

Are You Qualified for the Job?

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Matthew 17:14-21 (Mark 14:29)

1. The disciples had already been given the authority to do the work of God (Matt 10:1 & 8)

- He gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.
- Heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out devils
- They had been called and chosen
- Why did they fail?
 1. Were they trying to do it in their own power and ability?
 2. Did they distrust the power they had been given?
 3. Was it because Jesus or the other main disciples were not with them?

2. Jesus' frustration was with that whole generation that was stubborn and unbelieving

- Because of unbelief – the power of GOD is limited to provide and deliver (Even Jesus could not do many miracles in his home town because of unbelief)
- But there was also some frustration with his disciples – for they were a reflection of that attitude of unbelief exhibited by the multitude
- They had been given the authority but lack the knowledge of how to make use of it. They had not qualified themselves completely to do the job. This was a learning opportunity for them.

3. A lack of pure faith that wholly relies on the power of God caused them to fail

- In essence “sin” was the cause of their failure – unbelief is a sin.
- The same is true for us – sin will disqualify us to do the work we have been called and chosen to do for God.

4. What are some of the things that will disqualify us?

- Not being properly dressed for the type of warfare we are engaged in (Ephesians 6:10-17)
 1. loins girt about with **truth** - truth (God is) and honesty (in us)
 2. breastplate of **righteousness** - living unrighteous

3. feet shod with the preparation of the **gospel of peace** - unprepared to spread the good news
 4. shield of **faith** – we are unable to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked
 5. helmet of **salvation** – we have to know that everything is given to us, total deliverance
 6. sword of **the spirit** - the word is the only offensive weapon we are given, we must know it to use it. It is the only thing we are given to inflict damage to Satan
- Poor prayer and fasting life (Ephesians 6:18) – praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit, and watching with all patience
 - Sin in our life - breaks the fellowship with God, without which we can do nothing.

***We have been given everything necessary to be victorious! ***

(“According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:” 2 Peter 1:3)