

BEYOND

Believing For The Miraculous – Message 3

Warm-up

“Reaching People and Building Lives” is what our church has been about from the beginning. Why did you first visit Church of the King and what impact has the church had in your life? What part of your life have you grown the most in since being part of the Church of the King family?

Bottom Line

Learning how to partner with God and how to see the supernatural take place in and through our lives is an important and exciting part of being a child of God.

Word and Application

Last week, we learned about the *Principle of First* and the fruit that comes from putting God first in everything, including our finances. Today, we study why and how miracles take place. We'll look at the impact we can make as individuals and as a church family. The greatest way to make an impact is to touch people with the love of Christ. In fact, the greatest miracle we can ever see is a life that has been changed by Christ.

- From the very beginning, our church has received one giant miracle after another. Do you believe that God still performs miracles today? Why do you think miracles happen?

How a Biblical Miracle Works

Read John 6:1-13.

This miracle was the only one recorded in all four of the Gospels, which means God must want us to take some time to study it.

- Have you witnessed a miracle? What were the events leading up to it?
- How has God worked through you to be part of a miracle for another person or our church?

Recipe for a miracle: *Where there is a need, sensed by a group of people, and each individual understands his or her responsibility and steps out all regardless of the odds, then Jesus works a miracle.*

1. A Biblical miracle starts with a need.

- **Read Mark 6:35-37a, John 6:5-7, Luke 9:12-14, and Matthew 14:15-17**
- This particular miracle didn't start with faith or prayer. It started with a need. Share other examples of miracles in the Bible that started with a real need.
- Why do you think the people followed Jesus?
- What miracle are you needing in this season?
- What need do you have that you may feel is small? Ask God for a miracle in that area too!

2. Where there is a need, sensed by a group of people.

- **Read John 6:14-15.** Similar to this passage, God will often time work miracles through people rather than doing everything on His own. Why do you think He does this?
- Identify miracles in the Bible in which a *group of people* sensed a need.
- **Read John 6:14-15 again.** What was the people's response to the miracle feeding of 5,000? How should we respond after we see miracles in our lives?

3. And they stepped out, regardless of the odds.

- **Read John 6:8-9. Now read Ephesians 3:20 and Philippians 4:19.** How does knowing the power and authority of God bridge the gap between what you have and what you need?
- Some believe the true hero of faith in the feeding of the 5,000, was the little boy who gave up his lunch. His generosity led to a miracle that impacted thousands! Here are two common reasons why we find it difficult to give up our lunch.

1. It is hard to care for others when we are comfortable ourselves.
2. God often asks us to do things that don't make sense.

Which of these two reasons do you identify more with? Explain why. What do we miss out on when we are unwilling to sacrifice in faith?

Life Challenge

- Make a list of *impossible needs* you are facing.
- Choose one of the following verses or one of your own to stand on and declare over your need: Ephesians 3:20, Jeremiah 32:27, Hebrews 7:25, John 10:29-30, Ephesians 1:19.
- Present those needs to our Heavenly Father and ask Him to help you understand your responsibility.

Prayer

Jesus, I thank you that you are more than able to meet every need I have. Nothing is impossible to you, Lord. According to Jeremiah 32:27, *it is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.* Show me my responsibility to set the table for you to work miraculously in my life. Pray for the specific needs of your small group.