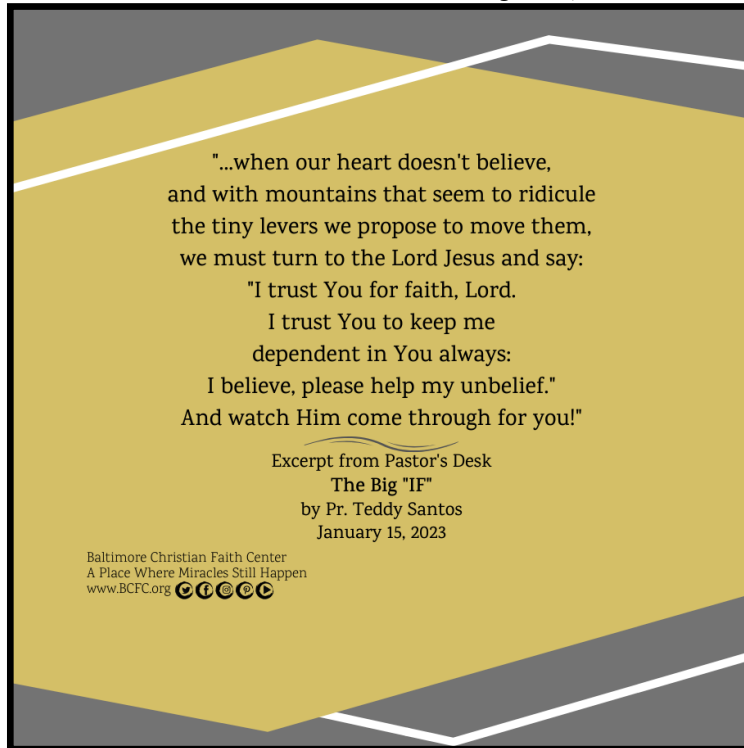


## THE BIG "IF"

Pastor's Desk – January 15, 2023



**Mark 9:22-23** "...*But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.*" Jesus said to him, "*If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.*"

When our Lord Jesus was physically walking the earth, there was no separation between the life concealed in God and a ready answer to the call of human need. And oh, how true it is the same today! It is incredibly comforting to know we can have a response every time we come to Him and nourish from His endless Love.

The father makes an honest petition to the Lord for help; however, notice how our Lord tosses back the obligation on the father:

The father says: "If You can do anything,"; whereas Jesus responds with: "the if is not with Me, it's with you. It is not a query of My power but of your conviction. So then, can you believe?" At this time, the father tossed back the obligation on the Master, expressing, "I'm afraid I have not faith enough, but I trust You to create it in me. Help my unbelief."

Faith is crucial to convey God's ability to meet the world's needs, sorrows, and sins. We often fail in our faith because of ignorance and hidden sin, which automatically sprouts out the big "IF." There is an intense ocean of power all around us, but hard to tap it at times because of internal doubt. However, when our heart doesn't believe, and with mountains that seem to ridicule the tiny levers we propose to move them, we must turn to the Lord Jesus and say: "I trust You for faith, Lord. I trust You to keep me dependent in You always: I believe, please help my unbelief." And watch Him come through for you!

At His service,  
Pr. Teddy Santos