

MY GOD CAN DO ANYTHING

Like a Child Series - 4

Mark 10:15; Luke 1:34, 35, 37

Merry Christmas!

Mark 10:15 I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.

Tell you part of the Christmas story—read rest from Luke 1

God sent an angel to Nazareth to a Mary, virgin engaged to Joseph.

Do not be afraid—favor with God.

With child—give birth to a son—give him name Jesus!

Luke 1:34-35, 37 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" 35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God... 37 For nothing is impossible with God."

v. 36.. In her sixth month... is a sign to Mary that these things were true, the angel tells her about Elisabeth who also had experienced a miraculous, though human, conception. The purpose of the reference is to build Mary's faith in God's ability to do what is humanly impossible.

Nothing is impossible with God ...This statement was a common religious saying among the Jews and early Christians ... It's been done before...

Genesis 18:14 (NET1) Is anything impossible for the LORD? I will return to you when the season comes round again and Sarah will have a son."

[GK Word: pan rhēma, “nothing” an emphatic position, giving it emphasis as the lesson in the entire discussion. The remark is a call for faith.]

Another example... Judah under siege, burned incense to Baal, placed images of rival deities in God's temple, offered child sacrifices.

God charges them...

Jeremiah 7:30 (NET1) The LORD says, "I have rejected them because the people of Judah have done what I consider evil. They have set up their disgusting idols in the temple which I have claimed for my own and have defiled it.

Soon the city would be handed over to Nebuchadnezzar ... God directed Jeremiah's attention to the future, to the day of return. But promises...

Jeremiah 32:37 (NET1) 'I will certainly regather my people from all the countries where I will have exiled them in my anger, fury, and great wrath. I will bring them back to this place and allow them to live here in safety.

How do they know God will do this? ... Earlier God says...

Jeremiah 32:27 (NET1) "I am the LORD, the God of all humankind. There is, indeed, nothing too difficult for me.

v. 37 One more significant usage ... Marriage ... from a discussion about Divorce... [a lot here](#) ...small rabbit trail... 2 Rabbinical schools ... one conservative on liberal..

Matthew 19:6 (NET1) So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Marriage and Divorce... Pharisee's trying to trap Jesus ask about divorce. Instead of giving a direct yes or no, Jesus went back beyond rabbinical tradition, and even further back than the law of Moses, all the way to the Garden... God's creation of man. The first 4 chapters of Genesis. Jesus' opening words had nothing directly to do with the question of divorce but were a sarcastic and biting rebuke to the learned Pharisees, who prided themselves on their great knowledge of Scripture. Responding to their question with a question of His own, Jesus was in effect asking, "Have you not read the book of Genesis? Are you not aware of what God Himself declared at the very creation? Don't you know the very first thing God said about marriage? He quotes Genesis 1:27 and 2:24!

Genesis 1:27 (NET1) God created humankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them, male and female he created them.

Genesis 2:24 (NET1) That is why a man leaves his father and mother and unites with his wife, and they become a new family.

By quoting from Genesis 1:27 and 2:24, Jesus was saying, "Your argument is not with Me, but with God." This is what you do to disciple... to counsel biblically.

The union between the man and the woman is both spiritual (a new relationship, verse 5 is a quotation from Gen 2:24.)

Matthew 19:5 (NET1) and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and will be united with his wife, and the two will become one flesh’?

What is the reason? The quote from ...

Genesis 2:24 (NET1) That is why a man leaves his father and mother and unites with his wife, and they become a new family.

So this is a new relationship and a physical one ("one flesh," sexual intimacy).

United in every way: spiritually, mentally, socially, and physically. Sexually their bodies belong to one another.

1 Corinthians 7:4 (NET1) It is not the wife who has the rights to her own body, but the husband. In the same way, it is not the husband who has the rights to his own body, but the wife.

This is not to say that individuality is sacrificed, just as a person does not stop being an individual when he is united with Christ. Marriage is the deepest and most intimate of all friendships; here love should govern all areas of the relationship, both physical and spiritual.

Ultimately the two become one flesh during sexual intimacy (1 Corinthians 6:16).

1 Corinthians 6:16 (NET1) Or do you not know that anyone who is united with a prostitute is one body with her? For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.”

The moment in which God unites a woman and a man. He seals the relationship. This held true for Adam and Eve, but also does for all married people.

Notice that Jesus said, "What... God hath joined," not whom. God made the marriage relation; so every marriage is God-joined in principle by this divine provision made for marriage. Even where marriages are made out of God's will.

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR GOD! Two becoming one!

• **MY GOD CAN DO ANYTHING.**

save your marriage?	provide financially?
help you overcome?	build a church?
mend broken relation?	return a nation?
heal you or loved one?	save your unsaved...?

Omnipotence—Almighty 345 x bible—used only for God.
Problem, challenge, an obstacle—how can I overcome this?
Children—turn to God—simple faith—believe God!

Friend battling brain cancer, Friend's unemployed
Being sued, daughter keeps cutting
Cafe closing/moving

CHILDLIKE FAITH BELIEVES

• **MY GOD CAN.**

God's creation of "the heaven and the earth" was Jeremiah's evidence that nothing is too difficult for God

Jer 32:17 "Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you."

A young girl and poison ivy... God can do anything daddy!

My God Can...

- **MY GOD WILL.**

People believe God can—but don't necessarily believe he will!
Might do it for you—probably won't do it for me.

MB's big red bow present

Israelites verses Philistines

Saul—you can't fight giant—you're only a child.

David—who are you to come against the armies of the living God?

1 Sam 17:45-47 David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the Lord will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head...47 All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

My God can—My God will!

Could—Would—Didn't

Pray like David

Childlike—innocent—growing deepening mature faith.

Mary and Jesus, mother favored by God to have His Child... favored by God to lose His Child. Imagine what that would be like.

The mark of a maturing believer...

- **EVEN IF GOD DOESN'T, I WILL STILL BELIEVE.**

Childlike faith is big enough to handle a "no."
Faith isn't built on what God does—who God is.

Dan 3:16-18 Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. 17 If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. 18 But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

Job... 42:2 "I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted.

In dealing with the Egyptians, Amorites, Canaanites...

Duet. 7:21 Do not be terrified by them, for the Lord your God, who is among you, is a great and awesome God.

Just like in God's ordination of marriage ... that perfect emblem and demonstration of oneness, that produces that child that is a unique product of the fusion of two people into one flesh and carrying the combined traits of both parents to be a Child-like ... as we are to be like our heavenly father... we are to be a product of His traits... when we exhibit that Childlike faith and trust... we can please our Father.

Prayer: