

Mountains

Last week, my family was fortunate to be able to see **4 Him** in concert as part of their farewell tour. The guys have been a blessing to many for the past sixteen years. Their songs and testimony have ministered to countless lives around the world.

During the concert, a song from Kirk Sullivan's solo project struck me and has generated a lot of thought over the past week. The song, *Get Down Mountain* was written by Tony Sutherland and seems to have has its origin the passage in Matthew 17:20.

“... for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.”

The opening lines of the song captured my attention:

“Get down mountain, get down. Go on and fall to the ground. My victory is waiting on the other side...”

... I've got the power to climb. My feet are willing but I'm not going to waste my time. Get down mountain, get down.”

One of the things I liked best about moving back to Anniston was being able to see the mountains. I did not realize how much I missed seeing the hills as I traveled around town. In fact, as I write this I have a beautiful view of the mountain side through my study window.

As I thought about the lyrics of this song, my mind began to wander. We often talk about desiring a “mountain top” experience. There is nothing wrong with that. However, I began to think about examples of mountain experiences in the Bible. Not all of the best experiences occurred on top of the mountain.

Moses heard God on the mountain. Then he carried the mission to Pharaoh in the valley of the Nile.

Noah heard God in the valley. Then completed his building project, which now rest on top of Mount Ararat.

David heard God in the valley of Nob. Then sought refuge from Saul in the mountains of En-gedi. Then found his victory on the other side, when he sat on the throne of Israel.

It made me wonder: **“What is it about mountains?”** The mountains in our lives are not always rock and earth. Some times the mountains we face every day are mountains of fear and doubt. Many are often mountains of opportunity. Yet other mountains are the learning experiences we must go through to get to the victory on the other side.

God simply calls us to be faithful with the mountains. It is not about the mountain, it's about our being faithful in the journey. Therefore, pray that God will give us the discernment to know the mountains we must ascend, the mountains we must descend and the mountains we must transcend.

Regardless of the cause, the mountain is not there for us to look toward. It is there for us to experience.

The victory IS on the other side.