

**Participate in Becoming**    Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time    Saturday, August 12, 2017  
8:15 AM    Dt 6:4-13;    **Mt 17:14-20**    (St. Jane Frances de Chantal, religious)    (BVM)  
(We have to believe in that mystery and work with that mystery and become obedient to that mystery and energized by that mystery and empowered by that mystery.)

**“Nothing will be impossible for you.”**

Of course that means nothing will be impossible **according to the will of God**. Now **Scripture speaks in parables**. Parables are exaggerations. **They are extended images**. Mustard seeds are little seeds. They are not the smallest of all seeds, but they are very little and they do grow into a large shrub, not the largest shrub, but they are large. **All seeds contain tremendous potential**. An acorn, for example, produces a magnificent oak tree. **This is nature**.

Now the question comes up: **what is our nature?** What we now have is the seed. **Our bodies, our minds, our souls are the seed for something else**. What is that? Well, we can't know. If acorns were conscious, they would not be able to foresee the oak tree that they are to become. Well, we are to some degree conscious, but **we cannot foresee the life that we are to become**. But it is all part of the plan of God that we participate in this becoming. And the goal of all this participation, as you read or heard read in the Book of Deuteronomy, is **to love God with our whole heart, mind, and soul, our total being. That's the goal**. It's been known for centuries, centuries before Christ. He didn't have to tell anyone that. They knew it already, but they couldn't do it, or not too well.

What got in the way? Well what is usually called idolatry. **Idolatry means inventing, making up images, and calling them God**. And that is what the human race has done probably since the very beginning, making up ideas, images, and calling those images and ideas God. But the real God is very different—the real God is very different. And **Jesus is revealing the real God**. His revelation of the real God is connected to life and health and well-being in a profound way, in a way that is miraculous, meaning **it causes awe and wonder and marveling**. And that he says is in you. You have this power to cause awe and wonder and marveling, but you have to believe it. **You have to believe in yourself and you have to believe in the source of yourself**, which is no image you have made up. **It is a mystery we cannot comprehend. We have to believe in that mystery and work with that mystery and become obedient to that mystery and energized by that mystery and empowered by that mystery**. And then we will move mountains and cast evil out of the world.