

Why You Need MORE

Introduction: Last week we spoke about desiring more of God. We started by looking at **Mark 3:7-15**:

- We saw Jesus ministering to a multitude by the sea. The multitude saw a facet of Jesus that was powerful.
- Jesus then takes His disciples to a mountain. He takes them higher where He can reveal more of Himself to the 12.
- When we get to **Mark 9**, we see Jesus taking Peter, James and John to a “high mountain”. There they see Jesus in a way they had never seen before.

There was a progression in the revelation of Jesus from the sea-level to the mountain and from that mountain to the ‘high mountain’ of Mark 9.

However, even that experience did not exhaust all that Jesus is. After the Mount of Transfiguration, John saw Jesus again in the vision of Patmos. We read about it in the ‘Book of Revelation’.

The book starts with these words: *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*. The book is primarily a revelation of Jesus. In 22 chapters, John gives us 28 facets of Jesus!

There is always more to know about Jesus!

Today I want to speak about “**why you need to desire MORE of God**”

When we read the rest of Mark chapter 9, we realise that the purpose for ‘up-the-mountain’ encounters with Jesus is a ‘down-the valley’ crowd of people in need of answers, in need of power and of the real Jesus!

Mark 9:14-29

The mountain was powerful, beautiful, glorious, supernatural, majestic. Peter even wanted to camp there. However, as they descended, what they found couldn’t have been more different from that experience:

- It wasn’t anything like the atmosphere of heaven. The atmosphere they found was tense and confusing. Scribes disputed with the disciples and a helpless man’s son remained oppressed by a mute spirit.
- There was supernatural power involved there, but of the wrong kind: demonic.

What a contrast with what they had just experienced: up on the mountain, Peter, James and John saw the *kingdom of God present with power*. At the bottom, there was clearly absence of power!

Definitely the disciples needed MORE!

Here's why we need more of God:

1. Because sometimes only 'more' will do.

V.29 - *This kind come out by nothing but...*

This kind – sometimes there are “kinds” of situations, kinds of enemies, kinds of challenges that expose how much we still need to grow in God, in faith, in power. That happened to the disciples. Sometimes only ‘more’ will do!

2. Because there is a world full of needs on the other side of our mountain experiences.

We can't camp around our blessings and ignore the very needs God is empowering us to meet.

3. Because there are a number of things that can't be accomplished in our natural strength. It takes power to dislodge power. It takes the power of God's kingdom to dislodge demonic power.

a) We need to regain control of the atmospheres we live in, we need to expel whatever forces keep people bound. Only God's power can achieve that.

b) The disciples realised that they still needed to grow in that power, but they had let their guard down:

They were completely unprepared and outclassed when they were required to bring deliverance to that little boy. They tried to defeat a heavy-weight demon with feather-weight strength. This passage describes the disciples as

- powerless (v.18)
- faithless (v.19)
- prayerless (v.29)

c) Prayerless: Could it be that as Jesus took His time on the mountain that they became complacent, and lost some of their intensity and desire? Could it be that they had no DESIRE to pray?

d) As we have been seeing over these past 6 weeks, “*desire*” is such a vital ingredient to our spiritual lives:

- It determines the quality of our relationship with God
- The effectiveness of our prayers and
- The direction of our lives

We really have to address this in our lives. We should never accommodate indifference and lack of desire. Otherwise, we will always be feather-weight fighters with no chance at having a real shot at any victory.

1 Corinthians 11:31 says “*earnestly desire the best gifts*’ – The enemy will fight desire because he knows that spiritual gifts are powerful weapons of warfare. That is why he will try to dampen your desire for anything spiritual.

We need to keep the desire for more of God alive in our lives, at all times!

Conclusion

We want more of God

1. Because there are times when only MORE will do
2. Because there are needs waiting to be met on the other side of our ‘mountain experiences’ with God
3. Because there are many things that can’t be accomplished with natural strength. Only the power of God and His kingdom will do.