not condemning them.

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. What does I believe help my unbelief teach about nature of faith coexisting with doubt?
2. How should church respond to believers who struggle with doubts rather than condemning them?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ εὐθὲως κράξας ὁ πατὴρ τοῦ παιδίου μετὰ<sup>της</sup>  
And straightway cried out the father of the child with  
G2532 G2112 G2896 G3588 G3962 G3588 G3813 G3326

δακρύων ἔλεγεν Πιστεύω· κύριε βοήθει μου τῇ ἀπιστίᾳ  
tears and said I believe Lord help thou mine G3588 unbelief  
G1144 G3004 G4100 G2962 G997 G3450 G3588 G570

## Additional Cross-References

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**Luke 17:5** (Faith): And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith.

**Hebrews 12:2** (Faith): Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**Ephesians 2:8** (Faith): For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

**2 Thessalonians 1:11** (Faith): Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:

**2 Thessalonians 1:3** (Faith): We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;

**Philippians 1:29** (Faith): For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

**Psalms 126:5** (Parallel theme): They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

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