

God's Majesty in Our Midst

Luke 9:37-43a ▪ August 31, 2025 ▪ Ryan Wildauer

Jesus comes to our _____. (37-40)

Jesus call us to _____ on God. (41)

Jesus _____ the son to the father. (42)

Luke 9:37-43a

³⁷ On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸ And behold, a man from the crowd cried out, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. ³⁹ And behold, a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly cries out. It convulses him so that he foams at the mouth, and shatters him, and will hardly leave him. ⁴⁰ And I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not."

⁴¹ Jesus answered, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." ⁴² While he was coming, the demon threw him to the ground and convulsed him. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit and healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ⁴³ And all were astonished at the majesty of God. (ESV)

Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions

Open: What's one thing that happened this week in which you felt either overwhelmed or hopeful?

Read & Discuss: Luke 9:37-43a

1. The story in verses 37-38 unfolds immediately after Jesus and the three disciples descend from the mountain. How does the atmosphere in this passage contrast with the "mountaintop" experience of the Transfiguration? What does this contrast tell us about the nature following Jesus?
2. A man comes to Jesus and says, "I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child" (v. 38). How would you describe the nature of his plea? Have you ever found yourself in a moment of desperation like this? What helped you in that season?"
3. The disciples had previously been given "power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases" (Luke 9:1-2), yet they were unable to cast out this demon (v. 40). How might this have felt for them?
4. ***Read Mark 9:28-29 and Matthew 17:19-20.*** These parallel accounts give us more insight into the disciples' failure. In these parallel accounts, Jesus links spiritual power to prayer and faith. What do you think He's teaching the disciples—and us—about the source of true authority?
5. Jesus responds to the crowd by saying, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you and bear with you?" (v. 41). Why do you think Jesus' words were so strong? ***Read Deuteronomy 32:4-6, 19-21.*** How do these verses deepen our understanding of what God desires for His people—and how He responds when faith is lacking?
6. Jesus heals the boy, and Luke writes that "all were astonished at the majesty of God" (v. 43a). When you hear the phrase "the majesty of God," what images, emotions, or experiences come to mind? How does this story help you see that majesty more clearly?"
7. How does this story highlight the difference between human inability and divine authority? Can you recall a time when you relied on your own abilities rather than on faith in God, and the outcome was not what you had hoped for? What did you learn from that experience?

Apply: Considering the difference between the disciples' inability and Jesus' authority, what is one specific step you can take this week to rely more on God's power and less on your own abilities?

Pray: Pray for a deeper understanding of God's power and for the humility to rely on Him in every situation, especially when facing spiritual challenges.