***Mark 11: 20-23, (ESV),*** emphasis added, ***"As they*** *(the disciples)* ***passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots. And Peter remembered and said to him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered." And Jesus answered them, "Havefaith in God. Truly, I say to you,* whoever says to this mountain*, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and does notdoubt in his heart, butbelieves that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him.""***

**Because You Asked???-- The Gospel of Mark was most likely written by John Mark, a friend of Peter's. John Mark was a resident of Jerusalem and a Palestinian Jew, with Aramaic as his native language. Internal, subjective evidence supports John Mark's authorship of this important Gospel.**

**Mark's "Lessons from the Withered Fig Tree" are actually two-fold. Perhaps first and foremost, this story demonstrates that Jesus Christ can do anything, from life to death, from destruction to creation. HE can do anything! However, Mark also focused on another aspect of this centuries' old tale....and that part IS WHERE WE COME IN! He told His disciples, "*Havefaith in God." Truth is, our responsibility in this "belief thing" is exceedingly simple, yet extremely, exceptionally, exceedingly, enormously challenging! (a.k.a* “WAY BIG!”*)--We Must Believe! What's more, Mark emphasized this: if we can embrace the supremacy and sway and “smack” and superiority and strength and sovereignty of Jesus in the context and person of “God,” and.... "(Do) notdoubt in (our) hearts, butbelieve that what HE says will come to pass”******then,* (Pay attention! This is the “money maker!”) *”it will be done for (us)."* {Play that again, Sam!}**

 ***”*I*t will be done for (us)!"***

***This ancient story, told and retold again, dictates to us today, across the centuries, a fundamental, basic, 'take you to the root of the matter.' vital truth.....***

***WE MUST..... BELIEVE WHOLLY IN THE CHRIST WHO CAN DO ANYTHING!***

***(*{Play that again, Sam!}..*....)***

***WE MUST.....***

***BELIEVE WHOLLY IN THE CHRIST WHO CAN DO ANYTHING!***

***Today, may your wonderful, “without equal,” “This is BIG,” Thursday be a “whoever* says to this mountain” *day, filled with a "withered fig tree" faith,***

***where you experience the unsurpassed, unparalleled, unrivaled, unbeatable presence of the Savior who* can do anything!!**

**And that, folks, is “WAY BIG!”**

It is always,

Because of Him,

**Lindi**

**Is Jesus “Way Big” to you? If not, call me, 316-323-3889, let’s discuss His life-changing resurrection from the dead..**

**Dear Great and Good God, thank You for Mark’s words that bring us hope today. Help us hold onto the promise of Your Christ who taught us to believe, trust, and have faith. Help us “move our mountains” so that we can serve Your high calling. Show us the truth of our decisions and actions, so that we might “strip away” all pretences, falsehoods, and “smoke screens.” Take us deeper into Your holiness. For those in hospitals, facing surgeries, and undergoing medical treatments, be their all. For those in the midst of great loss, hold them dear. Forgive my unfocused time, unproductive tasks, and non-important moment-wasting. Help me be clear in Your mission. In the scariness of our today, bring protection by the shed blood of Your Son. Cover Israel and Jerusalem with Your perfect peace. Make Your Word to me rich and deep. I love You! I adore You! In Jesus’ name, Amen.**