Mark

The **Gospel** of the **Servant of God**

I. The ***Service*** of the **Servant** (1:1-10:52)

G. **His Preeminence** in **Galilee** (6:1-9:50)

1. The ***Poor*** **Reception** in **Nazareth** (6:1-6a)
2. The ***Pairing*** and **Sending** of the **Twelve** (6:7-13)
3. The ***Plight*** of **John the Baptist** (6:14-29)
4. The ***Provision*** for the **5,000** (6:30-44)
5. The ***Power*** over the **Elements** (6:45-56)
6. The ***Pointed*** **Response** concerning **Impurity** (7:1-23)
7. The ***Plea*** of the **Gentile Woman** (7:24-30)
8. The ***Powerful*** **Healing** of the **Deaf Mute** (7:31-37)
9. The ***Provision*** for the **4,000** (8:1-21)
10. The ***Proclamation*** of **Messiah's Rejection** (8:22-38)
11. The ***Preview*** of **Kingdom Glory** (9:1-13)

12. The **"Power Failure"** of the **Disciples** (9:14-29)

a. A ***Perplexing*** **Failure** (9:14-18)

14 When **they** came *back* to the **disciples,** they saw a **large crowd**
around them, and *some* **scribes *arguing*** with **them**.

15 **Immediately,** when the entire crowd **saw Him**,
they were ***amazed*** and *began* running up to **greet Him**.

16 And **He** asked them, "What are you **discussing** with them?"

17 And **one** of the crowd answered **Him,**
"**Teacher**, I brought **You my son**, **possessed** with a **spirit** which makes him **mute;**

18 and whenever it seizes him, it **slams him** *to the ground*
and he **foams** *at the mouth*, and **grinds his teeth** and **stiffens out.**
I told **Your disciples** to **cast it out**, and they **could not *do it.*"**

b. A ***Pointed*** **Rebuke** (9:19)

[19] And **He answered** them and said,
"**O <u>unbelieving</u> generation**, how ***long*** shall I **be with** you?
How ***long*** shall **I put up** with you? **Bring him** to **Me!**"

c. A ***Panicked*** **<u>Father</u>** (9:20-22)

[20] They brought **the boy** to **Him**.
When **<u>he</u> saw Him**, immediately the **spirit threw him** into a **convulsion**,
and **falling** to the ground, he *began* **rolling** around and **foaming** *at the mouth*.

[21] And **He** asked **his father**, "How **long** has this been **happening** to **him**?"
And he said, "**From childhood**.

[22] It has often **thrown him** both into the **fire** and into the **water** to ***destroy him***.
But ***<u>if</u> You can*** **<u>do anything</u>**, take **pity** on **us** and **<u>help us</u>**!"

d. A ***Plea*** for **<u>Faith</u>** (9:23-24)

[23] And **Jesus** said to him, "'***If You can*****?'**
All things are **possible** to him who **<u>believes</u>**."

[24] **Immediately** the **boy's father** cried out and said, "**I do believe**; **<u>help</u> my <u>unbelief</u>**."

e. A ***Powerful*** **<u>Healing</u>** (9:25-27)

[25] When **Jesus** saw that a **crowd** was rapidly gathering,
He rebuked the **unclean spirit**, saying to it, "**You *deaf*** and ***mute*** **spirit**,
I *command* you, **<u>come out</u>** of him and **do <u>not</u> enter him again**."

[26] After **crying out** and **throwing him** into **terrible convulsions**, it **came out**;
and *the boy* became so much like **a *corpse*** that most *of them* said, "He is **dead!**"

[27] But **Jesus** took him by **the hand** and **<u>raised him</u>**; and **he got up.**

f. A ***Priority*** for **<u>Prayer</u>** (9:28-29)

[28] When **He** came into *the* house, **His disciples** *began* **questioning** Him privately,
"***Why*** could **<u>we</u> not drive it out**?"

[29] And **He said** to them, "**This kind** cannot **come out** by anything **but <u>prayer</u>**."

Key ***Observations*** from **Tonight's Text**

A. The ***Priority*** of **Personal <u>Belief</u>** (**faith**) in the **Lord**

And **Jesus** said to **him** (boy's father), "'**If You can**?'
All things are **possible** to **him** who **believes**." (9:23)

B. The ***Passionate*** **Appeal** for **"help"** to **overcome Unbelief**

Immediately the **boy's father *cried out*** and said,
"**I do believe**; **help** my **unbelief**."(9:24)

C. The ***Powerful*** **Healing** over the **Deaf** and **Mute spirit** (9:25)
D. The ***Pernicious*** **Departure** of the **Unclean spirit** (9:26)
E. The ***Priority*** of **Prayer** in **Ministry**

When **He (Messiah)** came into *the* house, **His disciples** *began* **questioning**
Him privately, "***Why*** could **we not drive it out?"**
And **He said** to them, "***This*** **kind cannot come out** by anything but **prayer**." (9:28-29)

Personal Application

Reflecting on the ***Priority*** of **Prayer** in **Life** and **Ministry**

The most basic **definition** of **prayer** is simply "**talking with God**."
When we **pray** we **praise God** for **who He is**, **thank Him** for what **he's done**,
and **seek Him** for things **He has promised**.
When we **pray**, we **call upon** and **commune** with an **all-powerful God** and **Creator**,
who **hears our prayers**, and **answers** them according to **His will**.
God is the **source** and **supplier** of all things **physical** and **spiritual** that we **need**,
and desires that **we *seek* Him** in **prayer,** and ***trust*** **Him** to **provide** for us
all things "pertaining to **life** and **godliness** (II Peter 1:3)."

Prayer is essential to our **spiritual life** and **ministry** with **the Lord**,
and is **taught** throughout the **scriptures.** From our text tonight, I believe **three important**
principles emerge concerning **prayer** that we should **understand** and **apply**.

1. **Prayer** is ***effectual*** when asked in **faith,** and according to the **will of God**

And **Jesus** said to him (boy's father),. **All things** are **possible** to him who **believes**." (9:23)

. Then the **disciples** came to **Jesus privately** and said,
"***Why*** could **we not** drive it (the unclean spirit) out?" And **He said** to them,
"Because of the ***littleness*** of your **faith;** for truly **I say** to you,
if you have **faith** the size of a **mustard seed**, you will say to this **mountain**,
'**Move** from here to there,' and **it will move**; and ***nothing*** will be **impossible to you**."
(Matthew 17:19-20)

This is the **confidence** which we have **before Him**, that, if we **ask *anything*** **according** to **<u>His will</u>**, **He hears us**. (I John 5:14)

Is **anyone** among you **suffering**? *Then* he **must <u>pray</u>**...
Is **anyone** among you **sick**? *Then* he must **call** for the **elders** of the **church**
and they are to **<u>pray</u> over him**, anointing him with **oil** in the **name** of **the Lord**;

and the **<u>prayer</u> offered** in **<u>faith</u>** will **restore** the one who is **sick,**
and **the Lord** will ***rais*e him up**,..(James 5:13-15)

2. **Prayer** is ***essential*** for our **own spiritual <u>walk</u>**, and the **work** of the **<u>ministry</u>**

And **He (Jesus)** said to **them (His disciples),**
"This **kind** (unclean spirit) **cannot come out** by ***anything*** but **<u>prayer</u>**." (9:28-29)

In my **distress I <u>called</u> upon** the **LORD**, and **<u>cried</u>** to **my God** for **help**;
He heard my voice out of **His temple**,
And **my <u>cry</u>** for **help** before **Him** came into **His ears.** (Psalm 16:18)

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*The **righteous** <u>cry</u>,* and the **LORD hears**
And **delivers them** out of **all** their **troubles**. (Psalm 34:17)

Rejoice always; **<u>pray</u>** without **ceasing**; in everything **give <u>thanks</u>**;
for this is **God's will** for **you** in **Messiah Jesus.** (I Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Devote yourselves to **<u>prayer</u>**, keeping **alert** in it with *an attitude of* **thanksgiving**;

<u>praying</u> at the same time for **us** as well,
that **God** will **open up** to us ***a door*** for **the word,**
so that we may **speak forth** the **mystery of Messiah**,
for which I have also been **imprisoned**; (Colossians 4:2-3)

They (**Jerusalem congregation**) were continually **devoting** themselves
to the **apostles' teaching** and to **fellowship**,
to the **breaking of bread** and to **<u>prayer</u>**. (Acts 2:42)

3. ***Prayer*** is an ***essential*** **"weapon"** in the **spiritual <u>warfare</u>** that **we face** as **believers**

"This ***kind*** (of **unclean <u>spirit</u>**) cannot **come out** by anything but **<u>prayer</u>**." (9:29)

For **our struggle** is not against **flesh** and **blood,** but against the **rulers,**
against the **powers,** against the **world forces** of this **darkness,**
against the **<u>spiritual</u> *forces* of wickedness** in the **heavenly *places***.

Therefore, take up the **full <u>armor</u> of God**,
so that you will be able to **<u>resist</u>** in the **evil day**,..

With all **<u>prayer</u>** and ***petition*** **<u>pray</u>** at **all times** in the **Spirit,** and with this in view,
be on the **alert** with all **perseverance** and ***petition*** for all **the saints**,

and ***<u>pray</u>*** on **my behalf**, that **utterance** may be given to me
in the opening of **my mouth**, to make known with **boldness**
the **mystery** of the **<u>gospel,</u>** (Ephesians 6:12-13, 18-19)

<u>Closing Comments</u>