

## Mountain Climbing

*He (Jesus) replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." Matthew 17:20*

It was scary to obey the Lord in leaving my secure position at Focus on the Family to begin Ramah. While the odds against us seemed insurmountable, the Lord promised He would provide for our needs. A friend of mine recently took a similar step in faith in leaving Focus to start a new work. After she was home, they discovered they really did need her income and she felt the first pangs of panic.

God built our faith by urging us to trust Him. With every supernatural provision, new spikes of faith were added to our feet to help us in the future climb. We can look back and remember His faithfulness when we encounter the next steep cliff. After a while, faith climbing gets easier!

In encouraging this friend, I felt high above her on the mountain looking down to see her beginning the ascent. The view isn't clear at the bottom so you must concentrate on the path and take encouragement from others ahead of you. It also helps to dream of the view from the top. Many stop because the climb is too hard while others simply topple to the bottom. Their faith might not have been strong enough to sustain them in the hike.

Where are you on the climb? Can you feel Him moving you forward and strengthening your faith through each trial or steep hill? As one hiker to another, dig your feet into the path and move forward with confidence. Strain your muscles and know God never sleeps. For the faithful few, His view from the top is exhilarating.