



Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

Luke 17:5-6

Fincrease our faith!" That is a desire that most of us share. "Increase my faith as a person. Increase our faith as a congregation."

We desire an increase in our confidence that the realm of which Jesus speaks is present and coming. We ask God to increase our willingness to be part of it. And then Jesus says, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

The mustard seed was tiny, proverbially the smallest of seeds. The mulberry tree (not our mulberry but something more like a sycamore), had deep roots and stretched 60 feet into the air.

Jesus' point: if you act on what you've got, you can do a lot more than you think you can, because what you are infused with is the power of the realm. It would be great to have an increased faith. But you don't need to wait for the gauge to register full on the faith tank in your heart and mind. All you need is a mustard seed.

Think about that today as you contemplate your giving for the coming year. Many of us, perhaps most of us, maybe even all of us, can do more than we think we can. And we can do it because we are caught up in the power of something bigger than we are.

Weekly Giving if the Percentage Is

(Rounded to the nearest dollar)

Annual Income	Monthly Income	Weekly Income	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%	15%
16,000	1,333	308	6.00	12.00	18.00	25.00	31.00	46.00
20,000	1,667	385	8.00	15.00	23.00	31.00	39.00	58.00
25,000	2,083	481	10.00	19.00	29.00	38.00	48.00	72.00
30,000	2,500	577	12.00	23.00	35.00	46.00	58.00	87.00
35,000	2,917	673	13.00	27.00	40.00	54.00	67.00	101
40,000	3,333	769	15.00	31.00	46.00	62.00	77.00	115
45,000	3,750	865	17.00	35.00	52.00	69.00	87.00	130
50,000	4,167	962	19.00	38.00	58.00	77.00	96.00	144
60,000	5,000	1,154	23.00	46.00	69.00	92.00	115	173
75,000	6,250	1,442	29.00	58.00	87.00	115	144	216
100,000	8,333	1,923	38.00	77.00	115	154	192	288
125,000	10,417	2,404	48.00	96.00	144	192	240	361