

THE PASTOR'S ESSENTIALS®

OUR LIVES IN THE BIBLE - THE BIBLE IN OUR LIVES

¹³ "ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE. FOR WIDE IS THE GATE AND BROAD IS THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO DESTRUCTION, AND MANY ENTER THROUGH IT. ¹⁴ BUT SMALL IS THE GATE AND NARROW THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO LIFE, AND ONLY A FEW FIND IT.
MATTHEW 7:13-14

es-sen-tials (ĭ-sĕn'shəlz) – *noun* – those things that are necessary and basic to life. In biochemistry essentials are substances that are required for normal functioning but cannot be synthesized by the body and therefore must be included in the diet. Essentials are those things that are fundamental to the spiritual health of the professing Christian.

The Gospel of Mark A BIBLE STUDY

SESSION NINE

Mark 9:9 – 10:12

Questions for Session Nine

1. Why do you suppose Jesus gave the orders to tell no one until the Son of Man had been raised from the dead? What is the significance of Elijah in this? Explain the disciples' understanding of the suffering and rejection of the Son of Man.
2. Why were the disciples unable to drive the evil spirit from the boy? What did Jesus mean in v. 19? Why would Jesus have been irritated with them?
3. Explain Jesus' statement, "Everything is possible for him who believes." What did Jesus mean in v. 23?

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4. Why were the disciples afraid to ask Jesus about v. 31, which they clearly did not understand?

5. The disciples put their humanity on display much like we do. Why did Jesus ask them what they were arguing about on the road, if we assume that Jesus already knew?

6. Compare and contrast the statement in v. 35 with Jesus' explanation in vv. 36 and 37. How are these related? How can we connect this lesson to our own lives?

7. Was the reaction of the disciples in v. 38 a reaction of *jealousy* or *envy*? Were they trying to protect what they were about, or did they see this as some other problem?

8. Can you explain v. 42 and the Christian responsibility for children and persons in the infant stages of their faith?

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9. Discuss (1) the meaning of vv. 43-47, (2) the significance of v. 48, and (3) the references to *salt* and to *saltiness*.

10. What was Jesus' teaching on divorce? How can this be applied to our lives in the twenty-first century? Is this one of those teachings in the Bible that we would like to do without?

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