

## THE WAYS OF GOD

### He Works With Us

#### I. God's way in our lives is not to operate independent of us but rather it's His way to work with us

##### A. **He couldn't, but why couldn't He?**-Mk6:5-He could there do no mighty work save he laid his hands upon a few sick folk and healed them

1. Was it because He lacked the power or ability on His end? No
  - a. *Rev19:6-For the Lord God omnipotent (posses unlimited power); Gen18:14-Is there anything that is too hard for the Lord?; Num11:23-Is the Lord's hand waxed short? Is his ability and power inadequate?; Jer32:27-Behold I am the Lord God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for me? Lk1:37-For with God nothing shall be impossible Mt19:26-With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible*
2. Was it a lack of willingness on His end? No
  - a. If he didn't want to He never would have sent Jesus there in the first place
  - b. It's not the nature of God or way of God to NOT want to help, heal, deliver, preserve and protect
    - 1) Many say, "Well it just wasn't God's will." – That's saying God didn't want to or it wasn't what God wanted
    - 2) *Mt8:3-TP-A leper walked up to Jesus and threw himself down before him in worship and said, "Lord, you have the power to heal me if you want to." Jesus reached out his hand and touched the leper and said, "Of course I want to heal you."*
    - 3) "He didn't want to" is not the way of God – He's not a God that doesn't want to – He's a God that wants to; He always wants to – "He didn't want to" that isn't an option
    - 4) If Psalm 145 is true you can never say God doesn't to-He is gracious, good to all, upholds those that fall, helps those who are in trouble, Opens hand and satisfies, fair and kind in all He does, read to help and wants to help, Fulfills desires, hears cries and saves, preserves all them that love Him
3. He can (has the ability to) and He wants to

##### B. We know it was not for lack of power or willingness on His end, but dishonor and unbelief on their end

1. Because of their unbelief-It wasn't because of something on His end, but something on their end
  - a. *Mt:13:58-He did not many mighty works there because of **their** unbelief CJ-Lack of trust; NLV-Because they did not put their trust in Him*
  - b. Unbelief-Faithless, want of faith, weakness of faith, disbelief, incredulous-refusing or withholding belief;
2. Without honor-Unhonored, base (w/o rank, dignity, esteem), less esteem (value, regard w/ reverence & respect)
  - a. Him, His words carry no weight here, To them he has no rank
  - b. Honor provides access, NOT just petition – When God and His word and His things carry weight in your life and mean something to you and you're going to believe and trust and follow fully this gives Him access – We shouldn't pretend like everyone is doing this;  
    - 1) *Lk4:23-You will say whatsoever we have heard done in Capernaum do also here in your country*
    - 2) Your petition alone doesn't provide access – People petition God who have no honor for Him
    - 3) *2Tim1:12-He is able to keep that which I have committed unto him*
3. It's not that God sees on belief and says I'm not going to, but that He sees unbelief and says I want to, but I can't
  - a. *TP-Their great unbelief kept him from doing any mighty miracles in Nazareth*

##### C. What this reveals to us is that God **WAS NOT** working independent of them, but rather He was working with them

1. People have this false idea that it's all up to God, and all in God's hands and whatever He wants He will do and it's a minimizing of their part and not recognizing that what they do matters in what God has access to do in their life
  - a. Was this true in Nazareth? Was it all in His hands? It was not – What He wants to do, He can't
2. B/C it's God's way to work with us, there are things we can do that put Him in a position where He can't
  - a. You may not like this, but that's just the way it is – Many are offended by this

##### D. Many think that God in His "sovereignty" operates in our lives independent of us; What He wants to do He will do and what we do plays no part in what He does our lives; He's deciding what He wants to do and doing it independent of us

1. Many believe if God wants to do something then by God in His sovereignty, He will; Many believe that if it was God's sovereign will/plan for miracles to happen in Nazareth then it would have independent of what the people did

## II. It's God's way to work with us

### A. Mk16:15-20-God was working with them and with the people who were hearing the preaching

- <sup>15</sup> He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.<sup>16</sup> He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.<sup>17</sup> And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;<sup>18</sup> They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.<sup>19</sup> So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.<sup>20</sup> And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.*
- Working with-To be a fellow worker, co-operate, work together, partner in labor, put forth power together
  - This is what we have here – God is doing something and they are doing something
  - He that believes and is baptized will be saved – God's working with the people who are hearing
- 1Cor3:9-*For we are laborers together with God;* Laborers together-Companion in work/labor, workfellow/fellow worker

### B. Mt11:28-This yoke signifies a joining because we're working together

- KJ-Take my yoke upon you (Yoke-To join); MSG-Walk with me, work with me*
- He didn't say hop on my back, he said take my yoke upon you because you're going to pull

### C. God has always involved people and worked with people in what He does in their lives

- Ex14:16-God told Moses to lift up his rod, stretch out his hand and divide the sea
  - <sup>13</sup>Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. <sup>14</sup>The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace. <sup>15</sup>And the LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward: <sup>16</sup>But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.*
  - 13,14-The Lord will fight for them, but their part was to fear not, stand still, and hold their peace
  - 15-The Lord asked Moses, "Why are you crying unto me?" – Acting like you have no part
    - His part was more than just petitioning God
- Moses hit the rock-*Ex17:6-KJ-I will stand before you upon the rock in Horeb; you shalt smite the rock, and there shall water come out of it*
- They marched, they shouted-*Josh6:14-They compassed the city 20 So the people shouted*
- Adam named the animals-*Gn2:19-Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, every fowl of the air; and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them: and whatever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof*

### D. In my marriage, finances, mind, spirit, He's working with me

- Why didn't He do something? He's working with people