

On one occasion Jesus came upon a group arguing vehemently with His disciples. When the Savior inquired as to the cause of this contention, the father of an afflicted child stepped forward, saying he had approached Jesus's disciples for a blessing for his son, but they were not able to provide it. With the boy still gnashing his teeth, foaming from the mouth, and thrashing on the ground in front of them, the father appealed to Jesus with what must have been last-resort desperation in his voice: "If thou canst do anything," he said, "have compassion on us, and help us."

"Jesus said unto him, if thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

"And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief."

This man's initial conviction, by his own admission, is limited. But he has an urgent, emphatic desire in behalf of his only child. We are told that is good enough for a beginning. "Even if ye can no more than *desire to believe*," Alma declares, "let this desire work in you, even until ye believe." With no other hope remaining, this father asserts what faith he has and pleads with the Savior of the world, "If *thou* canst do *any thing*, have compassion on *us*, and help *us*."

His initial declaration is affirmative and without hesitation: "Lord, I believe." I would say to all who wish for more faith, remember this man! In moments of fear or doubt or troubling times, hold the ground you have already won, even if that ground is limited. In the growth we all have to experience in mortality, the spiritual equivalent of this boy's affliction or this parent's desperation is going to come to all of us. When those moments come and issues surface, the resolution of which is not immediately forthcoming,

hold fast to what you already know and stand strong until additional knowledge comes.

The size of your faith or the degree of your knowledge is not the issue—it is the integrity you demonstrate toward the faith you do have and the truth you already know.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Skyline Ward

January 9, 2022



"First and forever fan the flame of your faith because all things are possible to them that believe"

Elder Jeffery R. Holland, "Lord, I Believe"

April 2013

Church Broadcast link: Sundays at 11am.

<http://mywebcast.churchofjesuschrist.org/Events/renonevadastake>

Be sure to use the ward website for the latest announcements:

<https://renonvstakeinfo.org/>

Welcome and Announcements

<i>Presiding:</i>	<i>Bishop Beau Keenan</i>
<i>Conducting:</i>	<i>Bishop Beau Keenan</i>
<i>Organist:</i>	<i>Sister Melissa McMurray</i>
<i>Director:</i>	<i>Sister Lynn Grove</i>
<i>Opening Hymn:</i>	<i>#267 “How Wonderous and Great”</i>
<i>Invocation:</i>	<i>T.B.A.</i>
<i>Ward Business:</i>	<i>T.B.A.</i>
<i>Speaker:</i>	<i>Brother Jeffery Loftin</i>
<i>Sacrament Hymn:</i>	<i>#184 “Upon the Cross”</i>

Passing of the Sacrament

<i>Closing Hymn:</i>	<i>#220 “Lord, I Would Follow Thee”</i>
<i>Benediction:</i>	<i>T.B.A.</i>

