

**BUT THEY COULD NOT!**

*MARK 9:14-29*

We are told in **verse 18** the disciples failed in their attempt to cast out a demon from a boy. The boy’s father summed up their efforts by saying “...*but they could not.*” And you know what? He was right!

Too many churches, and too many Christians are trying to carry out the Lord’s work in these dark, sinful days, and too many times people walk away from our churches, and from us saying, “...*but they could not.*”

First: **THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF SPIRITUAL POWER** (v14-19)

Second: **THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF SPIRITUAL POWER** (v20-27)

The father bears the true condition of his faith. His faith has been reduced to “*if you can do anything...*” Jesus responds immediately! “*What do you mean, if you can? Believe! All things are possible for one who believes!*” When the father hears this, he makes one of the most *honest and transparent* prayers in the entire Bible, “*I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!*”

Some spiritual lessons before we move to our final thought.

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ *church portrays Jesus in a bad light* –

2. \_\_\_\_\_ *faith is better than no faith at all* –

Last: **THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF SPIRITUAL POWER** (v28-29)

The disciples did not fail because they did not believe! Their problem was they believed in the wrong things.

We need to pray!

**What I Will Do With This Message:** \_\_\_\_\_

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