



# REPLENISHED – Faith Matters 11<sup>th</sup> April 2021 Mark Wiltshire

This Study Guide provides a summarised study with additional discussion questions based on the scriptures mentioned in the sermon.

## Connect:

1. Growing our faith starts with a first step... but after that, it requires many more!

“People are replenished when they live by faith.”

Mark Wiltshire

2. What is God’s kingdom like?

## Engage:

3. Read and discuss [Mark 4:30-34](#)
  - As FAITH increases in us, it builds visible stature, influence and impacts many others, bearing fruit.
4. What is faith?
5. Read [Hebrews 11:1](#)
  - Faith involves putting trust in something/someone outside our control.

“Not simply a notion, but an action, based on a conviction.”

Mark Wiltshire

6. Read [Hebrews 11:6](#)
  - God rewards you and me in life as we walk by faith
  - Continual steps of growth, responding to God’s call
7. Jesus used the Mustard Seed illustration in two specific illustrations:
  - **Matthew 17:** Jesus was answering a question from His disciples about why they could not cast out a demon from an unwell boy.
  - **Luke 17:** He was dealing with the human difficulty of forgiving people.

## Framework:

8. Read and discuss [Matthew 17:14-16](#)
9. Read and discuss [Matthew 17:18-20](#)
  - “You of little faith” is used 4 times in Matthew to the disciples (Matt 6:30; 8:26 [Wind & Waves]; 14:31 [Peter on the Water], 16:8 [No Bread]). They weren’t seeing challenges as an opportunity to increase their ‘faith’!
  - This is the default human position - ‘planned predictability’ – we want to avoid uncertainty. We tend to reach out in faith at times of trouble, rather than when things go well; in crisis people suddenly want spiritual answers.
  - God wants us to know that we can live by faith, for our own benefit!
  - Emphasis is not on ‘healing’, but the ability to “move this mountain.”
  - Moving something overwhelming, daunting, seemingly impossible.
  - Faith that Moves Mountains – ‘Speaks’ to these impossible situations.
  - *The mountain represents those things that only God can overcome.*
10. What mountains can be moved in life when we trust God?
11. How can we increase our faith?
12. Read [James 1:2-4](#)

“Faith is a living and unshakable confidence.

A belief in God so assured that a man would die a thousand deaths for its sake.”

**Martin Luther**

13. What might you be willing to die for?
14. Read [Luke 17:3-6](#)
  - Forgiveness is needed in every relationships.
  - People can be selfish (for example, out of 10 lepers only 1 returned to say thank you - Samaritan)
  - The mulberry tree is likened to a person who has “lorded over” you and caused you great trouble.
  - Being able to forgive another person demonstrates faith:
    - a. Faith that God is using that situation for us to become more like Him.
    - b. Faith that God is concerned with us and our future – Your purpose.
    - c. Faith that God will bring us through that situation and into maturity.
15. How has faith helped you to forgive someone?
16. Are there situations that need forgiveness for you personally?
17. How should you handle difficult situations?

“Faith is not the belief that God will do what you want. It is the belief that God will do what is right.”

Max Lucado

18. Are you confident you’re on the right FAITH journey?
19. Why does faith matter?

- **Enduring personal journey with God:** [James 1:3](#)
  - **Builds greater reliance on Prayer/the Word of God:** [Romans 10:17](#)
  - **No experience is wasted:** [Romans 8:28](#)
  - **See the impossible happen – God’s Power at work:** [Luke 18:27](#)
20. Read [Mark 4:30-34](#)