

He Is the God of the Gap

The boy's father cried out with tears, "I do believe! Help my unbelief!"

MARK 9:24

Written by Bill Perkins

The desperate father
didn't come to Jesus with bold faith.
He came with a broken heart.

His son had been tormented
since childhood —
thrown into fire and water
by a violent spirit.
The disciples had tried
to expel it and failed.

So the father turned to Jesus
and said:
"If You can do anything,
take pity on us and help us."
(Mark 9:22)

Jesus didn't let that "if" slide.
He echoed it back:
"If You can?"
said Jesus.
"Everything is possible
for one who believes."
(Mark 9:23)

The man's response
was raw and honest:
"I do believe;
help my unbelief."
(Mark 9:24)

And that was enough.

Jesus commanded the spirit
to leave and never return.
The boy convulsed violently
and collapsed like a corpse.
But Jesus took him by the hand,
lifted him up,
and he stood.

You may not know this about Jesus:
He is the God of the Gap —
the One who bridges the distance
between the faith we have
and the faith we need.

The father didn't bring perfect belief.
He brought a prayer.
And Jesus met him in the middle.
He didn't say,
"Come back when you're stronger."

He said,
"I'll stand in the gap."