

# A Pastor for Every Person! ROCK GROUPS

(Evangelistic Care Groups)

# Moving Mountains

### ICE BREAKER

What *mountains* are you facing in your life right now?

Mark 11 <sup>12</sup> Now the next day, when they had come out from Bethany, He was hungry. <sup>13</sup> And seeing from afar a fig tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. <sup>14</sup> In response *Jesus said to it*, "Let no one eat fruit from you ever again." And His disciples heard it.

## The Lesson of the Withered Fig Tree

<sup>20</sup> Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. <sup>21</sup> And Peter, remembering, said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away." <sup>22</sup> So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. <sup>23</sup> For assuredly, I say to you, whoever *says to this mountain*, "Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. <sup>24</sup> Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them." NKJ

Matthew 17 <sup>14</sup> When they came to the crowd, a man approached Jesus and knelt before him. <sup>15</sup> "Lord, have mercy on my son," he said. "He has seizures and is suffering greatly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. <sup>16</sup> I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him." <sup>17</sup> "O unbelieving and perverse generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me." <sup>18</sup> Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed from that moment. <sup>19</sup> Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?" <sup>20</sup> He replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can *say to this mountain*, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." NIV

### Discussion

What do these 'mountains' represent?

(problems, sickness, hindrances, lack, hard or hopeless situations, etc.)

- ➤ What did Jesus tell us to do with mountains? (Speak to them!)
- What do Christians often do with our mountains?

(worry, complain, tell everyone about it, and exaggerate or magnify the mountain in our minds and by our words)

God did **NOT** tell Zerubbabel to **worry or complain** about the mountain! **But, God <u>did</u> say "<u>shout</u>...<u>grace</u> to it!"** 

Zech 4 <sup>7</sup> "Who are you, O great *mountain*? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone with *shouts* of '*Grace, grace to it!*""

The New Living Translation says they were shouting: "May God make it so!"

Shouting the *"grace"* of God meant that they were *relying on God* to move mountains!

Grace is the *supernatural empowering ability of God beyond our abilities!* 

John 1:17 says that "grace ...came by Jesus".

Jesus made the ability of God available to us to move any mountain!

# How do we release the grace of God?

(by speaking the **word of God** to mountains!)

The Word of God moves:

**GOD** – Isaiah 44:26; 55:11, Mark 16:20

ANGELS - Psalm 103:20

PEOPLE - I Peter 1:23, Isaiah 50:4

**CIRCUMSTANCES** – Matthew 8:24-27

**THE ENEMY** – Hebrews 4:12, Ephesians 6:17

*Let's pray in groups of 3 or 4* for needs, including any mountains we are facing.

### REMEMBER...

- ✓ Share Vision of COTR and Rock Groups
- ✓ Prayer/Ministry Time
- ✓ "Empty Chair" Prayer. *Invite* someone new!
- ✓ Pray for COTR Leadership
- ✓ Have everyone complete attendance sheet
- Complete the *online report* and *attendance* for the meeting soon