

Gathering Question: When you face a “mountain moving” situation in your prayer life, where do you usually focus your prayers?

___on the problem ___on the Lord ___on the solution I want
___on my own inadequacy ___I avoid “mountains” ___other

Mountain Movers

According to the Bible, believers can be confident that their prayers will be answered. Our prayers are much more than wishes, hopes, or feeble aspirations if we pray with believing, faith-filled hearts. This is the kind of prayer that can truly move mountains.

What can we do so that we are able to pray in a way to move mountains? First, we must shift the focus of our prayers from the size of the mountain that must be moved to the sufficiency of the mountain mover. We must then step forward in anticipation of the mountain being moved. Obedience demands that we live in expectation of the promises of God. We will find that as we walk with God, our faith will grow stronger, our confidence will increase and our prayers will have more power.

Many of us have pressing personal needs and serious problems that tend to ravage our lives, but we don't ask for help because we don't personally believe that God really has the power to do anything about our problems.

The fact is that God is capable of handling any problem we can bring before him. If creating planets is no problem for him then surely he can take care of our struggles. What an invitation we have as believers! The Bible tells us to pray all the time. We are told to bring our requests to God, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving. We are encouraged to approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and grace to help us in our time of need. What are we waiting for? God wants to hear from us and he is able and willing to move mountains for his children. We don't have because we do not ask!

Read: Acts 4:23-31

Reflect:

1. This event occurred very early in the history of the church. Peter and John caused a stir by healing a man in Jesus' name. Afterwards, the Jewish authorities commanded them to never again speak about Jesus, but Peter and John did not obey. What mountains were the early Christians facing?
2. What was the focus of their prayer in this passage?
3. How did the believers express their confidence that God would answer their prayers?
4. In what ways does God's past action encourage you to pray with boldness today?