

Every Christian's first true experience with the supernatural realm is the moment you first believed in Jesus Christ and asked Him to forgive you of your sins.

Then there are "bigger" - no way did that just happen but by God— kind of experiences:

- Instant physical healing—myself and others

Why God provides opportunities to give sacrificially:

- To teach us the joy of obedience
 - To stretch our faith
- To free us from the bonds of materialism
- To sow seeds into the future of our church family

*Join us next Sunday, May 28th as we continue our new series, God of the Impossible: God of Miracles with The Miracles of the Old Testament.

MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS TO...

- Memorize Luke 1:38.
- Make a final decision about how much God is asking you and your family to give toward our Miracle Sunday Offering for disaffiliation.
- Journal about the miracles that God has done in my life.
- Pray for 6 people who over the summer you can invite to church.

**All verses are from the New Living Translation (NLT) unless otherwise noted.*

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God of the Impossible: The God of Miracles

The Living Water Church
May 21, 2023
Pastor Todd Jones



“Although English speakers regularly use ‘miracle’ to refer to a broad range of wondrous events, the biblical concept is limited to those not explainable solely by natural processes but which require the direct causal agency of a supernatural being, usually God. These occur throughout all major eras of history but do appear with greater frequency at key periods of God’s self-revelation”.—Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology

“We may not always be able to clearly define the boundaries between ‘general’ and ‘special’ divine action, since even in special events (such as the parting of the sea in Exodus) God may use ordinary causes in extraordinary ways. (Exodus says God blew back the sea with a strong wind.) But plenty of events are extraordinary enough that virtually any observer would consider them ‘special’ or ‘extraordinary.’ When God uses such events to draw attention to his message, we usually call them miracles”.—Craig Keener

DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES?

3 Impossible Situations of Mary:

- 1) Mary, who was a virgin, was pregnant.
- 2) Her baby was God's Son, the Messiah.
- 3) Mary's relative, in her old age, was also pregnant.

9 Supernatural Events Around Jesus Birth:

- 1) Zechariah is told of his son's birth in his old age by an angel.
- 2) Zechariah could not talk until John was born because of his disbelief.
- 3) An angel tells Mary about Jesus' birth.
- 4) An angel, in a dream, confirms Mary's story to Joseph.
- 5) A census fulfills the prophecy that Jesus was to be born in Bethlehem. (Micah 2)
- 6) A choir of angels announce Jesus' birth to shepherds—indicating Jesus' role to shepherd God's people.
- 7) Wisemen follow a star to Jesus—indicating Jesus' kingly role to rule from heaven.
- 8) When Jesus is circumcised, the priest Simeon's prophecy indicates Jesus' priestly role. (Luke 2:29-35)
- 9) Herod was not able to kill Jesus because Joseph was warned in a dream by an angel to flee to Egypt.

In the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke), Jesus' miracles are predominately called 'deeds of power' -dynamis, whereas in John they are called 'signs' -sēmeia.

For the Synoptic Gospels, Jesus was performing miracles as an act of spiritual power, demonstrating that he was the Messiah. For John, it wasn't so much about the power of Jesus' acts but these things being signs that He truly was the Messiah.

In Acts, Luke speaks of Jesus performing 'signs and wonders,' putting these two ideas together.

Do YOU believe in miracles?

"Small" miracles—ways that God intervenes in our life to provide, guide, save us, speak to us in our heart, and show us the supernatural world:

- Times God has saved my life
- Times God has provided when I was in need
- Times God has healed emotional wounds
- Times when God has opened and closed doors
- Times when God has convicted, then forgiven sins, and then restored me
- Times when God has opened my eyes to the supernatural realm
- Times when God's power has gone out of my body and into someone else's