

The background is a painting in a soft, painterly style. It depicts a central figure, Jesus, walking away from the viewer on a dark, winding path. He is wearing a brown robe and sandals, and a bright, golden light emanates from behind him, creating a halo effect. In the background, several other figures are visible but blurred, suggesting a crowd or a journey. The overall color palette is warm, with shades of gold, brown, and blue.

THE KING &
HIS *Cross*

Mustard Seed Faith

Matthew 17:14–27

How do you know whether your faith is pointed in the right direction?

Why do we tend to trust what we can see and be controlled by our circumstances more than believe in the person and promises of Christ?

Matthew 17

14 When they reached the crowd, a man approached and knelt down before him. 15 “Lord,” he said, “have mercy on my son, because he has seizures and suffers terribly. He often falls into the fire and often into the water. 16 I brought him to your disciples, but they couldn’t heal him.”

Matthew 17

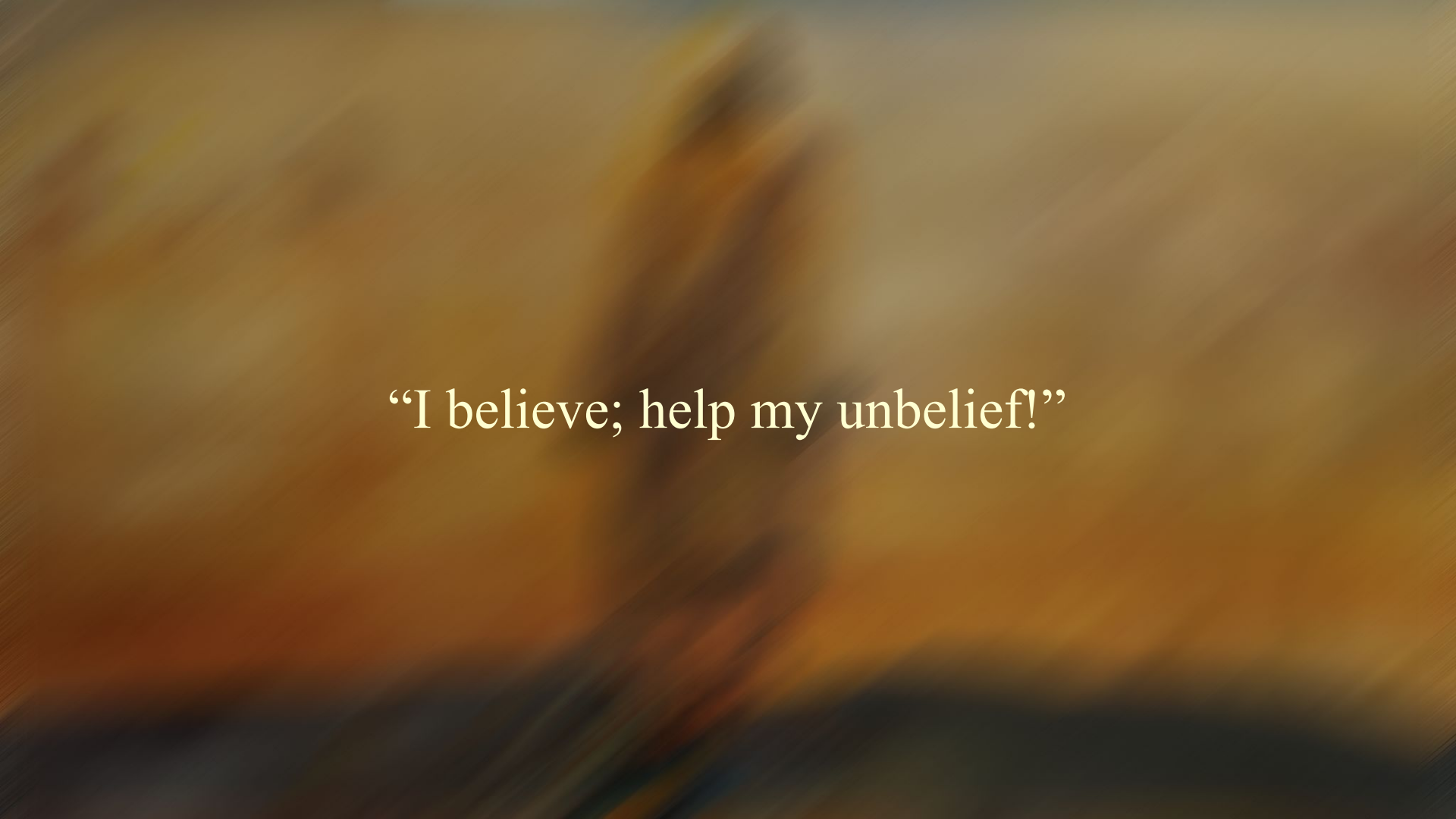
17 Jesus replied, “You unbelieving and perverse generation, how long will I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring him here to me.” 18 Then Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and from that moment the boy was healed.

Mark 9:22–24

But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”

Jesus said to him, “ ‘If you can’? Everything is possible for the one who believes.”

Immediately the father of the boy cried out,
“I do believe; help my unbelief!”



“I believe; help my unbelief!”

Matthew 17

19 Then the disciples approached Jesus privately and said, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?”

20 “Because of your little faith,” he told them. “For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will tell this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”,

Matthew 17

22 As they were gathering together in Galilee, Jesus told them,
“The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men.
23 They will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised up.”
And they were deeply distressed.

Hebrews 12:1–2

Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Matthew 17

24 When they came to Capernaum, those who collected the temple tax approached Peter and said, “Doesn’t your teacher pay the temple tax?” 25 “Yes,” he said.

When he went into the house, Jesus spoke to him first, “What do you think, Simon? From whom do earthly kings collect tariffs or taxes? From their sons or from strangers?”

Matthew 17

26 “From strangers,” he said.

“Then the sons are free,” Jesus told him. 27 “But, so we won’t offend them, go to the sea, cast in a fishhook, and take the first fish that you catch. When you open its mouth you’ll find a coin. Take it and give it to them for me and you.”

What does “mustard seed” faith look like?

- * It believes Christ is greater than the obstacles facing us.
- * It believes all the Bible says, even the parts that may bother us.
- * It obeys Christ even when our ability fails us.