

Ordinary 27C

All the readings today talk about faith – and how much faith we need to have

Apostles go to Jesus and ask “Increase our faith”

Apostles didn't think they had enough faith – How much do you need?

My son Matt climbed up an apple tree – an old tree (brittle tree)

Branches started to break and he was stuck – I got under him and say “jump Son” (RISKY)

He's afraid – “Really? – Should I just let go?” YES So he jumped and I caught him and he was safe

He had faith in me – because I love him he believed I would keep him safe – and I did.

Jesus says we need faith in Him – but He says all we need is faith the size of a mustard seed

How big is a mustard seed (show them tiny seeds)

All you kids are little – those folks in the benches are big

BUT YOUR FAITH IS BIG ENOUGH – Jesus said you only need a little

Here's Why – Why did Jesus say a seed? Why not faith the size of a grain of sand?

- **The power of a seed does not depend on its size, but on what's inside it**
 - **The hidden life within it**
- **The power of our faith does not depend on its size**
 - **But on its quality – seeds have potential to grow into big plants**
 - Whether we are big or small (YOUNG OR OLD) doesn't matter
 - What matters is that we have it
- **In Jail** – “I'm not good enough, I'm too bad” NOT TRUE – all you need is a little
 - Tomatoes – From 1 rotten tomatoe – all these.
 - God loves us – the seed of faith is in each of us
- **Parents**
 - The seed of Faith IS in all of us – including our children
 - We need to water it, pull out weeds, and take care of it so it will grow
 - We need to do that with our children – and with ourselves
 - IF we do, the mustard seed faith will grow in all of us
 - So that we (they) can be the men & women God wants them to be