



## The Making of a Miracle – Message 1

### Announcements



**Host a Born For This Group** // Has God done something special in your life? Who do you know that would benefit from the same? Step out and host a *Born For This* group with family, friends and people you already know. Text **bornforthis** to **25827**.

**1000ONE** // Join 1,000 people to pray for the *Born For This* Community Series. Text **pray** to **25827** to receive daily emails with a daily scripture and prayer point.

**Step 2 – Essentials** // Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:45pm // All Campuses. Learn the essential habits that every believer needs to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ. Water Baptism Class will be held during this step. Register at [ChurchoftheKing.com/register](http://ChurchoftheKing.com/register).

**SEMESTER BREAK STARTS DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>. SMALL GROUP LESSONS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE.**

### Warm-up

As a child, what was your favorite Christmas movie, program or book and why?

Today we launch a new three-part series appropriately called *The Christmas Miracle*. As we rediscover the miracle birth of the Christ and Savior, we go beyond the surface and learn how God can use each of us to do miracles. Whether the Christmas story is a well-known narrative to you or an unfamiliar account, together we'll explore how God brings life into the most barren of places, and breathes hope into the most unpromising situations.

### Word and Application

The Christmas story is well known throughout the world. It's been read so many times that we tend to only see one miracle: *Christ's birth*. But the greater reality is that He, in fact, came to birth miracles in and through all of us. Share a situation that seemed insurmountable, only to later experience a surprising miracle, provision or solution.

The miracle birth of Jesus is about God joining with people – Heaven meeting earth, the Holy Spirit impregnating Mary. Christmas highlights the incarnation of Jesus coming from heaven in spirit form and being birth in the flesh. It's the miracle of all miracles. Because no one expected it, it was also the ultimate surprise.

**Read Matthew 7:11.** According to this scripture, how would you describe the character of God? When was the last time you were pleasantly surprised by an unexpected gift or blessing?

Our heavenly Father wants to surprise you with His goodness – in your home, on your job, in your finances, in your family, in your health. God's grace is His richness being freely given to you.

**Read Isaiah 9:2.** Based upon this passage, what does darkness symbolize to you? What does the light represent? How can you apply this verse to your life or to the lives of those around you?

**Read Luke 1:26-48,** the account of "The Mary miracle" or better known as the Christmas Miracle. Why do you think God chooses to use a person (Mary) to perform this miracle? What are other biblical examples of God using a person or people to carry out miracles?

We can see this pattern for a miracle in our lives as well – God speaks *to us*, He does something *in us* that then comes *through us*, to bless those *around us*. The Mary miracle contains a pattern for the miraculous. Miracles are intended to happen within, through and around us, too!

Let's look at **Three Things About The Making of a Miracle:**

**1. The preeminent (foremost) miracle of all history is the miracle of the incarnation.**

**Read Luke 1:30-31.** The miracle birth of Jesus started with God speaking to Mary. Share some practical ways to position us to hear from God? What incredible thing or miracle might God be challenging you to believe Him for?

The Mary Miracle brought **redemption** to the world. Redemption shows God's miracles of taking the broken, the unseen, the forgotten, the uninvited and using them in His plan and purposes. Redemption is God reclaiming the wandering, forgiving the unforgiveable, and using them powerfully and supernaturally.

**2. God loves to work in ordinary, imperfect people to do extraordinary things.**

**Read Luke 1:34-38 and Luke 1:48.** According to scripture, Mary was a virgin and Elizabeth was barren. Though ordinary and imperfect women, God produced a miracle in both. Even though they did not fully understand *how*, they trusted God to do what He said. Similarly, we have to break through our own understanding at times to receive God's miracles. What are some things that might hinder our belief in receiving a miracle promise from God? How can we counter these obstacles?

**3. God works through people, willing people.**

**Read Luke 1:48 and 1 Corinthians 1:27.** We have already established that Mary was an ordinary and imperfect human. Knowing this, why do you believe God chose Mary to bring in the Savior of the World? What can we learn from Mary's character when God wants to use us to do something incredible?

Take time this week to ask God what miracle does He want to do in and through you in order to bless those around you.

**Prayer**

Close in prayer by thanking God for specific miracles He has done in you and others. Pray for specific needs of the group.