

**JEREMIAH 33:3 "CALL TO ME" GROUP BIBLE STUDIES – LEARNER'S STUDY -
LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES**

LESSON #5 – A CHRISTIAN'S CALL TO MOVE A MOUNTAIN

A CHRISTIAN'S CALL – The Lord says we are to call upon Him in prayers that He will hear and answer. But how far will the Lord go? How far should we go? Our lesson tries to find an answer to those questions.

THE PRAYER – We pray: Dear Lord, our Heavenly Father, through the blood of Your Son, our Savior, we have been adopted into the family of faith. May we, as Your children, listen to Your invitations, and gladly bring our prayers to You with confidence. In those moments when we 'doubt in our hearts', grant us an extra measure of faith. This we pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.

ILLUSTRATION - It was a number of years ago that the little boy came home from Vacation Bible School and his mother asked him what he had learned that morning. "Well Mother", he thoughtfully replied, "we learned that Moses went behind the enemy Egyptian lines and freed the Israelites. Then he took the Hebrew army engineers and they quickly built a pontoon bridge across the Red Sea. Then when the Egyptians' tank division started to cross over the bridge he called in the dive bombers and the planes blew all of God's enemies to bits." Naturally, the boy's mother was outraged. Before she called to church to complain, she asked, by way of confirmation, "Are you sure that's what your teacher taught you?" The little boy examined the floor for a minute, and then finally confessed, "_____."

SATAN'S SUMMONS – The truth is that the devil believes in Jesus. But his faith, like the faith he continually tries to brainwash others with, is not a faith that will save.

THOUGHT: The devil tells us, repeatedly, that God can't do this and He won't do that. He invests a great deal of time in encouraging us to believe that the Lord won't move the smallest of molehills.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH 1 – Take a look at the Scripture passages which follow and see who was tempted to doubt the power of the Lord.

TEXT	WHO DOUBTED GOD	WHAT WAS THE NATURE OF THE DOUBT
Job 9:16-23	_____	_____
Job 30:20-21	_____	_____
Psalms 22:2	_____	_____
Psalms 77:7-9	_____	_____
Jeremiah 15:18	_____	_____

What does the Lord say about such people who believe that God doesn't care:

TEXT	WHO SAID	WHAT DID HE SAY
Isaiah 49:14-15	_____	_____
Mark 4:40	_____	_____
Matthew 14:31	_____	_____

FIRST APPLICATION: In both the Old and the New Testaments, God's heroes of faith encountered those moments when they doubted the Lord. They became heroes of faith the Spirit moved them to a deeper faith in God's compassion and care. Over eighty years of bringing Christ to the nations and individuals has taught Lutheran Hour Ministries that the greatest limitations on our prayers as we call upon the Lord comes from us, not from Him. We are very much like (the story in the leader's packet):

ILLUSTRATION: As Christians we take what God offers, not what we think we need. Let's take a look at these Scripture lessons and see who expected, and received what ...

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SCRIPTURE SEARCH 2 - CHRIST'S CALL -

TEXT	WHO CAME IN PRAYER	WHAT "MOUNTAINS" DID THE LORD MOVE
Joshua 10:12-13	_____	_____
1 Kings 18: 24,37-39	_____	_____
1 Kings 3: 7-14	_____	_____
1 Kings 17:22	_____	_____
Luke 23: 42	_____	_____
Acts 9: 40	_____	_____

The Lord sums up His philosophy about mountain moving in Proverbs. What does it say?

Proverbs 24:10 - If you falter in times of trouble, how small is your strength!

Who is the person that falters?

God / Man

Who is the one whose strength is small?

God / Man

THOUGHT & ILLUSTRATION - Scripture is plain that there is an enormous gap between what we think we can do and what God is willing to do with His people who call upon Him. Take a look at some of the things God wishes to do:

TEXT	WHAT "MOUNTAINS" DOES GOD WANT MOVED?
Psalms 50:15	_____
John 14: 12	_____
2 Timothy 2: 8-10	_____

The ability to move mountains is only as good as that which stands behind the promise. If we trust people to help us move mountains; we get what people can do. If we trust money to help us move mountains; we get what money can do. If we trust God, we get what God can do. And what God can do is make us: "more than conquerors through him that loved us." That is what we proclaim.

Are there some mountains in your church that are in need of moving? YES NO

If the answer is YES, record them here: _____

Will you not pray to the Lord about them this week? YES NO How many minutes each day: _____

THE WAY OF PRAYER – Dear Lord, You have told us that we can move mountains. We know mountains got moved back in Bible times. Help us move some mountains today. Make us Your assistants in showing to this world that Your power is not limited and our faith in what You can do is strong. In Jesus' Name, I pray it. Amen.