Monday of the Thirty-second Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (*Lk* 17:1-6): … And the Apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith.” The Lord replied, “If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.”

Faith as "seed of interior life"

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)
(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, we are considering one of the most mysterious sayings in the New Testament. In reality, the "mountains" and "trees" that faith removes are those that obstruct our life. These are almost always much more massive than those you can point to on maps.

The act of believing is not about talking oneself into some notion or about ascribing some active power to faith, but it consists in trusting that God is there and that I can put myself in His hands. Then, even the "mountain" will go away. The Lord also uses the image of the "mustard seed", as being the smallest of all grains, out of which a tree will grow in which all the birds will be able to nest. This mustard seed is a profound symbol of faith: on the one hand, it comprises the smallness (wherein I am wretched), but at the same time the potential for growth. Faith is, above all, a seed of life.

—I am only a true believer if faith is present within me as a living seed that grows inside me, and which then truly changes my world, and in doing so, brings in something new.