

Miracles - Unbelievable!

Scripture used: Genesis 1:1-3, John 1:14 (NLT)

OVERVIEW

This week, we are beginning a new series entitled "Miracles!" We pick up from the last message of the "Change" series, which stated that, for some of us, we face unchangeable circumstances and that some of us have paths that are seemingly unreachable due to things like poor decisions or broken circumstances. This new series is to remove the "period" from the end of that last statement and change it into a "comma" and add these four words... Except For A Miracle." Anything that is seemly unchangeable can ALWAYS be made changeable when performed by our miracle-working God!

KEY POINTS

To position myself to expect God's miracles, I need to....:

- 1) ...Open my mind and consider the impossible (miracles). We need to consider, despite what our minds or opinion tell us, the reality of miracles. Though many doubt in such a concept, the evidence is all around us. Gen 1:1 says, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

The Bible proclaims that the earth and the heavens, including the universe, was created from one source, God. This is the first evidence above of all miracles performed by God. As much as science and skeptics have tried to disprove this theory, there are many scientists who, through the process of study, can only proclaim the miracle required in the creation of the world and the universe, whether by God's hand or by something else (like the big bang). Even with the opposite found in the study of the smallest detail, like the DNA genome, when experts study it, the complexity found in it is discovered to be nothing short of a miracle. Knowing this, we need to realize that our very existence, our very bodies, are miraculous in itself. We are a miracle, shaped by God!

- 2) ...Open my eyes and look for the impossible (miracles). John 1:14 talks about the Word becoming flesh through Jesus, and because of that, we have seen God's glory. This, in Hebrew, is Shekinah, which is a glory that allows us to see the word of God. This allows us to see not only the miracle, but the God who is behind the miracle.

There are so many life circumstances or situations where God has been performing miracles. *If you want to know whether God is at work, all you have to do is look back and find the trail of miracles from your past.* Perhaps the fact that we are sitting safely in church despite our poor choices in the past is evidence of a miracle. We need to have eyes that see the areas in our lives which had God's hands involved in it.

- 3) ...Open my heart and believe God for the impossible (miracles). How do we know that God cares enough for us to want to perform a miracle in our lives? John 1:14 in The Message translation says that God "moved into the neighborhood." God doesn't just pitch His tent, but He also dwells in the tent with us.

God is always near. God desires to get involved in our lives. We have to dare to believe that God created us in His image to think about our purpose and to reason, look and find the miracles that prove His trustworthiness! Sometimes, God even works miracles in us not just for ourselves, but for the sake of those around us.

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - What are the things that we tend to overlook in our lives that we should recognize and acknowledge as being a miracle from God? Share with the group and recognize all the different ways God is actively at work.
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - Identify a time where you have either experienced personally, or through another person, an impossible situation which had its ending changed to include "except for a miracle" through what could only have been God's intervention. Share with the group.
- 3) **DO** - As we go through the 40 days of consecration and fasting, identify one area in your life where you want to experience a miracle. As you pray and fast, DARE TO BELIEVE! If you desire, identify these within the group and experience God's miracles together through corporate prayer and fasting.