

40 Miracles of Jesus

This study is a compilation of the works of Pastors Frank and Parris Bailey, along with the teachings of Charles Spurgeon from “Miracles and Parables” unless noted otherwise.

Victory Fellowship

40 Miracles of Jesus

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Week 1

Intro: Jesus Christ “The Miracle Worker”

Acts 10:38, “how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.”

1. WHAT IS A MIRACLE?

Acts 2:22, “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourself also know.”

Actually, everything that exists is a miracle. Have you ever thought about how hands work, or fingers, or even the thumb or the pinkie. Who invented and designed these things? What about oxygen and water and rivers and oceans? Who created fish and shrimp or squids and starfish? Then there are ostriches, horses, elephants, kangaroos, and chimps. Really everywhere you look is loaded with miracles. I guess what stumbles humans is when God actually breaks in to what we perceive as normal and does something supernatural; like fixing a broken ear or eye or stomach or even a marriage or a broken heart. Miracles are literally everywhere.

Miracles comes from the Greek word **duvnamib= “Dunamis”** which means ability, power, strength. Strongs= *dunamai*; force (literally or figuratively); specially, miraculous power -- ability, abundance, meaning, power, strength, violence, mighty (wonderful) work. **“Dunamis”** also means Power through God’s ability.

Webster’s defines the word **“miracle”** as **“a wonder”** or **“a marvel”**. It is an act that only God can perform and if He doesn’t the problem will not be fixed.

In the Old Testament Hebrew Lexicon the Hebrew word for “miracles” is *alp* transliterated as *Pala’*. It means to be marvelous, wonderful, surpassing, beyond one’s power, difficult to do and to understand, to show oneself wonderful or marvelous.

So when we need to be healed, saved, delivered and set free... We are looking for the miracle working, power, ability and strength ... a power that is difficult to understand and not belonging to my natural strength and something that is beyond my ability to do.... We are looking for **MIRACLE WORKING POWER**, wonder of wonders, virtue, signs and might of the Holy Spirit to flow through my life touching not only my body but others I pray for and come in contact with.... **WE NEED DUNAMIS POWER....** Holy Spirit, Holy Ghost, God breathed and God infused strength and wonder... power that I do not have in my natural ability and power to do what I cannot do on my own !!!!!!! (kb)

GOD'S POWER IN ME

Colossians 1:11, "May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy"

"We must be Saturated, Empowered and Sustained by the Power of God."

Pastor Frank Bailey

CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING SCRIPTURES THAT CONTAIN THIS SPECIAL WORD:

*Mark 5:30, And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that **virtue** had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said , Who touched my clothes?*

*Luke 5:17, And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching , that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by , which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the **power** of the Lord was present to heal them.*

*Luke 6:19, And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went **virtue** out of him, and healed them all.*

*Acts 2:22, Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by **miracles and wonders and signs**, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know :*

*Luke 9:1, Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them **power** and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.*

*Acts 4:3, And with great **power** gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.*

*Acts 6:8, And Stephen, full of faith and **power**, **did great wonders and miracles** among the people.*

*Acts 10:38, How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with **power**: who went about doing good , and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.*

*Romans 15:19, Through **mighty signs and wonders, by the power** of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.*

*2 Peter 1:3, According as his divine **power** hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:*

*Hebrews 1:3, Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his **power**, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;*

*Ephesians 3:16, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with **might** by his Spirit in the inner man;*

*Ephesians 3:20, Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the **power** that worketh in us,*

*1 Peter 1:5, Who are kept by the **power of God** through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

2. WHAT DO WE GET A GLIMPSE OF WHEN STUDYING THE MIRACLES OF JESUS?

*Acts 10:38, "how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth **with the Holy Spirit and with power**, who went about doing good and **healing all** who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."*

All of us are born in a fallen world and we live in a fallen body contaminated by the results of being part of a race in rebellion against our God. The life and ministry of Jesus gives us a glimpse of His love for us, and His ultimate triumph over sin and the kingdom of darkness. Everywhere Jesus went during His short three year ministry He cast out demons and healed the sick. He was constantly showing His love for mankind and His miracles were displaying His triumph over the ramifications of the fall of man.

Jesus is the Miracle Worker. From the beginning of time, to His life on this earth, to here and now, Jesus performed miracles and still does so today. The Bible says in Hebrews 13:8, "*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.*" When Jesus performed miracles in the Bible this was the reaction of those who witnessed those signs and wonders:

Mark 6:51, "And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled."

Mark 7:37, "And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well."

The miracles of Jesus on earth were recorded by men who wrote under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Only a few were recorded in detail. *John 21:25 says, "Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, ... even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written."*

It is interesting to note that Jesus did not begin His ministry or perform any miracles until the Holy Spirit came upon Him when He was baptized by John. (See Mark 1:11,14) Also this study is primarily a study of **the book of Mark** where most of Jesus' miracles are recorded.

Week 2

Miracle 1: Jesus Creates All Things

Miracle 2: The Creator Enters into His Creation

Miracle 3: Jesus Turns the Water into Wine

Miracle 1: Jesus Creates All Things Genesis 1:1,26; John 1:1-3

1. WHAT WAS THE FIRST MIRACLE?

John 1:1-3, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made."

Genesis 1:1,26 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth....Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness;"

Martin Luther writes, "John was asserting that the Word existed before all creatures and that the Word was a coworker with the Father. He was an equal creator of everything along with the Father. Everything that exists has been made through the Word. The Word is the Creator of all creatures. There is no difference between the Word and the Father regarding the divine essence. The Word is the true God because He shares the divine essence with God the Father. The Word was with God in the beginning. He demonstrated this when He created the universe. He made heaven and earth, angels, and all creatures...This passage affirms that the Father created everything through his Son.

Miracle 2: The Creator Enters into His Creation John 1:14

2. WHAT IS THE MARVEL OF ALL MARVELS?

John 1:14, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

Paul talked about what he called "the mystery of godliness". He was trying to comprehend the unthinkable, the Creator somehow entered His creation. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, there is nothing more astounding than that. Mary experienced the whole miracle from the conception to His birth, through His childhood years, and the years of His ministry. She was there at His death, burial, and even a witness of His resurrection. It was through her that He entered into His creation. The One who has lived from eternity burst on the scene that day in

Bethlehem, born in a barn and sleeping in an animal's food trough. Entering His creation didn't diminish Him in any way. He is not only the Creator, He is also the Sovereign, ruling all things by His mighty word.

This keeps us from having doubts about who the Son is. We can know and believe that our dear Lord and Savior, born of the Virgin Mary, is also the real, true and natural God and Creator together with the Father and the Holy Spirit.... The Creator of black holes, galaxies, daisies, and even time itself has humbled Himself to come into our world. He came to restore the fallen crown of His creation. He came to seek and save the lost; He came to bring me out of the dark and into the light.

Luke 4:18-19, "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captive and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."

Job 5:9, "He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be counted."

Miracle 3: Jesus Turns the Water into Wine John 2:1-11

3. WHAT WAS THE FIRST MIRACLE JESUS PERFORMED IN HIS 3 SHORT YEARS OF MINISTRY ON EARTH?

Jesus was born of a virgin and lived a relatively normal life. At the age of thirty He was baptized by His cousin John and the Bible says in *Luke 4:22,23*, " *And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased."* Now Jesus Himself began His ministry..." After being led into the wilderness to be tempted, He chose His disciples and not long after that He found Himself at a wedding in Cana. It was there, (being full of the Holy Spirit) that He performed His first miracle on Earth- "Turning Water into Wine (John 2:5-11)."

4. WHAT IS THE FIRST LESSON WE CAN LEARN FROM THE MIRACLE OF THE WATER CHANGING TO WINE?

In this miracle the Lord chose not to use His disciples but instead the servants that were available. The servants were aware that the wine had run dry.... They did not go to the market or house to house looking for additional wine, but did instead nothing... They simply waited for the word to be spoken by the Lord.... A great part of obedience lies in not doing.... When you do not know what to do, do nothing; and doing nothing will be found sometimes the hardest work of all.... True obedience is not always seen in what we do, or do not do; but it is manifest in the perfect submission to the will of God. It is the strong resolve that saturates the spirit through and through, that what He asks we will do. (Charles Price- The Real Faith for Healing)

Mary would instruct the servants, “ DO _____.” “Lord help me to DO
_____ YOU HAVE _____.”

“Miracles happen on purpose. The Lord is the miracle worker, our role is cooperation. We need to place ourselves in position for a miracle. Miracles require more than openness, often times we have to stop everything and press in to the Lord.”

Pastor Frank Bailey

5. WHAT COULDN'T THE SERVANTS DO?

They could fill the pots with water; they could fill them to the brim. They could carry them to the appointed place. They could do all things He told them to do, for He never asks men to do the impossible- for that power He reserves for Himself..It required one more thing- the command that left the lips divine! It required the miracle touch of God Himself..... Faith is not intellectual, but spiritual. It is primarily of the heart- not the mind. Genuine, scriptural faith is not our ability to “count it done”, but it is the deep consciousness divinely imparted to our heart that it is already done. This is the faith that only God can give. (Charles Price- The Real Faith for Healing)

Hebrews 12:2, “He is the _____ and _____ of our _____.”

6. WHAT DOES THE REAL FAITH FOR HEALING AND LIVING CONSIST OF?

The real faith for healing and for living consist of a life of _____ and **TRUST UPON ANOTHER HELPER** (the _____) who is able to guide us and direct us on the path in which we should go.

7. SO HOW DO WE GET THAT KIND OF FAITH?

It is imparted.... Whenever and wherever true faith is in operation, we will no longer “minister” to poor, sick folk hour after hour, rebuking, commanding, demanding, struggling, and pleading as before... Intercession and groaning of the heart may precede the operation of faith but when God’s faith is imparted, the storm dies down and there is a great calm and a deep settled peace in the soul... The only sound will be the voice of thanksgiving and praise.

The mistake with many people has been that they have confused their own ability to believe for the faith that is of God. The full realization that it was _____ to

believe that made the sickness to go, but the faith of God which was imparted, will steal over our soul like a morning daybreak driving the shadows of night away.

We can believe in healing.... We can believe in our blessed Redeemer and His power to heal..... but only _____, _____, _____, can do the work that will lift us to the mountain peaks of victory. (CP)

8. WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPLES INVOLVED IN THE WAY THE LORD PERFORMS MIRCALES?

When Christ is about to bless He gives a command.... When He is about to turn water into wine He doesn't just say "Wine be" but gives a command to men to fill the water-pots. To the blind man that He is about to give sight to.... He puts clay on his eyes and tells him to go wash. To the man who has the withered arm swinging by his side He says, "stretch out your hand." To the child that is dead he says, "maid arise." Lazarus stinks for four days.... He says "Lazarus come forth." He bids people to do what they cannot do. What does Christ say to the sinner? "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved." Can the man believe? Is he not dead in sin? Ezekiel goes to the valley of dry bones and is commanded to prophesy, "O you dry bones hear the word of the Lord." A command to hear; a thing which dry bones cannot do.... He issues His command to the dead, the dry, the helpless, and by His power life comes. (CP)

9. WHAT IS THE LORD ALWAYS DOING?

John 2:11, "This beginning of His signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him."

Pastor Frank Bailey writes, "The Lord is always turning water into wine, you just have to have eyes to see it. Everyday rain comes down from heaven, it is taken in by the roots of the grapevine, and it makes the fruit of the vine in time. In the miracle in John 2 all Jesus does is speed up the process, these signs are happening all around us everyday. Watermelons, lemons, tomatoes, zucchini; these are all the work of God that happens right under our noses. The greater miracles are also happening all around us; lives find purpose, boring lives find passion, ugly lives are made beautiful. Drug users being set free, prostitutes becoming women of God, thieves becoming ministers; redemption is happening all around us, He is always turning water into wine. "

"2000 years have come and gone, and Jesus is still turning water into wine. I think what excites me the most is that He always saves the best for last, and I get to be right in the middle of it."

"He wants to turn *Your Water into Wine*, your mundane into extraordinary, your disappointments into triumphs!!!!" (KB)

10. SO IN THE MEANTIME WHAT ARE WE TO KEEP DOING?

Jesus started His ministry of miracles at this wedding feast. He commanded the servants to “fill the water-pots with water to the brim,” then He turned the water into wine. I believe He was telling the Jewish people that the old was being done away and the new had come. The next verses tell us of Jesus clearing out the temple. Do you realize that the next time we see Jesus will be at the marriage supper of the Lamb? Christ is interceding for His Bride to stay “ready for we do not know the hour”. Yes, the best is ahead for all of us. After getting this verse spoken to me four times during saturation my job is to just “keep pouring”. My efforts are only water but Christ turns them into wine. When we are discouraged and our dreams seem to have shriveled up on the vine, “keep pouring all the way to the top”. He comes and makes all things new again. Some of us have lost our joy and have resorted to the world’s ways and concepts, but Christ comes again to us and whispers-“the best is yet to come.”

Let’s read from the Interpreter’s Bible; “Do it, though you seem to be but wasting your strength and laying yourself open to the scorn of onlookers, do it though in yourself is no ability to effect what you are aiming at, do it wholly up to the brim as if you were the only worker.” So “whatsoever he sayeth to you do it” this is the secret of miracle working! **HE SAVES THE BEST FOR LAST!** Pastor Parris Bailey

answer key:

4. WHATEVER; WHATEVER YOU HAVE SAID
5. AUTHOR, FINISHER, FAITH
6. DEPENDENCE, HOLY SPIRIT
7. NOT OUR ABILITY, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

Week 3

Miracle 4: A Large Catch of Fish

Miracle 5: Healing of Possessed Man in the Synagogue

Miracle 6: Healing Peter's Mother in Law

Miracle 7: Healing of the Leper

Miracle 4: A Large Catch of Fish Luke 5:1-11; Mark 1:16-20

1. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE BENEFITS OF FOLLOWING CHRIST?

In Luke 5, we see Jesus at Lake Gennes'aret where He happened upon some fishermen who were cleaning their nets after a long night of fishing which yielded no fruit. Jesus, because of the amount of people trying to hear Him teach, decided to get in Simon's Peter's boat and move away from the shore to teach the people. It was then He told Peter in Luke 5:4, "*Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a catch.*" Peter did as he was commanded, and it yielding a net breaking, boat sinking load amount of fish. It was after this that the fishermen left all and followed Christ. Mark 1 most likely coincides with this miracle, after all Mark 1:17 says, "they were mending their nets." That day the men had no idea how much their lives would change when they decided to follow Christ.

This week's study has us primarily studying Mark chapter 1. We will study 4 miracles. The miracle of the large catch of fish (which is actually recorded in Luke 5), the healing of the demon possessed man, the healing of Peter's mother in law, and the healing of the man with leprosy. ***When you leave all to follow Him you will not only see the most unlikely people healed and set free, but your own home and those most dear to you will be blessed.*** He is able to do exceedingly and abundantly more than you can even imagine.

2. WHAT DOES THE MIRACLE OF THE LARGE CATCH OF FISH TEACH US?

(See Luke 5:1-11) The Lord is not only sovereign, omniscient, and omnipotent; He also has a great sense of humor. (Who invented humor anyway?) I can just imagine the look on the faces of the experienced fishermen when their nets began to be filled with fish. These men knew they were not following the best fishing plan, and the catch of fish that day was unexplainable. My personal opinion is that Jesus couldn't stop laughing as He watched these men struggle to haul in the largest catch of fish anyone in those parts had ever seen or even heard of. That's how it is with The Lord, when He does something, it is often quite shocking. I think of the water turned into wine (over 120 gallons worth), multiplying fish and bread for thousands of people, and

bread from heaven for hundreds of thousands of people for forty years. Really!!! He is able to do exceedingly abundantly above and beyond what we ask or think. (FB)

3. IF HE BIDS US TO LET DOWN OUR NETS, WHAT WILL HE DO?

Charles Spurgeon writes, “Master, we have toiled all the night and have taken nothing. . . . Had they lacked perseverance? No, they had toiled all the night. Was there a deficiency of fish in the sea? Certainly not, for as soon as the Master came, they swam to the net. . . . What, then, is the reason? Is it because there is no power in the means of themselves apart from the presence of Jesus? ***Without Him we can do nothing. But with Christ we can do all things.*** Christ’s presence confers success. Jesus sat in Peter’s boat. . . . and drew the fish to the net. When Jesus is lifted up in His Church, His presence is the Church’s power. . . . “*If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto Me.*” Let us go out this morning on our work of soul fishing. . . . Let us toil till night comes, and we shall not labor in vain. . . . let down the net, He will fill it with fishes.”

“I think The Lord is still doing that exceedingly abundant thing, and I think He is still laughing. . . . So if you hear those strange words, “Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch”, get ready, something unprecedented is about to happen.” (FB)

Mark 1:16-20, “ And passing along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you become fishers of men.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zeb'edee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets. And immediately he called them; and they left their father Zeb'edee in the boat with the hired servants, and followed him.

Miracle 5: Healing of the Demon Possessed Man Mark 1:21-28

4. WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS MIRACLE (MARK 1:21-28)?

*Mark 1:21-22, “Then they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and taught. And **they were astonished** at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.”* It was in the synagogue that Jesus, that day, healed a man who was possessed by a demon. Jesus in this miracle, not only displayed His power in word but also in deed. This is important because if the Gospel does not still save men, if it is not the “power of God unto salvation to everyone that believes,” then we just need to close shop. But if the Lord’s words and anointing are filled with _____ - power to conquer sin and Satan, our faith in Him is well founded.

5. WHO DOES HE CHOOSE TO DISPLAY HIS POWER?

He chooses a most _____ person. One who is unhappy, and one who was possessed and dominated with an evil spirit. Yet. . . ***there is help, hope, and health—even for him! The power of Jesus knows no limit! He is not less able now than then!*** He is able to raise

up those who are fallen to the lowest degree! *In this man there did not seem to be anything for the Lord to begin with. **He is able to save unto the uttermost!*** (CS)

6. WHAT WAS THE ONLY THING THAT JESUS DID?

Our Lord *did nothing but **SPEAK***. In other cases He laid His hands upon the diseased, or led them out of the city, or touched them, or applied clay, or used spittle. But in this case He does not use any instrumentality—His *Word* is all. He says, “Hold your peace and come out of him,” and the unclean spirit is evicted. The Word of the Lord has shaken the kingdom of darkness and loosed the bonds of the oppressed!... Oh, you that preach Christ, preach Him boldly!... The Word of the Lord Jesus cannot fall to the ground! The gates of Hell cannot prevail against it!

*Nothing can cast out Satan but the **Words of Jesus, Himself!** O you vilest of the vile, here is hope for you! He is mighty to save! He can change even the hardest heart.*
Charles Spurgeon

Miracle 6: Healing Peter’s Mother in Law Mark 1:29-34

7. WHEN JESUS SAID, “COME FOLLOW ME” WHAT WAS HE REALLY ASKING THEM TO DO?

“Jesus asked Peter and his friends to leave their nets and boats to follow Him. This was an invitation to come _____ and _____, to WALK, TALK and LEARN the secrets of the kingdom; to enjoy and to later teach others what they had found. They were in fellowship with our Lord, not simply existing but living and thriving in this life as they walked with the Savior. Abiding with the Lord they didn’t live a higher life than other mere men but they lived a higher condition of life - they lived in a different atmosphere....” Charles Spurgeon writes, “There are those who live under the weight of this world, which is filled with sickness and disease, doubt and disappointment; but then there are others who have found the secret of abiding with the Lord.”

8. HOW DID THIS AFFECT PETER’S FAMILY?

Peter’s family was _____ because he decided to follow Jesus. “Brethren, you do not know the possibilities which are in you when God’s Spirit rests upon you; but this much is certain, if you yourselves be called into a higher form of divine life, you shall then become mediums of blessing to your relatives. Your husband, your wife, your child, your friend and the whole of your family shall be better for your advance in spiritual things.” (CS)

9. WHAT HAPPENED WHEN JESUS CAME TO PETER'S HOUSE?

Mark 1:30, "Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her." "Jesus loves to make home visits. He was right at home in Peter's house. After all, Jesus' dad was a carpenter. His home was probably similar to the accommodations of a fisherman's home. The normal rhythm of the home had been interrupted that day, Peter's mother in law was sick and in bed. (She was wiped out and in-effective CS) That wasn't the norm, she wanted to be up cooking and helping with the kids. That was what she, like most grand moms, loved to do. Her sickness was the unwelcome guest, but there was another guest in the home that day: Jesus of Nazareth. One touch of His hand was all that was needed. Before you knew it, Grandma was up and all about the household duties. At the end of the day the size and value of your home is quite insignificant. What really matters? Is Jesus a welcome guest in your home?" (FB)

10. WHAT IS JESUS WAITING TO BE TO HIS FOLLOWERS?

Charles Spurgeon writes, "Peter's house was probably a poor fisherman's hut, but the Lord of Glory entered it, lodged in it, and wrought a miracle in it. Should our little book be read this morning in some very humble cottage, let this fact encourage the inmates to seek the company of King Jesus. God is oftener in little huts than in rich palaces. ***Jesus is looking round your room now, and is waiting to be gracious to you.*** Into Simon's house sickness had entered, fever in a deadly form had prostrated his mother-in-law, and as soon as Jesus came they told Him of the sad affliction, and He hastened to the patient's bed. Have you any sickness in the house this morning? You will find Jesus by far the best physician, go to Him at once and tell Him all about the matter. Immediately lay the case before Him. It concerns one of His people, and therefore will not be trivial to Him. Observe, that at once the Savior restored the sick woman; none can heal as He does."

11. WHAT MUST WE DO FOR THE MIRACLE WORKER TO WALK IN TO OUR HOMES?

Jesus is still a home visiting, miracle worker. Is something amiss or out of order in your home? ***Open the door*** to this special Miracle Worker, and everything will be back in harmony before you know it. He will walk into the room, place His hand upon you, and in a moment of time you will be changed by His love. (FB)

12. WHERE DID THE MIRACLE TAKE PLACE THAT STIRRED THE CITY OF CAPERNAUM?

(See Mark 1:29-34) Jesus came to Peter's house and healed Peter's mother in law. The news spread, and all the sick and the demon- possessed gathered at Peter's door, and Jesus healed many who had various diseases.

"One man is called and then another; the house wherein they live is consecrated by the Lord's presence, and by and by the whole city is stirred from end to end with the name of the Great

Teacher. We are often wishing that God would do some great thing in the world....” (We look abroad; we look to other places where it seems to be logical that He would move...but we should ask Him to use us, and that He might work through us,) ***“And that our abode might become the central point from which streams of blessing should flow forth to refresh our neighborhood.”*** (CS)

13. WAS THERE ANYTHING SPECIAL ABOUT PETER’S HOUSE?

“Outside Peter’s door hung fishing nets...yet beneath that lowly roof Immanuel... unveiled Himself.... Little did Peter know the blessing that entered his house when Jesus crossed the threshold, nor how vast a river of mercy would stream forth from his door down the streets of Capernaum. ... (It may be that your house isn’t much ; no writer has written about you or your home. No one rides by and says, “I wonder who lives there?”) Yet, is there no reason why the Lord should not visit you and make your house like that of Obed-edom, in which the ark resided, or like that of Zaccheus to which salvation came. Our Lord can make your house a center of mercy for the whole region, a little sun scattering in all directions, a spiritual dispensary distributing health to the multitudes around.” Let our prayer be, “Lord, dwell where I dwell, and in so doing make my house a blessing to the neighborhood,” marvelous results must follow.” (CS)

Miracle 7:Healing of the Leper - Mk. 1:40-45; Matt. 8:2-4; Luke 5:12-13

14. WHAT IS SO INCREDIBLE ABOUT THE LEPER BELIEVING JESUS COULD HEAL HIM AT THE END OF MARK 1 AND IN MATTHEW 8?

Matthew 8:3, “And a leper came to Him and bowed down before Him, and said, “Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.” Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.”

The healing power of Jesus is just as real today as it was the day the leper reached out to the Lord. Leprosy had taken away this man’s money, his family, and his hope. If something didn’t happen soon it would take his life. Maybe he had heard about the miracles of Jesus. He concluded that Jesus had the power to heal, the only nagging question: would he heal him? Any fear of rejection gave way to his desperation. Sometimes desperation comes really close to faith. He bowed down in worship before the Lord, “I know you can, I’m just not sure you will heal me”. That was it, Jesus reached out his hand and his skin was cleansed. The leprosy was gone. Maybe you have questions today, “He did it for others, would He do it for me?” Why don’t you ask Him for yourself, He may just give you an answer.” (FB)

“It is one thing to trust a doctor when you are well, but quite another to confide in him when your body is rotting away.... When you hope that there is some good thing in you, it is easy to be confident; but to be conscious of fatal ruin and yet to believe in the divine remedy- this is GREAT FAITH. To see in the sunshine is mere natural vision; but to see in the dark needs the eye of faith; to believe that Jesus has saved you when you see the signs of it, is the result of reason; but to trust Him to cleanse you while you are still defiled with sin- this is the essence of saving faith.”

Charles Spurgeon

15. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE MOVED WITH COMPASSION?

*Mark 1:40-41, “Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, “If You are willing, You can make me clean.” Then Jesus, **moved with compassion**, stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, “I am willing; be cleansed.” It means there was a commotion in His inward parts.... He was no longer able to constrain Himself ... He gave way to His emotions. His pity moved Him. His delight in the leper’s faith mastered Him. (CS)*

16. WHAT IS THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL?

The power of Christ in the Gospel is mainly a power to _____. The power of the Lord was present to heal them.” The power of the Gospel, of which Christ is the Sum and Substance, is a **healing power**. It is not a destroying power. Jesus said, “I have come not to destroy men’s lives, but to save them.”... Calvary is the place for the healing balm rather than the lancet and the knife. The work of Jesus, our heavenly Physician, is not so much to point out disease as to indicate and to apply the remedy. (CS)

*“It’s **One Thing** to believe miracles happened somewhere else and in some other place. The shocking good news, He is here now, and His miracle power hasn’t diminished. Today He just might be reaching out His hand to you.”*

Pastor Frank Bailey

answer Key:

- 4. POWER
- 5. UNLIKELY
- 7. ALONGSIDE AND ABIDE
- 8. GREATLY BLESSED
- 16. HEAL

Miracle 8: Healing of the Paralytic

Miracle 9: Healing of the Nobleman's Son

Miracle 10: Healing of the Centurion's Servant

Miracle 8: The Healing of the Paralytic Mk. 2:1-12; Luke 5:17-25

1. WHAT HAPPENED IN PETER'S HOUSE?

Mark 2:3-5, "Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."

Things had been pretty crazy for the last several days. Not long ago Jesus had shocked Peter and his fishing buddies with a net ripping, boat sinking catch of fish. These fishermen had worked on this lake all of their lives, but they had never seen anything like this. The result, these fishing buddies were following Jesus with a new job description, now they would be fishing for men. Next, there was the incident in the synagogue that they had all attended their whole lives with the demon possessed man. This guy was convulsing and shouting obscenities in God's house, they had never seen anything like this either. The next thing they knew this demonized man was just as normal as they were, how could any of this be possible?

That wasn't all, Jesus healed Peter's mother in law from a fever, and a man who was absolutely covered with leprosy was instantly healed. With all of these miracles in the air Peter's whole town was on its ear, God was surely visiting Capernaum. That's when the totally unthinkable happened. The crowds were pushing into Peter's house to the point that not another person could get inside. They were coming from everywhere, even the Pharisees from Jerusalem had showed up in this fishing village at this fisherman's house. Suddenly, there was scratching and digging on the roof. The next thing you know a paralyzed man was being lowered with ropes into the room where Jesus was teaching. Jesus was looking up into the opening in the ceiling to see four sheepish smiles looking to see what would happen...

2. HOW ARE WE LIKE THE PARALYZED MAN?

Mark 2:3-5, "Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."

If you really think about it, we are all like this paralyzed man. Some are paralyzed with fear, others with their anger and un-forgiveness, somehow the circumstances of life have gotten the best of us. This man had a physical handicap, but his real problem was lurking just below the surface. From what Jesus said to him we see that he needed more than just a physical healing, he was dealing with a sin problem. Jesus didn't just deal with the obvious symptoms, He went to the heart of the matter. This paralyzed man had some hidden secrets in his life that had left him incapacitated. If you really think about it, just fixing the circumstances in our lives will seldom solve the problem, we often need something more than the obvious. We need The Lord to work on the hidden man of the heart.

Often times, it is our misery that brings us to God. If you are the "paralyzed man" today know that there is recovery for you from whatever brought your conditions to the forefront. You may find yourself laying at the feet of Jesus, that is best place on this earth to be. If you are not that man then you must be one of his friends. If you watch and listen carefully, you will recognize the hurting people all around you. They are there on purpose. You are in their lives to carry them to God. So why not get started?

3. WHAT IS THE PALSIED MAN A PICTURE OF?

This crippled and paralyzed man was so far gone that he couldn't even crawl into Christ's presence.... He is _____ and _____. All he could do was lie on that bed with which the kindness of his friends had placed him, and there he remained: he could do nothing.... The Gospel regards every man incapable of doing anything good. It says you are not merely paralyzed but describes each person without Christ as dead. And the equally remarkable thing is that the Gospel calls upon men to do what they cannot do themselves, for Jesus said to the man on the mat, "arise, take up thy bed and walk." (CS)

4. HOW WAS HE BROUGHT TO JESUS?

He was brought by four of his friends. "The four fellow helpers together may accomplish, by the Spirit, what neither one, nor two, nor three were content to have done." They did what it took to bring him to Christ. When the ordinary door was no longer an option, when the crowds were too large they found _____. So they crawled onto the roof, it matters not what tiles are to be taken off, or the plaster that would fall on those below, what labor, or trouble or expense, they would bring their friend to Jesus. These four did not say a single word. They were not preachers, and they did not need to be. They lowered the paralytic, and their work was done. They could not preach, but they could hold a rope. Oh for soul winners...who's own hearts are broken with compassion for the lost. (CS)

5. WHAT DID JESUS SAY TO THE MAN?

"They brought him to hear the Gospel, *they brought him where Christ is WORKING MIRACLES*. In Luke 5:17 it says, they brought him to "*where the power of the Lord was present to heal them.*" Jesus intended to heal the paralyzed man, but He did so by first saying, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." There are some who are spiritually paralyzed; their eyes are open to the Gospel their ears have heard it, but still they have not been able grab hold

of the promise of God.... They have been lying around a long time waiting; their sin, however, still keeps them where they are and their guilt prevents their laying hold of Christ.

It was the business of the four bearers to bring the man to Christ; but there, their power ended. But thank God, *when we end, Christ begins*... The Lord forgave him of his sins and healed his body. Every limb in the man's body was restored to a healthy state; he could stand, walk and lift his bed. This is what is called "the DOUBLE CURE".

6. WHAT IS THE DOUBLE CURE?

The old time Pentecostal preachers used to speak about "the DOUBLE CURE" found in Christ. They were talking about redemption found in the blood of Jesus Christ that not only cleansed us from our sins but also purchased healing for our bodies. The same act of rebellion from our first parents that brought us into the life and world of sin also introduced us to sickness and death. The one act of righteousness performed by Jesus on the cross settled our debt of sin and purchased our bodies from the ravages of sickness and disease. By His wounds we are forgiven, by His wounds we are healed.

That was it, the paralyzed man was healed, running home as fast as his new legs could carry him. The Pharisees were stumbled, sensing Jesus' claims to deity, they would have to formulate a battle plan. The rest of the people were amazed and overwhelmed with the fear of God as they all began to worship and glorify God. As for Peter and his fishing buddies, they were beginning to realize that they were in for quite a ride.

7. WHAT INTERESTING FACT DOES THE BIBLE RECORD IN MARK 2:5?

The Bible says, "When Jesus saw _____ faith." Consider the story of Jesus healing the Nobleman's son in John 4:46-53 and the healing of the Centurion's servant in Luke 7:1-10.

Miracle 9: The Healing of the Nobleman's Son John 4:46-54

8. WHO ELSE DID JESUS HEAL, BECAUSE SOMEONE ELSE WENT TO JESUS ON THIER BEHALF?

The healing of the Nobleman's son. John 4:46-53. The Nobleman had a son who was at the point of death. No doubt he had tried all the remedies and had sent for every physician that could be found within miles of Capernaum and now, having heard of one, Jesus of Nazareth, who at Cana had turned water into wine and at Jerusalem had done many mighty works, he resorts to Him with eager petition and desperate hope. (CS)

9. WHY DID HE WANT JESUS TO COME TO THE HOUSE?

He wanted Jesus to come to his house to heal the child...he had no idea that the Lord Jesus Christ could work at the distance of 25 miles! He had no notion that the Word of the Lord could operate apart from His Presence. The nobleman's faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, though it was

only a spark, *yet influenced him*. It led him to take a considerable journey to find our Lord. From Capernaum he went up the hills to Cana that he might plead with Jesus. And he went personally. When Jesus tries his faith, the nobleman would not give up. We must follow his example. “Pray and pray again! Hold on and hold out! Cry on and cry out! Never cease till the Lord of Love grants you an answer of peace.” (CS)

10. DID JESUS GRANT HIS REQUEST?

Observe that Jesus said to the petitioner, “Go your way, your son lives.” And the man truly believed—and went his way. Here note that *he believed the Words of Jesus over the head of all his former prejudices*. He had thought only that Christ could heal if He came down to Capernaum, but now He believes, though Jesus remains where He is and only speaks the Words. Friend, will you, at this moment, believe the Lord Jesus Christ on His bare Word? Now, the nobleman’s faith has flamed up, indeed. He believes not upon mere report, but upon the Word of Jesus. He does not wait for a sign, but he hears the Word, and on that Word he hangs his confidence. Jesus said, “Your son lives; go your way”—and he goes his way and finds his son alive!

***“Let God be true, but every man a liar.’ On His bare Word,
my soul reposes. I will ‘rest in the Lord
and wait patiently for Him.’ Charles Spurgeon***

11. WHO ELSE DID THIS MIRACLE EFFECT?

John 4:50-52, “Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your son lives.” So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way. And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told him, saying, “Your son lives!” Then he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” So the father knew that it was at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, “Your son lives.” And he himself believed, and his whole household.”

***Not only was the child cured, but the whole household was cured!
May the Lord work such a wonder as that in all our houses! CS***

Miracle 10: Roman Centurion’s Servant Matt. 8:5-13; Lk. 7:1-10

12. WHO ELSE BELIEVED JESUS AT HIS WORD?

The centurion who's servant had palsy. He said if Jesus could just send the word. When Jesus heard of this man He marveled and called his faith _____ And grand faith it was indeed! He wants no visible sign! His spiritual eyes see the invisible, and his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord! His un-staggering faith requires no crutch. He wants nothing, but only prays that the Master will say the word! The centurion's faith was this—he believed that there were no impossibilities with Christ—and he left his palsied servant in those gracious and mighty hands. And, my friend, your faith, if it is to save you, must do the same. It must take your case at its worst, and yet believe that Christ can save even to the uttermost.

The Word of the Lord is enough and that Word is near you at this moment- in your mouth and in your heart- you have but to hear and your soul shall live! Alas, if the Son of Man comes, shall He find faith on the earth? If He would come now would He find faith in this room? Yet every man among us that is a Believer ought to have an inexhaustible treasure of golden faith! Lord, we believe! Help our unbelief! Lord increase our faith! (CS)

13. WHAT GOT THE LORD'S ATTENTION?

The Centurion got it, faith was the source of life. This faith got the attention of the Lord and it still does that today. . . . So this is the way it has always been whether in the New Testament or in the Old Testament, it is faith that pleases God and faith that God rewards. (FB)

14. WHAT DOES THIS TELL US OF THE COMPASSION OF JESUS?

He was here on the high errand of our redemption, yet HE did not consider it derogatory to His Divine purpose to be continually engaged in _____ ! For three years He walked the "hospitals" - He lived all day long in an "infirmary", for all around Him, at one time, they laid the sick in the streets- and at all times physical evil in some form or another came in His way. He put forth His hands, or spoke a word and healed all sorts of maladies. This He did everyday, for this was His lifework, "I will come and heal him," He said, for He was a Physician in constant practice and would be around at once to see the patient."

"He went about doing good" and in all this He would let His people know that He intended not to bless one part of man alone, but the whole of our nature, taking upon Himself not only our sins, but our sicknesses!" (*Read Isaiah 53:1-5*)

answer key:

- 3. INCAPABLE AND INCURABLE
- 4. ANOTHER WAY
- 7. THEIR
- 12. GREAT FAITH
- 14. HEALING DISEASES

Miracle 11: The Man with the withered Hand

Miracle 12: The Man at the Pool of Bethesda

Miracle 11: The Man with the Withered Hand Mark 3:1-5;

Matthew 12:10-13; Luke 6:6-10

1. WHERE DID CHRIST CHOOSE TO PREACH AND HEAL THIS MAN, AND WHY WAS HIS HEALING SO IMPORTANT?

Jesus is busy at work *in the synagogue* then by *the sea side*; to teach us that His presence is not confined either to the one or to the other, but, wherever any are gathered together in His name, whether *in the synagogue* or anywhere else, there is He in the midst of them.....Having a withered hand meant he was disabled to work for his living. (Matthew Henry)

2. WHAT DOES THE HEALING OF THE MAN WITH THE WITHERED HAND SPEAK TO US TODAY?

Mark 3:5, "And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, He saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other."

Pastor Parris Bailey writes, "The story of the man with the withered hand always gets to me. I believe it speaks of the spiritual atmosphere we find ourselves in. Sometimes things just dry up, and we lose the ability to help ourselves. Your faith withers, prayers cease, and you even lose your joy. Again what a story for us! Without the power of God in our lives on a daily basis we will find ourselves in a hopeless world! Christ needs to come breathe life into the dead soul."

3. WHEN CHRIST ASK US TO DO THE IMPOSSIBLE WHAT PROMISE DOES HE GIVE US?

Matthew Henry says; "He commands us to stretch forth our hands, to improve our natural powers, and do as well as we can; to stretch them out in prayer to God, to stretch them out to lay hold on Christ by faith, to stretch them out in holy endeavors. Now this man could not stretch forth his withered hand of himself, any more than the impotent man could arise and carry his bed, or Lazarus come forth out of his grave; yet Christ bid him do it. God's commands to us to do the duty which of ourselves we are not able to do are no more absurd or unjust, than this command to the man with the withered hand, to stretch it forth; for with the command, there is a promise of grace which is given by the word."

Did you hear that? With the command there is the promise of grace! He enables us to reach forth, stretch out and grab a hold of the anchor that will save our soul! Lord I believe, help my unbelief! (Pastor Parris Bailey)

4. WHAT ELSE DOES HE PROMISE TO GIVE YOU?

Pastor Parris continues, “What is it that you have found yourself backing away from? Are you weary, discouraged or offended? Tired of reaching out the hand of faith? McClaren says, “But let us not miss the parable of the restoration of the maimed and shrunken powers of the soul, which the manner of the miracle gives. Whatever we try to do because Jesus bids us, He will give us strength to do, however impossible to our unaided powers it is. In the act of stretching out the hand, ability to stretch it forth is bestowed, power returns to atrophied muscles, stiffened joints are supplied, the blood runs in full measure through the veins. So it is ever. Power to obey attends on the desire and effort to obey.”

Miracle 12: Healing of the Man by the Pool of Bethesda

John 5:1-11

5. WHAT DOES BETHESDA MEAN?

It means “_____”; or it could mean “*Pouring Forth*”. It could just as well been called the house of misery for its five porches housed many who were miserable and needed mercy. Jesus saw there a picture of the world. Before Him was a huge hospital of blind, impotent and lame people. Wherever He went He was surrounded by sick, sad and suffering folk. Those who were affected _____, _____, and _____. It was here that we expect to find Him... “ O that King Jesus would come into this place this morning! Jesus will be here... He is here right now! He is walking around us ready to heal and as mighty to save as in the days of His flesh! “ Lo , I am with you always , even to the end of the world.” He is a present Savior- -present in the power of the Holy Spirit, and He is able to make this very day a day to remember, the day when you shall be made whole.

6. WHAT WAS THE MAN DOING BY THE POOL?

The impotent man was _____.... He most likely spent most of the last 38 years waiting at this famous pool, buoyed up by the slender hope that he might one day be first into the water. It is not recorded that the man saw Jesus or even cried out to Him, but rather Jesus saw the man... He was not seeking for Jesus Jesus was seeking for him. Jesus saw him lying there.... Even so Jesus knows all about your case. He sees you lying just where you are today-impotent, without hope, without life , without faith. _____! He singles you out in the crowd. He sees you from the inside out, and reads all that is in your heart!... He sees just *who you are, where you are, and what you are!*

The Lord knew all the man's disappointments. He knows the many of times he tried to be first to the water's edge, yet someone went before him, and his hopes were dashed.. Another healed, his hope dashed wondering how long before the angel stirred the waters again. There he would loose all hope and lie on his mat of despair. He feels your grief, He hears your unspoken wishes and He knows your longing to be healed.

7. WHAT WAS THE QUESTION THAT JESUS ASKED THE MAN AND WHAT COMMAND DID HE GIVE HIM?

“_____?” Pastor Frank Bailey writes, “I love the story of the pool of Bethesda, multitudes just waiting by the pool for a miracle. Suddenly, the miracle worker Himself came walking up to the pool. “Do you want to get well?” “What kind of question is that?”, the lame man must have said to himself. Of course he wanted to get well, why else would he be lying by that pool. But did he really want to get well? Many of us like our excuses. They give us a safe place to hide. If we were made whole then we would seem vulnerable. We wouldn't be able to hide behind some excuse to avoid our fear of living a spiritual life. It's much safer to stay “lame”. Then came the direct word, **“If you want to get well, rise, pick up your pallet and walk”**. That's what the lame man did, and that's exactly when he received his miracle. He was made whole.”

8. WHAT WAS THE MAN WAITING FOR?

“He was waiting for a sign but none was found... Charles Spurgeon writes, “He knew not that there was One near him whose word could heal him in a moment. Many are in the same plight: they are waiting for some emotion, remarkable impression, or celestial vision; they wait in vain And forget the present Savior, who bids them look unto Him and be saved. He could heal them at once, but they prefer to wait for an angel and a wonder. To trust Him is the sure way to every blessing.”

Pastor Frank Bailey writes, “Just as Jesus walked up to the man by the pool long, long ago; today, He has walked up to you. Actually, He has walked up to all of us. “How is that possible?” you ask. It's really quite simple. Jesus lives and works today by the power of His word. All it takes is for someone to take God's word for himself. What are you suffering with today? Are you just a lame man (or woman) waiting for your luck to change? Actually, you're in luck. Your luck has changed. The Lord is standing here right now. He is speaking through this devotion. “Do you want to get well? It's time to pick up your life and walk.” The Lord can do more for you than you ask of Him. This poor man never asked anything of Christ, except by his looks, and by his lying there at the pool. He is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think.” May He do it in you today!

answer Key:

5. HOUSE OF MERCY; PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY, AND SPIRITUALLY
6. WAITING; HE SEES YOU
7. WILT THOU BE MADE WHOLE

Miracle 13: Stilling the Storm

Miracle 14: Healing the Demoniac from Gadara

Miracle 13: Stilling the Storm Mark 4:35-41; Matthew 8:23-27; Lk.8:22-25

1. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU STEP OUT TO DO SOMETHING FOR THE LORD?

You usually face some sort of _____. In Mark 4:35-41 we encounter a story about when Jesus was about to perform one of His greatest miracles. He told His disciples,

“We are going to the other side.”

2. WHAT HAPPENED WHEN THE BOATS WERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LAKE?

The Bible says in verse 37, *“And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full...”* They were caught off guard, an unexpected storm, it came out of no where. The Gospel of Mark called it a “Mega- storm”.

3. WHAT THREE THINGS CAN WE LEARN FROM UNEXPECTED STORMS THAT WE FACE?

Isaiah 43:1, 2, “But now thus says the LORD, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel:” Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.”

Pastor Frank Bailey writes, “Living in Southeast Louisiana, hurricanes are a way of life. Every couple of years we have a “scare” and a close call. Each time we see the potential of a major storm, we recognize several things.

First, we recognize the fragile life we all live. Every one of us lives one tragedy away from eternity. All of the physical possessions we work so hard for are so easily taken from us. So one of the great truths that should become real when we are facing possible storms is that our life is not about our possessions but about eternity. All that we can ultimately keep forever is our relationship with the Lord and our spiritual relationships with family and friends.

Secondly, we recognize the sovereign wisdom and power of God and trust Him to work out all things in our lives for our good. *Matthew 8:24 – 26, “And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but He was asleep. And they went and woke Him, saying, “Save us, Lord; we are perishing.” And He said to them, “Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?” Then He rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.* Sometimes it may seem that the Lord is “asleep”, or that He does not care about our circumstances. Having passed through Katrina, we know the tender and powerful care of our Lord. We have seen His wisdom and His awesome generosity work in all of our lives. Take courage! You are not forgotten. He will care for you and bring you safely through whatever storm you may face.

Finally, these times can be special times of ministry. The Lord seems to speak loudest and clearest when we are in difficult situations. Listen to the Lord. Call upon His name. Draw near to Him in prayer. Read your Bible. You may be surprised at the clearness of His voice.

4. WHAT DID JESUS DO WHEN HE AROSE?

The Bible says, “He rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, Peace be still!” The word rebuke describes an action, to humiliate, to scorn, to disdain, to poke fun at. To the wind He said , “SHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH”. And the wind ceased and there was a great (mega) calm. What was a great storm was matched with a _____. When faced with a great sickness, it will be matched with a great _____. A great financial difficulty will find itself with a great _____. Etc. That night in the midst of the storm, Jesus arose and took authority over the situation.... In doing this, He demonstrated that He was the Lord of the wind and the waves (over the unseen and the seen) . The potentially deadly situation provided a great opportunity for the disciples to learn that Jesus Christ is truly Lord over all! (RR)

Miracle 14: Healing of the Demoniac from Gadara

Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-39; Matthew 8:28-34

5. WHAT DESTROYED THIS MAN FROM GADARA’S LIFE?

Mark 5:2-5, “And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs, and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones.”

Chains were the story of his life. Chains of bondage and chains of love. This man from Gadara was tormented from his youth. He had become so overcome with violent behavior, he had been

banished from civilization. **Sin and the dark powers** of this world had destroyed his life. Luke says that this man was guarded, probably in some sort of place for the criminally insane. Neither the guards or the chains could subdue him. Obviously, this man's soul was in chains, there was nothing anyone could do to help him. That is, not any normal person could help him. Jesus, in many ways, was anything but normal. When Jesus came to the shores of Gadara, this man confronted Jesus, thinking He would run away like so many others had done. But Jesus was different. He had no fear in Him. (Note: Jesus actually set free two demon possessed men from Gadara according to Matthew 8).

6. HOW DID THE YOUNG MAN FINALLY GET FREE, AND WHAT DID JESUS TELL HIM TO DO?

“Come out of him”, the Gadarene heard Jesus say. Suddenly, the chains of anger and fear were broken, the young man from Gadara was finally free. The torment was over. Then he heard that sweet, yet powerful, voice once again, “Go tell your friends what the Lord has done for you”. He found Himself going all about Decapolis (ten cities- in Gentile country) telling everyone about how the Lord had shown mercy upon him. He began to experience new chains upon his life. These were a different kind of chains, chains of freedom, chains of love. These were the chains of a bond servant of Jesus, enslaved now to the love of God.

*What kind of **Chains** are you wearing today? After all, we all have to serve somebody. Are you enslaved to fear, depression, anger or maybe alcohol or lust? Or have you tasted the freedom, and yes, the chains of love found in Christ. Today can be the beginning of your brand new life, go and tell your friends what Jesus has done for you.*

Pastor Frank Bailey

7. IS THE CROWD GLAD THE MAN IS HEALED?

Jesus sends the demons into a herd of pigs. The pigs run off a cliff. Losing 2000 pigs does not settle well with the people. They don't applaud Jesus for healing the man of this terrible plight. Instead they ask Him to leave. They respond in fear (vs. 15) but also in rejection. They didn't just lose their pigs they also lost the presence of God. However the Bible records that a year and a half later when Jesus came back to this region (the Decapolis- these ten cities) that there were 4000 Gentiles waiting to greet Him and hear His words. (See Matthew 15:32-39; Mark 8:1-10). Seems that the man that was set free obeyed Jesus and went back to his family and friends and became the first “Gentile Missionary” to the “Gentiles”.

answer Key:

1. OPPOSITION
4. GREAT CALM, HEALING, FINANCIAL BREAKTHROUGH

Miracle 15: The Healing of the Woman with the Issue of Blood

Miracle 16: The Healing of Jairus' daughter

Miracle 17: Healing the Blind, Mute, Demon-Possessed Man

Miracle 15&16: The Healing of the Woman with the

Issue of Blood Mark 5:21-33; Luke 8:43-48

& The Healing of Jairus' Daughter Mark 5:22-34, 38-42; Luke 8:40-56

1. WHAT WAS ONE OF THE MANY REASONS WHY MULTITUDES OF PEOPLE SWARMED JESUS WHEN HE CAME TO THEIR TOWNS?

Mark 5:21, "And when Jesus was passed over again by ship unto the other side, much people gathered unto him: and he was nigh unto the sea."

In Biblical times they did have physicians, but we know that they did not have the technology that is found today. Many were sick and ill and had no hope for recovery. They wanted that _____ that Jesus had. They heard the stories about previous miracles and perhaps one of the greatest miracles of Him healing the demoniac of Gadara. Their gathering at the beach indicated that they hoped that if they got near enough, and that they could touch Him, He would heal them too. The Greek word "nigh" implies "to get as close as you could get."

2. WHO WAS JARIUS?

It was thought that Jairus was a great political leader and possibly the ruler of the Synagogue. He was also thought to be a Jewish prince. Whoever he was we know he was important because when he got to the beach to see Jesus the crowd parted. No matter how rich and noble this man was, he found himself with a problem he couldn't solve. His daughter was near death, (one Gospel said she actually died). Jairus would travel 25 miles to find the Miracle Worker. When he saw Jesus the Bible says that Jairus... *Mark 5:23, ... "besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live."* Jesus agrees to go with him and turns to leave and the crowds began to throng them.

3. IN THE MIDST OF THE CONFUSION WHO WOULD DELAY JESUS FROM GETTING TO JAIRUS' HOUSE?

Mark 5:25-30, "Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well." Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction. And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power (virtue) had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?"

Mark 5:34 And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."

The healing of the woman with "the issue of blood" is one of the classic healing miracles seen in the life and ministry of Jesus. Mark tells us that this woman had suffered for twelve years with an embarrassing female problem and had depleted all of her resources on medical treatment to no avail. She had come to her end when she heard about Jesus. She pressed through the crowd and touched Jesus secretly, as she did, the anointing went into her body and she was instantly healed. The anointing of the Spirit is powerful and will go right to the source of our problem. This woman's secret was not a secret at all, one touch and she was made whole.

4. WHAT DOES THE WORD VIRTUE MEAN?

Bishop Elliott says, "The word virtue is used in the old medical sense, the power or force which brings about a certain definite result. So men spoke of the soporific virtue of this or that drug. And the term is used here, not less than in Luke 5:17, with a like technical precision, for the supernatural power that, as it were, flowed out at the touch of the hand."

One of the incredible characteristics of the anointing on Jesus is that regardless of how many people are effected, His power is not depleted in the least. Jesus discovered the woman because He felt the "virtue" flow out of Him when she touched Him. Thousands can be healed and there is still a bottomless ocean in reserve for the broken lives in our world. Here is something John Trappe said about the infinite nature of the anointing. "As heat goes out of the sun into the air, water, earth, earthly bodies, and yet remains in the sun; so here. A fountain is not drawn dry but cleared; so skill is not lost by communicating it to others, but increased."

5. WHAT WAS DIFFERENT ABOUT THIS WOMAN'S TOUCH?

One of the interesting things in this story is how hundreds of people were touching Jesus but there was something different about the touch of this hurting woman. What was the difference? She touched the Lord with a touch of faith. The power of God responds to the touch of faith. Here is how Adam Clarke describes it, "Thou seest the multitude thronging thee. Many touch Jesus who are not healed by Him. The reason is, they do it not by faith. Faith conveys the virtue

of Christ into the soul, and spiritual health is the immediate consequence of this received virtue.”

I love Clarke’s statement, “Faith conveys the virtue of Christ into the soul, and spiritual health is the immediate consequence of this received virtue”. Maybe you are struggling today; it may be a sickness or some other struggle. Learn from the woman with the issue of blood, the touch of faith can change everything.

6. WHAT DOES CHRIST EVER LIVE TO DO?

Pastor Parris writes, “What a precious story of one individual lost in the sea of humanity that had an encounter with Jesus. You read of it everyday in the news; the child left in a dumpster, the elderly abandoned in some overcrowded nursing home, the sick wasting away after spending all that they had on empty promises. The suffering are not forgotten in the world in which Christ walks. The storyline may not look like it will end well but even eternity brings sweet bliss to those who meet His touch. Christ looks for those who stretch out their hands when all else fails. His hands grasp ours when we have no life left in us. The child is found, the sick one is visited and the miserable are comforted. He gives a medicine no physician can conjure up, for He is the balm of Giliad.

Somewhere, somehow Christ comes and the atmosphere changes. I believe He walks hospital hallways, empty airports, abandoned buildings and refugee camps bringing the antidote needed. He is the remedy for all of mankind pains and the answer to all their questions. Christ’s followers abound through the earth looking for the hurting and they pour out the oil and the wine. Christ always looks to those who touch Him with the touch of pain. His hands are stretched out still, for He ever lives to make intercession on our behalf. He loves to be loved and He knows each and everyone’s make up from what makes us tick to our favorite foods! He created us to need His touch! You are not just some number or a mistake or some nobody drifting through this life on this planet. God saw you as His since the beginning of time and He knows your need.

Who touched me? He is waiting for your need to get so big so that you press through the crowd and finally meet the lover of your soul. When you do touch Him that’s when you start your story!”
Pastor Parris Bailey

7. WHAT IS INTERESTING ABOUT THE BORDER OF JESUS' GARMENT?

The word “border” found in Luke’s account of this story (Luke 8:43-38), comes from the Greek word “*kraspedon*” which means “a margin, i.e. (specifically) a fringe or tassel:- border, hem.” It is the Hebrew word “*tzitzit*” meaning “fringe or tassel”. There is a commandment in Deut. 22:12 to wear fringes. The numerical value of each tzitzit was equal to the Hebrew words “*YHWH Echad*”. When the woman touched Jesus’ tzitzit she actually took the name of God in her hand. She was instantly healed. (DZ)

Matthew 14:35-36, “And when the men of that place had knowledge of him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased; And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.”

Mark 6:56, “And whithersoever he entered, into villages, or cities, or country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought him that they might touch if it were but the border of his garment: and as many as touched him were made whole.”

***Who wished to see only “through a glass darkly”? No, let my eyes be cleansed till they become as doves by the rivers of waters and I can see my Lord as He is seen by His bosom friends, and can sing of those beauties which are the light and crown of heaven itself. If you but touch the hem of Jesus’ garment, you shall be made whole- but will this always satisfy you? Will you not desire to get beyond the hem and beyond the garment to Himself, and to His heart, and there forever take up your abode?
Charles Spurgeon- Altogether Lovely Sermon***

8. WHY WAS THE DELAY A COMFORT TO JAIRUS?

Possibly the two are in some way connected. Spurgeon says, “Our Lord wrought this miracle while moving on to another; like the sun, He shines while He pursues His course, and every beam is full of grace.” The woman was afflicted for _____ years, his daughter was _____ years old. Surely after seeing such a miracle and immediately getting a message that his daughter was dead shook the ruler. But Jesus assures him, “***Do not be afraid, only believe.***”

9. WHEN JESUS SAW JAIRUS DAUGHTER WHAT DID HE CALL HER?

In Mark 5:41, Jesus took Jairus' daughter by the hand, and said to her, "*Talitha, cumi,*" which is translated, "Little girl, I say to you arise." Some scholars believe *talitha* comes from the word "*talith*" and that the literal translation is, "little girl who is now in my *tallit*, arise" (Taken from Jewish Roots Part One Shofar & Prayer Shawl by Dominick Zangla #'s14,15)

10. WHAT WAS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WOMAN WITH THE ISSUE OF BLOOD THAT WAS HEALED AND THIS LITTLE GIRL?

The woman _____ to Jesus. The little girl was dead. She couldn't say I believe, she couldn't release her faith. She couldn't even say amen. She was dead and she couldn't _____. Jesus healed her with no part on her part. Her father's faith brought Jesus to the little girl and she was healed. Jesus said then give her something to eat. He not only took care of the spiritual but the physical needs of this little girl. (CS)

11. DOES JESUS STILL HEAL TODAY?

Jesus hung on the cross at Calvary and died. He was risen from the grave and ascended into glory leading captivity captive. He is here in our midst right now... If possible He is more charged with power to bless and to heal and to restore than He was as a man that walked the earth. He heals because He is God, He is Emmanuel, God with us. He came to earth wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger. He walked the earth. He died taking our sicknesses, therefore He is able to deliver us today not only from spiritual sickness, but physical and emotional sickness as well. His desire is to make us whole.

Miracle 17:Blind, Mute, Demon-Possessed Man Matt. 12:22

12. HOW IS THE DEMON-POSSESSED, BLIND AND MUTE MAN LIKE A BRUISED REED AND A SMOKING FLAX?

Matthew 12:19-23, "He will not quarrel nor cry out, Nor will anyone hear His voice in the streets. A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench, Till He sends forth justice to victory; And in His name Gentiles will trust." Then one was brought to Him who was demon-possessed, blind and mute; and He healed him, so that the blind and mute man both spoke and saw. And all the multitudes were amazed and said, "Could this be the Son of David?"

This demon-possessed, blind and mute man in the eyes of the world is _____, _____ and of _____ to anyone... But when Jesus saw this man, He had compassion for him and healed him... A man who was weak and worthless was transformed... He could now see and speak and people were amazed by his testimony.... (CS)

13. WHAT IN THE WORLD IS WEAKER THAN A BRUISED REED, OR A SMOKING FLAX?

A reed that grows in the marsh, let a duck land upon it, and it snaps; let a man's foot brush against it and it is bruised and broken; every wind that comes howling across the river makes it shake to and fro, tearing up its roots. It is weak, frail and brittle. Then look at smoking flax— It has a spark within it but it is almost smothered; a baby's breath might blow it out;...nothing has a more precarious existence than the little spark hidden in the smoking flax. *Weak things*, you see, are here described. Well, Christ says of them, "The smoking flax I will not quench; the bruised reed I will not break." (CS)

14. WHAT IS THE PROMISE TO WEAK ONES?

For those who are weak there is a **PROMISE**... that He will never break nor quench them, but will sustain and hold them up... When Jesus says He will not break, He means more than that; He means, "I will take that poor bruised reed; I will plant it hard by the rivers of waters, and (miracle of miracles) I will make it grow into a tree whose leaf shall not wither; I will water it every moment; I will watch it; there shall be heavenly fruits upon it; I will keep the birds of prey from it; but the birds of heaven, the sweet songsters of paradise shall make their dwellings in the branches." When he says that he will not break the bruised reed, he means more; he means that he will nourish, that he will help, and strengthen, and support and glorify—that he will execute his commission on it, and make it glorious forever." (CS)

answer Key:

1. HEALING TOUCH
8. 12,12
10. REACHED, RESPOND
12. WEAK, WORTHLESS, NO SERVICE

Miracle 18: Feeding the 5000

Miracle 19: Jesus Walks on Water

Miracle 18: Feeding the 5000 Mark 6:30-44; Matt. 14:15-21;

Luke 9:12-17; John 6:6-13

1. WHAT DOES THE LORD TAKE PLEASURE IN?

Luke 9:13, "We have no more than five loaves and two fishes; except we should go and buy food for all this people." Sometimes only a miracle will do. It seems like the Lord takes pleasure in bringing us to places in our lives where only a miracle will do. It's not that He delights in our struggles, it's just that He likes us to need Him and to show off His greatness. The feeding of the 5000 is the classic example of this. The disciples were far away from any stores, there was no food (except for a little boy's lunch), and they were fresh out of cash. Sounds like a good place for a miracle. Andrew brought a little boy's lunch to Jesus and before you know it thousands of people were eating and laughing together in the countryside. Suddenly the tough spot was a happy spot. That is exactly what the Lord loves to do.

2. WHAT DID JESUS WANT HIS DISCIPLES TO EXPECT?

Watchman Nee writes, "When Jesus said "Give ye them to eat," it was not because He expected His disciples to have a plan, but because He wanted them to expect a miracle. Like us, however, they chose the easier way, the way which does not require the exercise of faith or prayer. Their solution was to "go and buy." It was a proposal unworthy of disciples; it could as well have been made by Pharisees or even Sadducees. It displayed no faith, no trust in Him. As John's Gospel makes plain, their thoughts were on their pockets. They had not enough money!

3. WHAT IS THE LORD ALWAYS WILLING TO DO?

We only see what we can do. We shut our eyes to God and His inexhaustible resources. But God is not to be measured by us. Nevermind what we can or cannot do; He is waiting to show us His miracles." That is the problem in a nutshell, we look at what we can do rather than what God can do. No wonder the Lord brings us into tight places; it's as if He is crying out, "Hey, look over here. Look to Me. I can handle this!" What kind of situation are you in today that is just beyond anything you can do to fix it? If that's you, offer whatever you have to the Lord and see what He can do. You never know, that could be the beginning of your breakthrough.

4. WHO DID JESUS USE TO DISPLAY HIS POWER?

The Lord delights in using the weak to confound the strong and the poor to humble the rich. Impossible situations is where God's power is seen in its greatest brilliance. He waited for His friend Lazarus to be dead for four days until He went to His tomb, He Himself was born in a stable rather than a king's palace, and He used a little boy's lunch when thousands of people were without a meal. He found the most ridiculous vessel and material to perform His miracle; a little boy with his lunch was what He chose to display His power on that incredible day.

*If **He** is the same yesterday, today, and forever it gives all of us hope. It doesn't take great talent or wealth to be used by God, all He wants or needs is what you have in your hand.*
Pastor Frank Bailey

5. WHAT DOES THE LORD MAKE USE OF?

John 6:11, "Jesus therefore took the loaves."

"For most of His miracles, God makes use of material. Here Jesus accepts five loaves and two fishes. He might have turned stones to bread, but He did not. He chose instead to work with what was offered Him. "Bring them hither to me," He said. What He does, He does through us. All miracles begin here, with my all in His hands. Keep my loaves to myself, and one man is fed. Give them up to Him, and shall I go hungry?"

6. WHAT DOES GOD REQUIRE OF US FOR A MIRACLE TO HAPPEN?

In a day of extreme national poverty, the prophet Malachi brought to Israel God's answer to her problem. It was bring the whole tithe into the storehouse—and see! It takes only a tiny stopper to close a very large bottle, so withholding from us its entire contents. And heaven is like that. Often for us there is no miracle simply because we give God nothing to work on. He asks only a very little—**what we have!** But He needs that."

Feed the Multitudes is a picture of exactly this. We were facing bankruptcy as a church in 1990 when the Lord told us "give them something to eat". As we followed Him in that first FTM we saw Him effect us in two major ways. We saw His ability to do what we never could as FTM

was a great success even though we were broke. Secondly, we saw the importance of reaching out to the poor and hurting... Maybe you will see a miracle as you too “give them something to eat”.

7. CAN WE PUT ASIDE THE WORK CALLED TO FEED THE MULTITUDES?

We cannot put aside this work. The Master has laid this responsibility on us... To attempt to be a Christian and not live for your fellowman is hypocrisy: to suppose that you can be faithful to Christ and let the multitudes die without effort is a damnable delusion... If you will say good-bye to Jesus, you may run away with your own loaf and your own little fish, and eat them in _____; but if you mean to be with Christ, you must bring your loaf and your fish and contribute it; you must bring yourself, and be the personal dispenser of the multiplied bread and fish. Then Jesus shall have all the glory of the feast; but to you will be the honor of having been a server at His royal table in the banquet of His love. Let us not sleep, as others do; but let us arise to work side by side with those dear and faithful brethren who are toiling manfully to hand out the bread of life to this city. (CS)

Romans 13:11- “And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.”

8. WHAT DISCOURAGEMENT DO PEOPLE FACE IN FEEDING THE MULTITUDES?

The feeding of 5000 men, not counting their wives and children is an enormous task. (This could have been anywhere from 25,000-50,000 people.) Feeding 50,000 people a meal which will only satisfy for a moment would be hard enough, but to save a soul, where would you begin? Can you even begin to make the carnal man think one holy thought? Can you get a beam of light into a blind eye, or a breath of life in a dead body? As to renewing the stony heart, or quickening the dead soul into life, who can do it? **We must enter the region of MIRACLES.... To satisfy a soul is a work which only God can accomplish. (CS)**

9. WHAT WAS THE SECRET ABOUT THE BREAD AND THE FISH?

(They were placed in the Master’s hands. What do you have to place in His hands? When you do so you will learn the secret of multiplication.) The bread began to grow in the disciples hands. Peter had a loaf in his hand and broke off a corner; to his amazement it was just as big as before. He broke off more, yet the loaf was not all used up. He kept breaking it, and the loaf continued increasing till everybody had received his full. Wonderful hands they were, were they not? No they were not! They were only rough hands of a fisherman. Those other hands which first took, and blessed and broke, were doing the deed all the while. It is wonderful how God works by our hands, and yet His own hand does it all. (CS)

Miracle 19: Jesus Walks on the Water Mark 6:45-52;

Matthew 14:22-33; John 6:19-21

10. WHAT DO STORMS TEND TO DO IN OUR LIVES?

Mark 6:45-48, "Immediately He made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while He sent the multitude away. And when He had sent them away, He departed to the mountain to pray. Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and He was alone on the land. Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them. Now about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea, and would have passed them by."

Pastor Parris writes, "Seeing Christ in the storms of life is basically the test us Christians will have to face over and over again. We read in the above scripture that Jesus actually MADE the disciples get into the boat to go to the other side, while He went off to pray. Not soon after the storm came and just about sunk their ship, Christ came to them. ***Storms tend to distort our whole view of life around us.*** Everything becomes blown out of proportion. Even the good looks bad, real bad, just listen to the next verse - "Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw Him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and "cried out in fear." I pray you can learn to see **CHRIST IN THE STORM!**"

11. AND WHEN DID THIS SEEMED TO ALWAYS HAPPEN?

When they least expected it. In the story in Matthew 14 it was 3:00 a.m. - in the middle of the storm- or as Pastor Frank says- "*In the eye of the storm.*"

Jesus comes walking on the water and says to all of us "Courage! I Am! Fear not!". Not "hey, it's Me." Instead, "***I Am***" is here. "***Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you... For I AM the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...***" *Isaiah 43:1-3*

12. WHAT DISTINGUISHED PETER FROM THE REST?

Peter recognized that God was present- even in the most _____. He said "Lord, if it is you, command me to walk on the water." Vs. 27. True Wisdom and Discernment is found in Christ and Christ alone. Augustine once said "Command what You will, but give what You command." Obedience is only learned in the school of discipleship. (KB)

13. WHAT CONDITIONS DID PETER FACE WHEN HE WAS ASKED TO GET OUT OF HIS, WHAT HE THOUGHT WAS A SECURE, BOAT?

It would be tough enough to try to walk on the water when the water was calm, the sun is bright, and the air is still. Imagine trying to do it when the waves are crashing, the wind is at gale force, and it's 3:00 in the morning- and you're terrified. There is a good chance if you get out of that boat you are going to sink but then again if you don't obey His command and get out of the boat- whatever your boat might happen to be, there's a guaranteed certainty that you will never walk on water. You will never experience for yourself something more of the power and presence of God. You will never experience God's help which will enable you to do what you could never do on your own. Obedience to His command will give you an up close look at His glory and a feeling of joy that will never be experienced if you choose to sit in fear and torment.

14. WHAT IS YOUR BOAT?

Your boat is whatever represents _____ and _____ to you, apart from God Himself. Your boat is whatever you are tempted to put your trust in, especially when life gets a little stormy. Your boat is whatever keeps you so comfortable that you don't want to give it up even if it's keeping you from joining Jesus on the waves. Some examples of boats could be- a job, relationship, family, sin, success and the most common boat of all – _____.

15. HOW DID PETER ACTUALLY WALK ON WATER?

He climbed over the side of the boat and let go. He _____ himself utterly to the power of Jesus. Only Peter knew the glory of walking on water. He alone knew what it was to attempt to do what he was not capable of doing on his own, then feeling the euphoria of being empowered by God to actually do it. (13-15 By John Ortberg from his book- "*If you want to walk on the water, you got to get out of the boat*").

“Whether Peter sank or water-walked depended on whether he focused on the storm or on **JESUS.**”
John Ortberg

16. WHAT DOES JESUS ALWAYS BECKON US TO DO WHEN WE FIND OURSELVES IN A SINKING BOAT?

Pastor Parris continues, “In Matthew 14:28, Peter asked Christ to let him walk out on the water and the drama begins. Peter walks out there and begins to sink not long after because he lost his perspective-Christ. Again it is in those moments of desperation we can feel the arms of Christ wrap around us and pull us back up from the raging waves. Thank God for His presence! Jesus rebuked Peter for his “little faith”. I always look back at my life and even though I received

Christ at such a young age, I pretty well peg life as rough and miserable. The storms came and just about cleaned my clock. 40 plus years later, the storms still come. He bids me to get out the boat, get wet, and grab hold of Christ. Even though I have had some pretty big times of doubt while I am water walking, somewhere Christ is seen in the middle of it all and I gain a fresh perspective of His grace and love. So many others just stay in the boat. Paralyzed by the so called ghost of our past, whereas in reality it is Christ in the present reaching out to us to step out and grab hold. I encourage you today to stop talking about the worst case scenarios that will happen. Even little faith is better than staying stuck in some sinking boat!"

answer Key:

7. UTTER SELFISHNESS

12. UNLIKELY PLACES

14. SAFETY, SECURITY, FEAR

15. ABANDONED

Miracle 20: Healing the Syrophenician's Daughter

Miracle 21: The Healing of the Deaf and Mute Man

Miracle 20: Syrophenician Woman's Daughter Mark 7:24-30

1. WHOSE FAITH CAUGHT THE ATTENTION OF JESUS?

Mark 7:25-26, "But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter."

If you really think about it, this verse is a prophetic glimpse into the future of the church. Jesus was called "to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" but sometimes He couldn't help Himself. He just had to reach out to the hurting that came to Him. He spent most of His time in Israel, this is one of the few occasions when He ventured to the edge of His homeland for rest and reflection. This desperate gentile woman was desperate for a miracle. She said all she needed was a crumb of children's bread, just a crumb to set her daughter free. Like the Roman centurion, her faith caught the attention of The Lord. Her miracle could not be denied. (FB)

Charles Spurgeon writes, "The vexations of children are the trouble of parents...."Though vexed with the devil, *yet she is my daughter still.*" The greatest afflictions of our relations do not dissolve our obligations to them, and therefore ought not to alienate our affections from them. It was the distress and trouble of her _____, that now brought her to Christ; she came to Him, not for teaching, but for healing; yet, because she came in faith, He did not reject her. Though it is need that drives us to Christ, yet we shall not therefore be driven from Him. It was the affliction of her daughter, that gave her this occasion of applying to Christ. It is good to make the afflictions of others our own, in sense and sympathy, that we may make them our own, in improvement and advantage."

"The Greatest Blessing we can ask of Christ for our children is, that He would break the power of Satan, that is, the power of sin, in their souls; and particularly, that He would cast forth the unclean spirit, that they may be temples of the Holy Ghost, and He may dwell in them."

Matthew Henry

2. WHAT HOPE CAN WE GLEAN FROM THIS SCRIPTURE?

Most of the church today is gentile. We were all godless pagans, without hope and without God. Like this Syrophenician woman, Jesus just “happened” to come by her way. Because of His unexpected visit her life would never be the same. None of us had a claim on God, He came to us indiscriminately. He came into our lives and His kindness changed us forever. That’s why I say this miracle was prophetic, it was a glimpse into things to come. Maybe your past wasn’t so great, maybe you have no Christian heritage. That’s okay, Christ died to save sinners, He came for people like you and me. (FB)

3. WHAT WAS HER REQUEST AND WHAT DID HE RESPOND?

She requests _____; *Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David*, she owns Him to be the Messiah... His response, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.” ... She did not sink in discouragement but rather took what He said and used it to display her incredible inner faith.... Faith can find encouragement even in that which is discouraging. The greatness of faith consists much in a resolute adherence to Jesus Christ as an all-sufficient Savior, even in the face of discouragements; to love Him, and trust Him, as a Friend, even then when He seems to come forth against us... **This is _____! (CS)**

4. DID JESUS ANSWER HER PRAYER?

Her daughter was made whole from that very hour; the mother’s faith prevailed for the daughter’s cure. **Though the patient was at a distance**, that was no hindrance to the efficacy of Christ’s word. **He _____, and it was _____**. Those that wait on the Lord... **“shall be abundantly satisfied with the goodness of His house!” Psalm 65:4**

*The LORD says, “Listen now, Israel, my servant,
my chosen people, the descendants of Jacob.
I am the LORD who created you;
from the time you were born, I have helped you.
Do not be afraid; you are my servant,
my chosen people whom I love.
“I will give water to the thirsty land
and make streams flow on the dry ground.
**I will pour out my spirit on your children
and my blessing on your descendants.**
They will thrive like well-watered grass,
like willows by streams of running water.
Isaiah 44:1-4*

Miracle 21: The Deaf and Mute Man Mark 7:31-37

5. DID JESUS STAY IN ONE PLACE AND MINISTER?

He seldom stayed in one place. We see Him here after healing the Syrophenician's daughter that He moved on back to the Sea of Galilee. But He would take the long way back going through Decapolis, which lay on the other side of the Jordan. Along the way He went about doing _____.

Mark 7:32-35 says, "Then they brought to Him one who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech, and they begged Him to put His hand on him. And He took him aside from the multitude, and put His fingers in his ears, and He spat and touched his tongue. Then, looking up to heaven, He sighed, and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was loosed, and he spoke plainly."

Now this cure was, a proof of Christ's being the Messiah; for it was foretold that by his power the *ears of the deaf should be unstopped*, and the *tongue of the dumb* should be made to sing, Isa. 35:5, 6. The great command of the gospel, and grace of Christ to poor sinners, is *Ephphatha*-_____. He *opens the heart*, and thereby opens the ear to receive the word of God, and opens the mouth in prayer and praises. He ordered it to be kept very private, but it was made very public.

6. JESUS TOLD HIM NOT TO TELL ANYONE BUT DID THE MEN KEEP QUIET?

Mark 7:36-37, "Then He commanded them that they should tell no one; but the more He commanded them, the more widely they proclaimed it. And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

They just couldn't help themselves... They were *beyond measure astonished, hyperperissos* — *more than above measure*; they were exceedingly affected with it, and this was said by everybody, it was the common verdict, *He hath done* _____ (v. 37).

"Then our mouth was filled with laughter, And our tongue with singing. Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them." The Lord has done great things for us, And we are glad." Psalm 126:2,3

7. WHAT IS INTERESTING ABOUT THE HEALING OF A DEAF AND MUTE MAN?

Again as we have seen in the past few weeks it was the faith of others that brought this man to Christ. We have already studied about the healing of the paralytic in Mark 2:3. The healing of the centurion's servant in Matt. 8:5, the healing of Jairus' daughter in Mark 5:23, the faith of the Syrophenician woman's daughter in Mark 7:24, and now the healing of this deaf and mute man that was brought to Jesus by people who cared about him in Mark 7:31. (In the future we will learn about the healing of a blind man at Bethsaida. In Mark 8 :22, the healing of a boy

with an evil spirit when his dad brought him to Jesus in Mark 9:14, and of course the bringing of little children to Jesus in Mark 10:13, the healing of the official's son at Capernaum in John 4:46-54, the healing of the mute, demon possessed man in Matt. 9:32-33 and the healing of another blind, mute, demon possessed man in Matt 12:22). 9 out of the 26 miracles recorded in the Gospels were the direct result of other people bringing their friends, family or children to Jesus. Note He also performed 9 miracles over nature such as walking on water etc. ***So the challenging question of the day is, who are you bringing or have brought to Christ?***

Miracle 22: Healing of the Widow of Nain's Son Luke 7:11-17

Luke 7:11-15 – “Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out—the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said DONT CRY! Then he went up and touched the bier they were carrying him on, and the bearers stood still. He said, “Young man, I say to you, get up!” The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother.”

8. WHO IS THIS AN ENCOURAGING WORD TO?

Pastor Parris Bailey writes, “This is an encouraging word to you my dear mothers (and fathers) who cry over your children! Christ visits all those who are dead, lost, or in harms way. Never give up!”

Nain, which means _____, was about 25 miles away from Capernaum. Jesus was at Capernaum the day before and healed the Centurion's servant. On this particular day He would come to Nain. Day after day He was known to do good. Charles Spurgeon writes, “The city of Nain approached by a steep ascent, with burial caves on each side of the road.... As they reached the rock-hewn tombs, they met a humble train made up of one weeping mourner and some sympathizers. He doesn't seem to come to Nain for any particular reason. He seems to have been passing through. It was here He gives life to the dead while along the way. Here we see the two processions at the gates of Nain. What are the chances of these two colliding at the same time? But it was here that the two processions intersect. And it was here that He saw the brokenhearted woman and turned her mourning into joy her ashes for beauty.”

9. WHAT IS THE SIMILARITY TO THE PARALYTIC BEING HEALED?

The story about the paralytic being healed and his boy being raised from the dead is the same in the fact that they were both being carried by others. The first four was being carried to Jesus and brought onto the rooftop and lowered down to get him to Jesus who could heal him. The others that carried the boy from Nain was being carried to the place of death. The place of _____. The place of _____. Who is carrying your sons and daughters and where are they carrying them to? (CS)

10. WHAT DOES JESUS DO FOR THE YOUNG MAN?

My dear mother never lose heart! What I love about this story is that **Jesus halts the procession of death**. So many of our children are in harms way but Christ halts the progress of it. He interrupts the cycle that we were on. It's in his nature to heal. He has a touch full of power. Maclaren said "Note that this voice of Christ's has power in the regions of the dead. Wherever that young man was, he heard; in whatsoever state or condition he was, his personality felt and obeyed the magnetic force of Christ's will!" My dear mother -wherever your dear son or daughter is God is able! Able to find, hunt down, deliver and **HE HEARS OUR CRY!** (PB)

11. WHO IS THE WIDOW OF NAIN?

Luke 7:32, "When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." She is one of the many nameless, faceless women who are recorded in the Bible. She is recorded as being totally overcome by devastation and lost and sorrow. Her one most precious possession is now gone, taken away prematurely. The joy of her life has drowned in the tears of her sorrows. Her security about the future smashed and now she is left to a life of uncertainty. Her source of income is dried as the brook of Cherith and there is no raven in site. There is no hope for tomorrow for all hope is dead. Her son is gone, dead and she would bury him today. She isn't looking for a Savior, she isn't looking for a miracle for the days of hoping for miracle had passed.... But yet.... **"when the _____ He had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not."** "She wasn't looking for Him, but at the right time and the right place Jesus crossed her path." (CS)

For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth to show Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. 2 Ch 16:9

The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry. Psalm 34:15

He not only sees us, but just like the widow of Nain, He is concerned about the things that concerns us. Because of seeing her, and seeing the tears that fell from her eyes, He raised her son to life again.

answer Key:

1. DAUGHTER
3. MERCY, GREAT FAITH
4. SPOKE, DONE
5. GOOD, BE OPENED
6. ALL THINGS WELL
8. BEAUTY
9. NO HOPE, DECAY
10. THE LORD SAW HER

Miracle 23: Feeding the 4000

Miracle 24: The Healing of the Blind Man at Bethsaida

Miracle 23: Feeding the 4000 Mark 8:1-9

1. WHAT DOES THE MIRACLE OF FEEDING THE 4000 DISPLAY IN OUR OWN LIVES?

Mark 8:1-2, "In those days, when again a great crowd had gathered, and they had nothing to eat, he called his disciples to him and said to them, "I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat."

How much do you need Him? Let me phrase that differently, how well do you know that you need Him? All of humanity, actually, all of creation stands in continuous need of Him. Our fallen condition has blinded our eyes to our great need. We try to muster up our confidence and self esteem to live our best life now when at the end of the day, we are poor and needy creatures. We need God! I need God! I need Him when I wake up, I need Him for daily bread, I need Him to sustain and heal my body, I need Him just to survive. The miracle of feeding the multitudes ***displayed our utter dependence on God.*** He is always present, always giving. He is the Giver, I am the receiver.

2. HOW ARE WE LIKE THE PEOPLE IN THE CROWD IN MARK 8?

Charles Spurgeon writes, "These guests had one thing in common, which I have no doubt will be found among us also, they were all hungry and they were all poor. They could not supply one single dish for the table. Not one of them had a loaf to contribute nor a fish to give to the Master of the feast. They were all hungry, but not one could produce a crust; and the Lord neither asked them to contribute nor repelled them because of their poverty. Am I then tonight an empty sinner, having no good in myself? Do I feel that I could not contribute even one perfect thought, much less one solitary perfect action to the stores of the Redeemer's merit? Nevertheless, he bids me come, and come I will. He is a great giver; I can only be a receiver, and my utter lack of all goodness fits me to receive from him, since the emptier the vessel the more it can receive. If I could help him there would be no need for him to work a miracle on my account, but since I can bring nothing whatsoever, I need his miraculous power."

Pastor Frank Bailey continues, "This is actually what glorifies God, total dependency. One of the great ministries of the Holy Spirit is to open our eyes. He opens our eyes to our sinfulness and need of a Savior, then He opens our eyes to the Father's love for us and the riches He lavishes upon us in Christ. Just as Christ satisfied and sustained His followers in the wilderness, He satisfies and sustains all of us today who come to Him."

3. HOW CAN THE AMOUNT WE NEED TO FEED THE HUNGRY BE RAISED?

The disciples now found themselves in the same dilemma they were in the last time the Lord wanted to feed a huge crowd. Today there would be 4000 in attendance and only 7 loaves of bread and a few small fish. Sometimes with the daunting task to reach our city we too begin to wonder how can we supply people with what we do not have.

Charles Spurgeon writes, “How can we satisfy anyone in the _____. Where stony hearts are abundant... But when all other “channels fail, the fountain is still flowing and he that has faith to go to it directly shall not want!” And so it is in London (New Orleans)... How do we feed, (evangelize) in such a barren, dry and desolate place.... He wants to prepare a banquet in the wilderness.”

He continues, “We live on top of a volcano. “The pent-up misery and the seething sin of (New Orleans) is an eruption waiting to happen! The people are famishing bodily, mentally, morally, spiritually and we must feed them. I marvel not if in the presence of these dying millions you cry—“From where?” Or we can take a broader view than that and look to the whole world... The command is, “Go you into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.” The proposal is that the knowledge of the Lord shall yet cover the earth as the waters cover the sea and I repeat the keynote which I sounded just now, it is a daring project! It is startling to the thoughtful, impossible to the calculating, difficult even to the believing!”

4. WHY WAS JESUS SO CALM?

The disciples are still counting bread and fish and scrounging to scrape together what they could ... “But the Son of God has another and better sense, He trusts His Father. Jesus, a Man like themselves, has confidence that in the hour of His need the Godhead will not fail Him, but will fulfill His needs. Jehovah-Jireh—the Lord will _____. Oh, for Grace to cast all care away; to be baffled and worried no longer, but to rest and be still!” There is enough for each, enough for all, and still enough remaining for _____ needs! The infinite Worker reveals His infinity by His unstinted bounty, His unmeasured liberality! Moreover, Brothers and Sisters, whatever the Lord has given to you, He has still far more to bestow upon you. Whatever you may feast upon in this public service, there is yet a portion for you to take home with you in the basket and lay up in the store.

However God may have blessed you in your work for Him in the past, He is yet able to do exceeding abundantly above all that you ask or even think! However much the Church may have been increased by a true revival, God has never done according to the fullness of His ability in the Church as yet—even Pentecost was but the Firstfruits. I hear a voice from Heaven, saying, “you shall see greater things than these.” “And greater things than these shall you do, because I go unto the Father.”
Charles Spurgeon

5. WHAT DOOR OF HOPE SHOULD THIS OPEN?

How this should banish our _____! It shuts the door of the counting-house where we calculate according to human reason and it opens the doors of the treasury where we may draw ever-growing supplies! Go Brother, and scatter your handful of seed, for you shall come again, rejoicing, bringing sheaves with you! Give of your meal and oil to the Lord's servant and your barrel and cruse shall be replenished in the giving! Remember Bunyan's rhyme is true spiritually as well as providentially.

*“There was a man and some did count him mad,
The **More** he gave away, the **More** he had.”
John Bunyan*

Miracle 24: The Healing of the Blind Man at Bethsaida

Mark 8:22-26

6. BEFORE THIS MAN COULD RECEIVE HIS MIRACLE WHERE DID JESUS TAKE HIM?

Mark.8:22,23, “And they came to Bethsaida. And they brought a blind man to Jesus and implored Him to touch him. Taking the blind man by the hand, He brought him out of the village; and after spitting on his eyes and laying His hands on him, He asked him, “Do you see anything?”

This is one of the beautiful miracles of Jesus displayed in the gospel of Mark. I love the taste of Mark's eyewitness account. It had been many years since the miracle had taken place but the scene was like a snapshot recorded in Mark's memory. He still remembered when Jesus gently took this man by the hand and led him out of town. That's it, that's exactly what all of us need. That personal encounter with Jesus where He takes each of us by the hand and leads us out of town. It's those blasted past relationships, the village we used to live in, that started all of our problems. Before this man could receive his miracle he had to get out of the spell the world had him ensnared in. Let's go with Jesus outside the camp, that is the place where surely we too shall receive our miracle.

You see, as long as you stay in the village its hard to see anything. Only when Jesus got the blind man out of town and received the touch of the Lord did his sight begin to return. You too can begin to see again, just take Jesus by the hand and go with Him outside of town. Something beautiful will happen to you there. (FB)

7. WHAT IS THE HEALING OF THE BLIND MAN AT BETHSAIDA A PICTURE OF?

The healing of the blind man at Bethsaida is a picture of Jesus opening the eyes of a man not only to see things partially but to see things _____. Oh open our eyes that we might not only see things in part but clearly with eyes of understanding what is before us. Charles Spurgeon says this story is about, “a darkened soul gradually illuminated by the Holy Ghost, and brought by Jesus Christ in the clear light of His kingdom.” The man in the story is not deaf so that he cannot hear the Gospel, he is not leprous so he is not separated, his hand is not withered; yet he does hear, is present, and can do things on his own, but he doesn’t understand what it means to see.

8. WHAT QUESTION DOES JESUS ASK THE DISCIPLES RIGHT BEFORE THIS MIRACLE?

He asked why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not see or understand? Are your hearts hardened? Do you have eyes but fail to see, and ears but fail to hear? And don’t you remember? When I broke the five loaves... Do you still not understand???? Mark 8:17-21 A person can perceive data with the senses such as his eyes, his ears, touch and taste, but this doesn’t always give you clear understanding! _____ is a gift of God (Dan. 2:21). It is to be prayed for (Psalm 119:34), sought after (Prov. 23:23) and gotten (Prov. 4:5,7). (Bakers Evangelical Dictionary- Crosswalk.com)

9. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT UNDERSTANDING?

Proverbs 4:7, Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding

Ephesians 1:7-8, In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

Colossians 2:2, My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ.

Philemon 1:6, I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.

1John 5:20, We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know Him who is true. And we are in him who is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

10. WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THE MAN ONLY SEEING PARTIALLY?

Jesus healed the man in a way he didn’t expect it and Jesus touched his eyes and he was able to see partially. Just like some who when Jesus touches them they see things they never were able to see before. They see that He is the Savior and they have desperate need of Him, but yet although they see they don’t see as they should. The precepts of sanctification, justification,

righteousness, and all that Christ has laid up for us in His heavenly storehouse is still a vague misunderstood picture.

11. WHAT DID THE MAN NEED AND WHO WAS THE FIRST PERSON HE SAW?

He needed _____ from God. He needed to look again and this time to look a little closer. But glory be to God , that when the “Lord Jesus Christ brings a man to see a little, and to desire to see more, He does not leave him until He guides him into all truth”. And seeing that Jesus led him out of the town, the first person he saw was Jesus. “Blessed vision, to drink in the sight of that face, to perceive the beauties of that matchless lover of our souls. Oh the joy! One might be content to be blind forever if He were not to be seen; but when He is seen, oh the heavenly delight of being rescued from the blindness that concealed Him from our eyes. Believer, above all things pray, that thou mayest know Him, and understand Him. With all thy gettings get an understanding of Him.” (CS)

13. WHAT HAPPENED AFTER JESUS TOUCHED HIM A SECOND TIME?

The man saw *clearly*. “Be not satisfied , my dear fiends, with being saved; desire to know how you are saved, why you are saved, the method by which you were saved. It is a rock on which you stand- how you were put on that rock, by whose love you came there, and why that love has set upon you.” “Seek to love the whole Word of God, and to get insight into every truth.” Let this be your prayer, “Oh Sight giver, Oh Master, still go on; take every film away, remove every cataract, and if it should be painful to have my prejudices cut away or burnt out of my eyes, yet do it, Lord, until I can see in the clear light of the Holy Ghost, and shall be meet to enter into the gates of the holy city, where they see Thee face to face.” (CS)

14. SO WHAT WAS JESUS TRYING TO GET THEM TO SEE AND UNDERSTAND IN THE STORIES TOLD IN MARK 8?

He just got finished feeding 4000 men not including men and women, and yet a day or so later they were concerned again that they forgot to bring bread. He wanted them to see that He was the Bread of Life, He was their provider and if they had Him all their concerns would be taken care of. If they stayed close to Him the popular teachings of the day wouldn't weave into the very marrow of their existence but that they would remained undefiled. Mark 8 is a picture of Jesus who doesn't want to leave us in the dark. He wants us to understand His ways and to follow Him in His paths. It's like He is imploring them **GET UNDERSTANDING!!!!**

answer Key:

- 3. WILDERNESS
- 4. PROVIDE, FUTURE
- 5. FEAR
- 7. CLEARLY
- 8. UNDERSTANDING
- 11. ANOTHER TOUCH

Week 11

Miracle 25: The Healing of the Demon Possessed Boy

Miracle 26: Healing of the Mute, Demon-Possessed Man

Miracle 27: Healing of the Man Born Blind

Miracle 28: Healing Blind Bartimeus

Miracle 29: Healing Two Blind Men

Miracle 25: The Healing of the Demon Possessed Boy

Mark 9:17-29; Matthew 17:14-18; Luke 9:38-43

1. WHAT DID JESUS TELL THIS FATHER ABOUT HEALING? AND WHAT WAS THE FATHER'S REPLY?

Mark 9:23, "Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

Pastor Frank Bailey writes, "I often think of an old picture taken of me outside of our first church on Kawanee in Metairie. I was standing by our church sign which had the scripture on it that says, "*All things are possible to him that believes*". I remember looking at that sign many times when I was facing difficult times. God always met us. We were living in a season of miracles, people seemed to be getting saved everyday. There were drug users, alcoholics, sex addicts, people with every kind of vice were attracted to our church, God was moving and lives were being changed. There was an electricity in the air, all of us wondered what would happen next. That was a very special season in the life of our church. In those early days there was an incredible excitement and expectancy in our services, we knew great things were ahead of us.

Our joy and faith were overflowing their banks. Faith is the supernatural ingredient that makes everything come alive, it is the supernatural deposit of God in our hearts. When His faith is present, no problem seems to big, no challenge seems too extreme. The Lord is sufficient in every circumstance." This father went to everyone to get his son healed. But when he found himself standing before the "Miracle Worker" Himself healing was made possible.

2. WHAT WAS THE FATHER'S REPLY?

Mark 9:24, "Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"

John Calvin made some interesting observations about faith in his comments on this verse. Try to get past the old language and enjoy the hidden nuggets in his words. "If thou canst believe. "You ask me," says he, "to aid you as far as I can; but you will find in me an inexhaustible

fountain of power, provided that the faith which you bring be sufficiently large.” Hence may be learned a useful doctrine, which will apply equally to all of us, that it is not the Lord that prevents his benefits from flowing to us in large abundance, but that it must be attributed to the narrowness of our faith, that it comes to us only in drops, and that frequently we do not feel even a drop, because unbelief shuts up our heart. It is an idle exercise of ingenuity to prove Christ’s meaning to be, that a man can believe of himself: for nothing more was intended than to throw back on men the blame of their poverty, whenever they disparage the power of God by their unbelief.

3. WHAT DID JESUS INTEND TO TEACH US THROUGH THIS PASSAGE?

“All things are possible to him that believes.” Christ undoubtedly intended to teach that the fullness of all blessings has been given to us by the Father, and that every kind of assistance must be expected from Him alone in the same manner as we expect it from the hand of God. “Only exercise,” says he, “a firm belief, and you will obtain.” In what manner faith obtains any thing for us we shall immediately see.”

Thinking back to those services at Kawanee, I think of the supernatural atmosphere that gave birth to so many miracles. I remember the young girl in her pink hot pants that was gloriously saved, the single mom that had a dramatic deliverance from demons in a Sunday morning service, and who could forget the night we sang in the Spirit for hours as people broke into spontaneous interpretive dancing. Those were very special days, so are the ones we live in now. Young women are still being saved, demons are being cast out, and we are still dancing after all of these years. I guess Jesus was right after all, ***“All things are possible to him that believes”***.

4. HOW DO I RECEIVE THE FAITH THAT IS NEEDED FOR MIRACLES TO HAPPEN?

Today, God is still the same and His word is still true. “All things are possible for him who believes.” What are you believing God for today? What kind of battle are you engaged in? Do you need a miracle in your life?

It doesn’t take much faith, all it takes is faith like a grain of mustard seed, not very much. Where does this faith come from? Of course it comes from the Lord, it is spiritual in nature. Faith is a gift that flows from the presence of God. How do I receive this gift? You don’t have to seek faith or try to muster it up. You don’t even have to try to build up your faith, it is a gift. But you say “How do I receive this gift?” By getting hold of Jesus, as Paul said “Faith and love are in Christ Jesus”. When you get hold of Him, faith is the result. When you draw near to God, faith flows like a river. So what is the conclusion? The season of miracles is not over, the Lord is stirring our hearts with His faith again today.

Miracles are in the air.
“All things are possible to him who believes.”
Pastor Frank Bailey

Miracle 26: The Mute, Demon Possessed Man Matthew 9:32-33

5. WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE ABOUT THE RAPIDITY OF THE MIRACLES BEING PERFORMED BY JESUS?

“As they went out, behold, they brought to Him a dumb man possessed with a devil. And when the devil was cast out, the mute spoke: and the multitudes marveled, saying, It was never seen like this in Israel.” Matthew 9:32, 33.

No sooner is one act of mercy done than there is another person needing an equal display of Grace and power— and the Savior at once goes to the task and heals again, again, again and yet again! What an inexhaustible _____ there is in Christ! He can bless and bless, and bless, and bless and still remain as full of blessing as ever.

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. And of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace. JOHN 1:14-16

6. WHAT KIND OF CURE WAS THIS?

It was an _____ cure that He worked, for we read that the devil was cast out and the mute spoke!

Note first that the devil was cast out. Whenever he goes out of himself, he always comes back again. But when he is cast out, He that threw him out keeps him out. There are some men that reform, though they hardly know why, and then, by-and-by, they go back to their old sin and they are worse than ever. But whenever Christ comes to deal with this strong-armed man, He ejects him with a Divine Violence and never permits him to return, for the stronger Man who drove him out keeps that house in peace. This casting out of the devil is a very wonderful work. May the Lord come and perform it in our midst! May the demon of drunkenness, or lust, or whatever it is, be flung out of the window, never to return to the soul again! (CS)

Miracle 27: Healing of the Man Born Blind John.9:1-7

7. IS SIN ALWAYS THE DIRECT CAUSE OF SICKNESS?

John 9:4,5, "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Who sinned, this man or his parents that he was born blind? Doesn't that sound familiar? If something bad happens it surely must be your fault. That is exactly what Job's friends had said to Job. All these bad things are happening in your life Job, something must be wrong. If you listen carefully to what Jesus said that is not always the case. Sometimes sin is the direct cause of a sickness or problem, **BUT NOT ALWAYS**. In this case Jesus said this man was born blind so that the Glory of God could be clearly seen through his healing. Jesus healed this man simply to display the power of His love and the greatness of His mercy and grace. Maybe you are facing some real problems. Rather than suffocating under condemnation and guilt, look to God. Maybe you too are a candidate for the Lord to show His glory... So maybe, just maybe your suffering is about to come to an end. Is it possible that God has a plan and your problem is just another way for the Lord to show His kindness and His power in your life? Just like the blind man, His blindness gave way to the Light of the World. (FB)

Miracle 28: Healing Blind Bartimaeus Mark 10:46-52;

Matthew 20:29-34; Luke 18:35-43

8. HOW DID BARTIMAEUS CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE?

Mark 10:46, "Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging."

Bartimaeus had felt alone for a long time. Blindness can do that to you, never seeing anyone else, it becomes just you and the darkness. Depression and sickness can do the same thing to us, we have been overwhelmed by our circumstances for so long that we feel alone. We feel like no one understands, and even worse, no one even cares. That all changed for Bartimaeus in a moment of time. Jesus called for him and in an instant he stepped into something he had never felt before. It was the powerful love of God. Bartimaeus had never felt loved like this, he knew in that moment his life was about to change.

9. WHO IS THE FOUNTAIN OF LOVE?

Jonathan Edwards writes, "Here is joy unspeakable indeed; here is humble, holy, divine joy in its perfection. Love is a sweet principle, especially divine love. It is a spring of sweetness. But here the spring shall become a river, and an ocean. All shall stand about the God of glory, the fountain of love, as it were opening their bosoms to be filled with those effusions of love which

are poured forth from thence, as the flowers on the earth in a pleasant “spring day open their bosoms to the sun to be filled with his warmth and light, and to flourish in beauty and fragranc y by his rays.”

10. WHAT DID HE SEE WHEN HE RECEIVED HIS SIGHT?

That’s what it was like for Bartimaeus that day, he found himself standing in front of this fountain of love. He felt his heart opening up. It had been closed for so long, the love of God was now pouring into his open heart. He found his heart stepping out of the darkness of depression, a new kind of light was flooding his soul. That’s when it happened, his physical eyes began to open, he could see. What did he see? He was gazing into the source of this love, the beautiful face of Jesus, the only begotten Son of God. Love had broken through; his heart was healed and now his eyes were healed. Now here is the best part of this story, you too are standing before this fountain of love. As you draw closer, you will hear Him calling your name. Before you know it, you too will be healed, basking in the Father’s love.

11. WHAT DID BLIND BARTIMAEUS HEAR AND WHAT WAS HIS REQUEST?

Mark 10:46-52 – He heard that Jesus was _____. Jesus wants to pass by you and show you His glory. (Remember in the story of Peter walking on the water- Jesus intended to pass them by. He intended to show them His glory. Let us be found sitting along the way where Jesus manifests Himself to those that seek Him). So the Bible says **He cried out**. The crowd tried to silence him, but he cried even louder. The need to cry out is a humbling reminder of my total inability to solve my problems myself. He cried out with his voice for help. He cried out “Have mercy on me.”

Miracle 29: Two Blind Men Matthew 9:27-31

12. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE RECORD THAT THE TWO BLIND MEN (ALONG WITH BARTIMAEUS) DID TO GET JESUS’ ATTENTION?

Matthew 9:27-30 “And when Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying and saying, Son of David, have mercy on us. And when He was come into the house, the blind men came to Him: and Jesus said unto them, Do you believe that I am able to do this? They said unto Him, Yes, Lord. Then touched He their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you. And their eyes were opened.” Matthew 9:27-30.

The two blind men were in deep earnest crying. _____ implies earnest, energetic, pathetic, imploring, pleading and beseeching. Imagine how eager you would be for the blessed light if for years you had been compelled to abide in what Milton called, “the ever-during dark.” They were hungering and thirsting after sight. These blind men would have remained blind had they not been in earnest to have their eyes opened. And so, many continue in their sins because they are not in earnest to escape from them. These men were fully awake. Dear Hearer, are you?

The blind men “followed” Christ and found their way to the house where He was... Even though they couldn’t see they continued to cry out “Son of David have mercy on me”.... Pray therefore in the darkness, even if there is no hope of light, for when God, who is Light itself, moves a poor sinner to plead and cry out before Him with the solemn intent to continue to do so till the blessing comes. (CS)

13. WHAT IS THE MARVELOUS TRUTH ABOUT WHEN WE CRY OUT TO THE LORD IN OUR DISTRESS?

HE HEARS! AND HE DELIVERS!!!!

Psalm 50:15, “Call upon Me in the day of trouble: I will deliver you and you shall glorify Me.”

Psalm 18:6, “In my distress... I called upon the Lord and cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, and my cry came before Him, even to His ears.” (Here the word for David’s outcry is a high pitched shout for help.)

Psalm 34:17, “The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.” (This word cries means a shriek as in grief)

Isaiah 58:6-9, “Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; You shall cry and He will say, “Here I am”

14. WHAT DID THEY CRY FOR?

They cried for _____. They asked not for silver or gold even though he was poor, but only mercy. This is that which our hearts must be upon, when we come to the throne of grace, that we find mercy. Heb. 4:16; Psalm 130:7. Christ not only enjoins us to pray, but invites us; holds out the golden scepter to us, and bids us to come to touch the tip of it. He is not only able but He is willing to meet us in our times of need. (MH)

15. DID JESUS HEAL THEM?

Many are spiritually blind, and yet say they see, John 9:41. If we were aware of our darkness, we should go to Him, who has the eye-salve, with this request, Lord, that our eyes may be opened... He cured him. He did not seek in vain... It was the tender mercy of our God, that gave light and sight to him that sat in darkness, Luke 1:78,79... He that formed the eye, can He not heal it? Yes, He can and He did! And then Bartimeaus followed Him (MH)

answer Key:

- 5. FULLNESS
- 6. EXTRAORDINARY
- 11. PASSING BY
- 12. CRYING
- 14. MERCY

Miracle 30: Coin the Fishes Mouth

Miracle 31 The Healing of the Crippled Woman

Miracle 32: The Healing of the Man with Dropsy

Miracle 33: The Ten Lepers

Miracle 30: The Coin in the Fishes Mouth Matthew 17:24-27

1. WHAT KIND OF TRIBUTE WAS THIS?

This was not a civic payment to the Romans, but the church duties, the half shekel about fifteen pence, which was _____ from every person for the service of the temple and help with temple cost. In Ex. 30:12 it is called a ransom for the soul... Christ, that in everything he might *appear in the likeness of sinners*, paid it though he had no sin to atone for. *Thus it became him to fulfill all righteousness*, ch. 3:15. He did this to set an example. Of *rendering to all their due, tribute to whom tribute is due*, Rom. 13:7 and to not cause an offense. (MH)

2. WHY WOULD JESUS BE EXEMPT?

Christ is the Son of God, and Heir of all things; the temple is _____ temple (Mal. 3:1), _____ Father's house (Jn. 2:16), in it *he is faithful as a Son in his own house* (Heb. 3:6), and therefore not obliged to pay this tax for the service of the temple. Yet He pays not wanting to make this an issue... God's children are freed by grace and adoption from the slavery of sin and Satan, but not from their subjection to civil magistrates in civil things; here the law of Christ is express; *Let every soul* (sanctified souls not excepted) *be subject to the higher powers. Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's*. (MH)

3. HOW DOES JESUS GET THE MONEY TO PAY THE TAX?

Out of the mouth of a _____ (v. 27) The poverty of Christ; he had not fifteen pence to pay his tax with, though he cured so many that were diseased; it seems, he did all gratis; *for our sakes he became poor*, 2 Co. 8:9. In his ordinary expenses, he lived upon alms (Lu. 8:3), and in extraordinary ones, he lived upon miracles. He did not order Judas to pay this out of the bag which he carried; that was for subsistence, and he would not order that for his particular use, which was intended for the benefit of the community. (MH)

4. HOW DO WE SEE A FISH USED?

Whether His omnipotence put it there, or His omniscience knew that it was there, it comes all to one; it was an evidence of His _____, and that He is Lord of hosts. Those creatures that are most remote from man are at the command of Christ, even the fishes of the sea are under His feet (Ps. 8:5). Christ made the fish His cash-keeper; God's providence must become our storehouse and treasury. If we have a competency for today, *let tomorrow take thought for the things of itself.* (MH)

5. WHAT DOES THE MIRACLE TEACH US TO DO?

Trust God for your daily needs!

Matthew 6:25, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?"

Jesus taught us total dependency on our Heavenly Father. If you are having a hard time trusting Him, maybe struggling with fear about provision or your health, I want to give you a couple of thoughts. First think about the power of God and the sovereignty of God. He can do anything. He is the creator of galaxies and stars, and comets and black holes, and the artist who paints the sky and the sculptor who has fashioned us in His image. He was there forming us in our mother's womb, caring for us at birth, and watching over and providing for us every day of our lives; even in our most rebellious days. Next, consider God's love for us. His love is clearly seen in His Son Jesus. He showed His love as He fed the hungry fish and bread; His compassion was seen again as He healed the blind, the lepers, the deaf, and the maimed. Who can forget His love displayed as He healed the little boy tormented by demonic, suicidal thoughts? Then of course there is the un-mistakeable taste of love as He pours His Spirit upon us. (FB)

So if you today some unexpected bill or concern has come knocking at your door, He will provide what is required of you. *Matthew 6:33 says, "Seek first the kingdom and all these things (temporal needs) will be added unto you."* So throw a line in the water, maybe there is a fish with a coin in its mouth waiting for you!

Miracle 31: The Healing of the Crippled Woman Lk.13:11-13

6. WHAT WAS THE INFIRMITY OF THIS WOMAN?

Luke 13:10-13 "And He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift herself up. And when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him, and said unto her, Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity. And He laid His hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God."

Perhaps the infirmity of this woman was not only physical but spiritual. Her outward appearance showed the long continued _____ of mind. She was bent over double and she was bowed down by sadness in her mind. There is always a connection between body and soul, but it is not always so plainly seen as in her case. If we could see the inward in the outward, what would we look like? We would be horrified at what we would see... This woman had been bound for 18 years, but it does not take our Lord 18 seconds to break it! He sets the captive free! (CS)

7. WHERE WAS SHE, WHEN JESUS SAW HER?

Even though she was bowed down, both in mind and body, she was at the _____ . Our Lord was in the synagogue and there she was! She might very well have said, "It is very painful for me to go into a public place. I ought to be excused." But no, there she was! It was while in the House of Prayer that this woman found her liberty! And there *you* may find it too! Therefore continue to go up to the House of the Lord, come what may. And she comes to Jesus just as she was. When the woman came, the great Liberator said to her, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity."

Behold, I come today to publish the glad message from the Lord! Come forth, you prisoners! Leap you captives, for Jesus comes to set you free today! The woman was liberated. Our Lord laid His hands on her. She suffered from lack of strength and by putting His hands upon her, I conceive that the Lord poured His life into her. The warm stream of His own infinite power and vitality came into contact with the lethargic stream of her painful existence and so quickened it that she lifted herself up! The deed of love was done—Jesus Himself had done it! (CS)

8. WHAT DOES THE LADY DO AFTER SHE WAS HEALED?

She _____ God. Never was there a more eloquent woman in the universe! Though bound so long, you need not be bound any longer! Christ is able to deliver you! Trust Him, believe Him, be made straight and then go and tell what marvelous things He has done.

He bought you with His blood! He has loved you with an everlasting love— He has loosed you! You are His property! Do you not know that He sweeps His house to find His lost coin? He runs over hill to find His lost sheep? And will He not come and loose His poor tied-up ox? Will He not liberate His captive daughter? Assuredly He will! Are you a daughter of Abraham, a child of faith, and will He not set you free? Depend upon it, He will! (6-8 CS)

Miracle 32: The Healing of the Man with Dropsy Luke 14:1-4

9. WHAT WERE THE PHARISEES DOING TO JESUS IN THIS CASE?

Luke 14:1, And it came to pass, when He went into the house of one of the rulers of the Pharisees on a Sabbath to eat bread, that they were watching him. And behold, there was before him a certain man that had the dropsy.

They were _____ Jesus... They intentionally invited Him to this house to see how He would react when put in a position of close inspection. Would He be found to be who He said He was or would this be the time they would finally trap Him...

Dropsy defined by Webster, "An unnatural collection of serious fluid in any serious cavity of the body, or in the cellular tissue."... The phrase "let him go" of Luke 14:4 shows that the man was not a guest, but rather one who seems to have taken advantage of the freedom of an Oriental house to stand among the lookers-on. He may have been there purely from his own choice, but the evil intention with which Jesus was invited makes it highly probable that the man's presence was no accident, but part of a deep-laid plot to entrap Jesus. Sometimes we are intentionally placed in situations to see how we will respond.

10. WHAT DID JESUS ASK THE LAWYERS AND PHARISEES?

14:3 And Jesus answering spake unto the lawyers and Pharisees¹, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath, or not?

He responded to their unspoken thoughts, in which they were assuming that He would heal the sick man. What they didn't expect was His question. Jesus thought through the situation and turned the whole conversation to reach the heart of the matter. They just expected Him to act upon impulse. They were confused by His _____ and _____ question.

11. WHAT WAS THEIR RESPONSE TO JESUS' QUESTION, AND WHAT DOES JESUS ASSERT BY HIS ANALOGY ABOUT THE OX?

*Luke 14:4,5 **But they held their peace.** And he took him, and healed him, and let him go. And He said unto them, Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a well, and will not straightway draw him up on a sabbath day? A higher law, where it conflicts with a lower one, suspends or limits the lower one at that point of conflict. (9-12 Fourfold Gospel-Crosswalk.com)*

Miracle 33: The Ten Lepers Luke 17:11-19

12. WHAT WAS THE MOST DREADED DISEASE OF THE DAY?

_____ - This disease ate at men's flesh. It is also a picture of what sin does to a life. It pollutes it, it destroys it, and it separates man from God. So what a sight to our Savior- 10 men that were afflicted with this dreaded disease. "A mass of sorrows, indeed!". And what does our Lord see today, not only 10 men but 10's of thousands of millions of men diseased in soul. It is the miracle of miracles that the Son of God would even set foot in this place.

13. WHAT IS THE HEALING OF ALL TEN A PICTURE OF?

This is a triumphant picture of **GRACE** that the Lord didn't just heal one but all ten, and all ten at once. So full a fountain of Grace is He, so freely does He dispense His favor, that the 10 are

told to go and show themselves to the priests because they are healed and on the way to the priests they find it is so! None of us can imagine the joy they felt when they perceived that they were healed.

14. HOW MUST HAVE THE TEN MEN FELT?

It must have felt like a sort of ***NEW BIRTH*** *new skin*. It surely wouldn't have been an odd thing for all ten to run back and to fall at Jesus feet lifting their voices in praise. The sad thing about it is that nine of them, though they were healed, went on their way to the priests. We never hear of their return they drop out of the story altogether. They have obtained a blessing, they go their way and that is an end of them. Only one of them, a Samaritan, returned to express his thanks. If you search the world around, you shall scarcely meet people who are truly grateful. ***Our subject is thankfulness to the Lord Jesus Christ.***

15. IN THIS WORLD WHAT WILL YOU FIND MORE OF? PEOPLE BLESSED OR PEOPLE GRATEFUL?

To find people that the Lord blesses abunds, but to find those blessed and ***GRATEFUL*** are scarce but a few. In this story there were more who received benefits than ever gave praise for them. Nine persons *healed of leprosy*, mark you, and only one person kneeling down at Jesus' feet and thanking Him for it!

Life, health, eyesight, hearing, domestic love, the continuance of friendships I cannot attempt a catalog of benefits that we receive every day and yet is there one man in 10 that praises God for these? A cold, "Thank God!" is all that is given... We receive a continent of mercies and only return an island of praise. He gives us new blessings every morning and fresh ones every evening great is His faithfulness and yet we let the years roll round and seldom observe a day of praise.

16. WHAT IS THE REAL MIRACLE IN THIS STORY?

Luke 17:15-16, "Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan."

The stories of the miracles of Jesus are full of divine revelation. Today's verse describes a heart bursting with thanks after being healed by The Lord. This was no average, ordinary miracle. This man was healed of leprosy. Leprosy was a feared disease at the time of Christ. Your life was over, outcast and doomed to a life of solitude, suffering, and poverty. That was all over now, this man was healed. He couldn't contain his joy or his thankfulness. His heart was absolutely bursting and overflowing with praise. He had been given his life back. The unusual behavior here wasn't the passion of the healed leper, the stunning behavior is in the unthankfulness of the nine other lepers who never returned to give thanks. They got their miracle and they were out of there.

Ungratefulness is rooted in the hearts of our fallen race. The greatest miracle that day was the one we see in the man who returned. Not only was he healed, his heart was made brand new. The real sign of a changed life is the fruit we see in the heart. Everyone on the earth receives daily miracles from The Lord. Miracles like health, provision, and protection are all around all of us. These nine lepers who were healed and didn't return to give thanks didn't get it. God was there just to do their bidding in their minds. They never realized that they could have received more than just physical health, they could have been made whole.

“The Real Miracle is a Thankful Heart.”
Pastor Frank Bailey

answer key:

1. REQUIRED
2. HIS, HIS
3. FISH
4. DIVINITY
6. DEPRESSION
7. HOUSE OF PRAYER
8. GLORIFIED
9. WATCHING
10. CALM AND DELIBERATE
12. LEPROSY

Miracle 34: Withering the Barren Fig Tree

Miracle 35: The Raising of Lazarus from the Dead

Miracle 34: Withering the Barren Fig Tree Mark 11:12-25;

Matthew 21:18-22

1. WHY DID JESUS CURSE THE FIG TREE?

The fig tree had nothing but leaves. It claimed to be _____ but upon closer inspection it was not. The fig buds before the leaves. To see a fig tree full of leaves meant that the fig was in full bloom. Charles Spurgeon says this speaks of people whose “religion is a mere show; a sign board without an inn; a well set table with no meat”. “Multitudes live and die satisfied with the outward trappings of religion and are utter strangers to internal vital godliness.” “They talk without feeling... (words) come from their throats... but there is no welling up from their hearts.” “They have regrets without repentance”... “It is easy to bring a man to the river of regret, but you cannot make him drink the water of repentance.” “They are hearers, and they are feelers, but they are not doers of the Word.” “They are charmed with the beauties of holiness, and yet deluded with the wantonness of sin.” Here are leaves only...no fruit.” When He saw leaves He expected to see fruit.

“Beware! Beware! Thou fruitless tree! Thou shalt not stand forever! Mercy waters thee with her tears now; God’s loving-kindness digs about thee still; till the husbandman comes, seeking fruit upon thee year after year. Beware! The edge of the axe is sharp, and the arm which wields it is nothing less than almighty. Beware! Lest thou fall into the fire.”

2. WHO WAS THE STORY OF THE FIG TREE ABOUT?

Jesus was talking about anyone who made a show of religion with no true religion in their hearts, but He was also alluding to the Jews. The time for great holiness and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit had not yet come. All the other nations were without leaves. Greece, Rome, all these showed no signs of progress; but there was the Jewish nation covered with leaves. The Pharisee stood while praying long prayers. The Scribes had great knowledge about the kingdom. They both said they had the light, but yet the time for figs had not come yet. They had leaves but no fruit. You know what a curse had fell on Israel. In the day of Jerusalem’s destruction the tree withered altogether from its root.

3. WHAT KIND OF FRUIT IS THE LORD LOOKING FOR?

He is looking for internal _____. He is looking for those who are conformed to the image of Christ: Holiness, sanctification, righteousness, consecration, consistency, zeal, bowels of compassion, cries of earnest entreaty, wrestling with God, self denial, a vessel fit for the Master's use. Etc.

4. HOW IS THE CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE LIKENED TO THE CURSING OF THE FIG TREE?

Because there too were those who claimed to be one thing, but upon closer inspection were found with no inward workings of God. Seeing the temple from a distance, you expect when you go there and tread those hallowed courts that you would become nearer to God. But instead of holiness, covetousness; instead of getting nearer to God, they get into the midst of a mart where men are haggling about a price of doves, and bickering with one another about the changing of shekels.

5. WHAT HAS THE LORD CALLED EACH CHRISTIAN TO?

He has called each one of us to perform works that need the power of God. He says, ***“Have Faith in God, for verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, be thou removed, and be cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart but shall believe that those things which He said shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.”*** A Christian is a mass of miracles. When he gets to heaven he will be a miracle of miracles. His story will fill heaven with enthusiasm, so marvelous is the work of God. But you say... “If I come and trust Him, yet how shall I be saved, for see the difficulties that lie in my way? I see before me the vast mountain of my past sin. How can I come to Christ? Surely this alp of transgression must hide Him from me.” ***Have Faith in God***, dear friend, and God's power will be put forth to move this mountain, yea, Christ has moved it by His precious death.

6. WHAT ARE WE CALLED TO DO?

We are called to fight. You must fight if you would reign. Do not mistake it; you are called to work miracles- moral miracles, spiritual miracles. You are called to do great wonders between here and heaven. You see your calling brethren, and you will see, if you see aright, that nothing but a power divine can help you accomplish it... This spiritual power is the greatest power imaginable, and the most to be desired. If any of us aim to be useful, we cannot succeed unless we have this divine power, for without omnipotent spiritual help we can produce no spiritual result.

You can read or preach a sermon, or hear children read in your Sunday school class without any help from God, but then nothing will come from it. If there is to be living preaching and living teaching that really brings souls to Christ, ***the work must all be wrought in the power of the Holy Ghost from first to last...*** You must have that power that speaks to fig trees and they wither away, a power sufficient to speak to a mountain and pluck it up by its roots, for nothing short of this will fit you for your work. ***Have Faith in God!!!***

7. HOW ARE WE TO ACQUIRE THIS POWER?

We believe that God can do all things; we have seen something of the greatness of His power; how can we be girded with it? Here is the answer: **“Have Faith in God!”** It is to be by faith; that is trust, reliance, belief. It must **be in God**. Our faith must not be partly in God and partly in something else, but **Faith in God**. And it is literally, “Have the faith of God”- the faith which is wrought in us by God, and sustained by God, for that is the only faith that is worth the having. When the Son of man cometh shall He find faith on the earth? If anybody could find it He could. He knows where it is, for He is the author, the giver and the nourisher of faith... **Have Faith in God!** Some of you have got a good anchor somewhere, but you left it at home when the storm came. (CS 1-8)

“Have Faith in God.” . . . Have unlimited Faith in God; have daily Faith in God; have continual, perpetual, abounding Faith in God. “Have Faith in God.”
Charles Spurgeon

8. HOW DO WE ACTIVATE THIS KIND OF GOD FAITH?

This passage points us totally to the supernatural aspect of our faith. As Paul said in Ephesians, faith itself is a gift from God. The faith Jesus is describing is actually God’s faith. That is what this passage literally says in the original text, “Have God’s faith”. So if you find yourself in need of a miracle Jesus tells us in this passage the importance of faith in receiving miracles. You may say that you don’t have that kind of faith. Well I have some good news for you, none of us do. We are all in a state of utter dependence on God, even when it comes to believing God. This kind of faith is found only in Christ and Christ, with all of His faith, is resident in you. Our challenge is to activate our faith. How do we do that? It is really quite simple if you are willing to go all the way with God. Faith manifests in us through soaking in the Word and being filled daily with the Holy Spirit. (FB)

Here is how Wuest’s Word Studies describes this verse.

“This is just another instance in the life of our Lord that brings to view His humanity and His dependence upon God the Holy Spirit, for the words He uttered, the prayers which He prayed, the miracles He performed, and the life which He lived, was as the Man Christ Jesus, doing all this in the energy of the Holy Spirit. Our Lord exercised faith in the cursing of the fig tree. He presses home the lesson of the necessity of faith to the disciples.” This is Wuest’s translation of this verse. “And answering, Jesus says to them, Be constantly having faith in God.”

9. WHAT THREE THINGS HINDER OUR FAITH IN GOD?

A). _____ God cannot bless a man that is full of doubts. Get rid of doubt. Doubt paralyzes a man. Let us chase the spirit of unbelief away.

B). *Lack of* _____ It is by prayer that faith exercises itself unto God... Much prayer, should be offered by simple, trustful disciples, for the cry of faith which is true prayer touches the heart of the great Father, and He is prompt to grant His children their desires

C). _____ We must see to it that we are purged of what would effectually prevent prayer from being heard. "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear my prayer." Would you have the power of God to gird you, you must rid of all malice from your heart. You must forgive your brother. Sin is debilitating, it weakens and utterly prostrates a man... Thou shall move no mountains from its place till, first of all, the mountains of selfishness is cast into the sea. O Lord, purge Thy vessels and then fill them. Cleanse the instruments from rust, and then use them. Here we are now before Thee. (CS)

Miracle 35: The Raising of Lazarus from the Dead Jn. 11:1-44

10. HOW IS LAZARUS A PICTURE OF OURSELVES?

John 11:25-27, "Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to Him, "Yes, Lord; I have believed that You are the Christ, the Son of God, even He who comes into the world."

I love the story of Lazarus. It was one of the last miracles in the ministry of Jesus and had to be the most important of all. After all, when Jesus turned the water into wine as His first miracle, we learned He would save His best miracles for last. Why is this miracle so important?

A). First, Jesus always takes care of His friends. Are you a friend of God? That is what Jesus called His followers, they were His friends. This is what we are called to, friendship with the Lord. This is definitely our place of safety.

B). Next, we see a picture of why Jesus came in this miracle. Lazarus was dead, laying in the tomb for four days. There was nothing he could do to fix his situation. There was no doctor, lawyer, politician, or health consultant that could change these circumstances. Lazarus was dead. This is a picture of where all of us are without Christ, dead in our sins. The only solution? Jesus had to intervene and raise Lazarus and us from the dead.

C). We also see the way our circumstances effect others. When something happens in our lives it effects everyone in our world. Martha, Mary, and the whole town of Bethany were devastated by Lazarus' death. When someone's life takes a downward turn it effects everyone in our world. Seeing Lazarus' family weeping outside his tomb is all too familiar. I have seen far too many parents, siblings, and friends weeping outside of hospital rooms, prisons, car wrecks, and rehabs. Our "deaths" effect everyone we know.

When Jesus called Lazarus from the tomb their weeping was turned to joy. Lazarus was back. This is also a picture of what happens when Jesus brings us out of our misery, our death while

we still live. Not only is our life resurrected, the joy of everyone we know is awakened. This is exactly what the ministry of Jesus is all about.

That brings us to Mary. Her weeping for Lazarus was over. Now she was crying tears of joy. It wouldn't be long until these tears of joy would wash the feet of Jesus. She was beginning to understand who Jesus was and why He was their friend.

11. HOW IS TODAY'S GENERATION THE LAZARUS GENERATION?

John 11:43,44, "Lazarus, come forth." The man who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

The story of Lazarus reminds me of the current generation. In the story in John, Lazarus had been dead for four days, there was obviously nothing Lazarus could do about his circumstances. Lazarus is a picture of all mankind, hopelessly dead in their sins until they hear the words of Jesus, "Come forth!" At the Lord's command we come out of the darkness which is the horrible tomb of our sin and depravity. We are brought out into the light of His glorious day. When that begins to happen, we begin to experience the power of the Resurrection in our lives. We are no longer dead, we have been made alive by the power of God.

12. WHAT DO WE ALL NEED AN INFUSION OF?

Christians also need an infusing of this _____ of God into their lives. This power not only awakens us, but it also quickens and sustains us daily as we learn to receive from Him. Many times we have a religious belief in the power of God but are not experiencing that power today. Like Martha in John 11, she said that she believed in the resurrection in the future. She sounds like so many Christians today. "I believe in the coming of the Lord", but they have none of His power working in their lives today. Jesus told her He is the Resurrection. He is the Resurrection right now. His power is available now. We, like Lazarus, can begin to experience the power of God today in this life. We don't have to wait until the end of the age. This is the time of the final outpouring before the coming of the Lord. He is crying to this generation, "Come out of your graves, receive Resurrection power. I am the Resurrection and the life". The Lord is moving in this next generation, maybe it should be called the Lazarus generation. Listen, I think He is calling your name.

answer Key:

1. FRUITFUL
3. GODLINESS
9. DOUBT, LACK OF PRAYER, UNFORGIVENESS
12. RESURRECTION POWER

Miracle 36: Healing the High Priest Servant

Miracle 37: The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Miracle 38: Cast Your Net On The Other Side

Miracle 36: Healing the High Priest Servant Luke 22:50-51

1. WHERE DOES THIS MIRACLE TAKE PLACE?

This miracle of healing the High Priest servant's ear takes place in the garden of Gethsemane when Jesus was confronted with the _____ taking Him captive.

John becomes highly indignant, and cries, "Lord, will You that we command fire to come down from Heaven and consume them?" Jesus meekly answers, "You know not what manner of spirit you are of: for the Son of Man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." See Him on another occasion. Your Master has risen from His knees, with the bloody sweat still on His face, and Judas comes and betrays Him. And they begin to handle Him very roughly and, therefore, being highly provoked, brave Peter draws out his sword. And just to flash it a little, he cuts off the ear of Malchus. Hear how gently Jesus says, "Put up again your sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword." And so He heals that ear at once.

It is not for us to imitate the servant of Christ when Christ Himself excels him! Here is victory when a man so overcomes himself that he replies to evil language with good and wise answers, not with fierce and reviling words!

O Christians, look to Christ your Lord who all His life endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself! Who, when He was reviled, reviled not again, but submitted Himself to Him that judges righteously. And who, even on the cruel tree, when He was mocked by those around Him, had nothing to say but this—"Father, _____ them for they know not what they do." Dear Friends, we are now bold to affirm concerning the old, easy, natural method of returning evil for evil that it does not succeed! Nobody ever overcame evil by confronting it with evil! (MH)

2. WHAT DID JESUS DO TO THE MAN THAT PETER ATTACKED?

Peter in his rashness cut off the ear of the High Priest servant named Malchus. His act could have caused an all out war between the disciples and the army that came to arrest Him. Jesus in an act of mercy and love and embracing what lay before Him, reached and healed the man's ear. (MH) How do we react to the one who seeks to destroy us?

3. WHAT DID JESUS PURCHASE WITH HIS BLOOD ON THAT CROSS 2000 YEARS AGO?

Isaiah 53:4-5 *4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*

Isaiah 53:11-12 *11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.*

4. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS WE RECEIVE FROM CHRIST BEARING OUR SIN AND BECOMING OUR SAVIOR?

Psalm 103:1-3 states, *Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits; Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases.* In vv. 2-3, two important factors are evident. 1. A divine benefit. 2. Forgiveness of sins and healing of the physical body go hand in hand.

First of all, what are benefits? According to Strong's Hebrew & Aramic Dictionary, it's a service or requital, a reward, an act of good. The Psalmist said, *...Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits* (rewards, acts of good, etc.). He then began to list these rewards and acts of good toward us. The first two are, 1) who forgives ALL thine iniquities, and 2) who heals ALL thy diseases. Forgiveness and healing are our rewards of faith in Christ Jesus. How well the benefit of healing is described in Acts 10:38, which states, *How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.* Did you notice that He went about doing good and healing all? What a glorious benefit!

Another passage of scripture where this benefit is expressed is found in James 5:14-16, which states, *Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he has committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*

Peter is making this declaration in relation to Isaiah 53:5, and in his declaration, he changes the phrase "and with His stripes we are healed" to "by whose stripes ye were healed." The reason for this was that Isaiah was looking forward to the cross approximately 600 years before it happened, and Peter was looking back to the cross after it had been accomplished.

Now, forgiveness of sins and healing of the body are “forever-settled subjects” to those who put their faith in Christ.

Miracle 37: The Resurrection of Jesus Christ Matthew 28:5-7

5. WHAT IS THE GUARANTEE OF OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH?

Matthew 28:5-7, “The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’”

Pastor Frank Bailey writes, “I once watched a movie about the very end of the Apostle Peter’s life. It covered his arrest under Nero in Rome and ended at his death. In this movie it showed Peter ministering to an officer in the Roman army. This officer was asking Peter how he knew that Jesus was the Son of God. Peter carefully described Jesus death and then he told the soldier, “I saw Jesus after He was raised from the dead, I ate with Him. He was alive”. That pretty much answered all of the questions. Either Peter was a liar (along with 500 other eye witnesses) or Jesus is the Son of God. The Resurrection is the guarantee of our Christian faith.

6. WHAT IS THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IF THE RESURRECTION DID NOT HAPPEN?

Here are some thoughts from Tozer on the resurrection of Christ.

“The Christian church is _____ and _____ if it is stripped of the reality and historicity of the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ. The true church of Jesus Christ is necessarily founded upon the belief and the truth that it happened. There was a real death, there was a real tomb, there was a real stone. But thank God there was a sovereign Father in heaven, an angel sent to roll the stone away, and a living Savior in a resurrected and glorified body able to “proclaim to His disciples, “All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth!”

7. WHAT DOES THE POWER OF OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH REST ON?

The power of our Christian faith rests on the _____. It is because of the resurrection that we are born again, filled with the Holy Spirit, and have the power of God operating in our lives. This power is the omnipotent power of God. This power effects not only our spirit but our mind and body as well. Since the resurrection happened 2000 years ago how can we be sure today? As we hear the word of God or read the word of God, our faith in the resurrection becomes as real as Peter’s. We don’t see Him with our physical eyes but our spiritual eyes are opened wide by faith and we experience this resurrection for ourselves.

8. WHAT WILL RESURRECTION POWER DWELLING IN YOU DO?

Romans 8:11, "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you."

Miracle 38: Cast Your Net On The Other Side John 21:1-11

9. WHEN DID THIS MIRACLE TAKE PLACE?

John 21:4, "As the day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore."

This is the third time Jesus appeared to the disciples after His resurrection. Peter and several other disciples became distracted and maybe confused and decided to go fishing. Jesus took this opportunity to reveal Himself to them and to re-establish His calling upon their lives.

10. WHAT IS THE FIRST LESSON WE CAN LEARN FROM THIS MIRACLE?

First, we see the resurrected Christ standing on the beach at the dawning of a new day. This brings pictures into our minds as we realize this was the beginning of a brand new day for mankind. The outpouring of the Spirit for all people was about to begin. The glorious age of the church was dawning. The disciples were clueless and Jesus came to bring revelation into their lives.

Maybe you have been clueless, like the disciples? Still concerned only about natural things when the resurrected Christ is standing on the beach between two worlds calling us to recognize the spiritual time clock that is counting down. As the disciples were there at the beginning of the "new day", we are here at the closing of God's "prophetic day". The church age is coming to a close, and the return of Christ is imminent. This age is coming to a close, the creation and society itself are suffering the birth pangs of transition. Embrace this new day and expect unprecedented acts of God to surface in your life.

11. WHAT IS THE SECOND LESSON FROM THIS MIRACLE?

Jesus began to call to His disciples from the beach "*Children, do you have any fish?*"

I love the compassion and tenderness in the voice of the Savior. He calls them *children*. Just a few days before this Jesus had appeared to His disciples. He showed them His pierced hands and feet. He breathed on them and told them to receive the Holy Spirit. They had received the Spirit of Adoption. They were now sons of God. The Lord was tenderly calling them His children. Today, we are sons and daughters of God if Christ is in us. If you have never been born again, now is the time for salvation. Call upon the name of Jesus, open your heart to Him and invite Him in. You can become a child of God.

12. WHAT WAS JESUS REMINDING HIS DISCIPLES OF WITH THIS QUESTION?

Jesus asked them, “Do you have any fish?” “No” they replied. “Then cast your nets on the right side of the boat.”

These words were strangely familiar. They suddenly realized who the mysterious stranger on the beach really was. These were the words He had spoken to them when He first called them to follow Him. ***He was reminding them of their calling and election. He was reminding them of their supernatural life.***

Peter remembered this encounter when he was facing his own execution many years later. He wrote in his second letter, “Make your calling and election sure.” Peter had come to know that the supernatural call of God is essential in our lives. When difficult times come, we have to go back to our calling. He called me. He chose me. My calling and election are sure. He will keep me in the hardest of times.

13. WHAT WAS THIS INCREDIBLE HARVEST OF FISH A PROPHETIC PICTURE OF?

After the disciples followed His instructions, they experienced an incredible harvest of fish. This harvest was beyond human explanation. This was the work of God. ***This was clearly a picture given to the disciples about the harvest of souls about to come into their ministry.*** The Lord was preparing to harvest souls, they were about to become fishers of men.

answer Key:

1. ENEMY, FORGIVE
6. HELPLESS, HOPELESS
7. RESURRECTION

Miracle 39: Pentecost

Miracle 40: Christ in You

Miracle 39: Pentecost John 15:26

1. WHAT DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT DO THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF JESUS?

John 15:26, "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me."

After the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Lord promised that although He had to go away that He was sending Another exactly like Himself to come and live among us and in us. The Disciples were instructed to wait until power from on high came. On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descended like a mighty rushing wind and suddenly those in the room were awakened into a new way of life, the life in the Spirit. And from that day forward He has not stopped awakening those who are asleep.

The miracles of Jesus were like living parables, they were real for the individuals who were touched, but oftentimes for us today they are a glimpse into spiritual reality. The Holy Spirit, working through the ministry of Jesus, **actually brings us out of spiritual death, and awakens us to a life in the Spirit. He testifies of the reality of Christ, opens our spiritual eyes that we can see and opens our deaf ears that we can hear the voice of God.** Just as blind Bartimaeus saw the face of Jesus when Jesus touched, our spiritual eyes are opened that we can see the face of our Savior.

2. WHAT MAKES PEOPLE WANT TO TURN TO JESUS?

R.T. Kendall answers, "The _____. What makes Jesus real? The Holy Spirit. What makes what He did for us (dying on the cross and being raised from the dead) real? The Holy Spirit.

This is why Jesus said, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him". We are all born "dead". "Dead in your transgressions and sins". Can a dead man speak? Can a dead man hear? Can a dead man move? Can a dead man make a choice? Jesus's statement in John 6:44 came in the midst of what Bible teachers call the hard teachings of Jesus. At the beginning of this discourse Jesus had a following of five thousand. At the end "many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him". Jesus elaborated on His various hard sayings, "The

Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them.”

3. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES IN PENTECOSTAL POWER?

What is the aim of the Holy Spirit’s witness? Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit directs people to Jesus. “He will testify about me.” It is the Spirit who makes people see why Jesus died and rose again. Remember that the disciples did not know why Jesus died or rose from the dead even after they saw His resurrected body. It was not until the Holy Spirit fell on them on the Day of Pentecost that it all came together for them.”

The Holy Spirit clears up a lot of questions for us. Before we are effected by the Spirit, we seem to wander around, groping for answers in the darkness of this world. When the Holy Spirit comes in Pentecostal power, we find ourselves suddenly standing in the brightness of a brand new day. The Holy Spirit testifies to our spirit about the reality of Jesus. Suddenly, His healing power is real, His word becomes understandable, and we also begin to testify. We can’t help ourselves, we have to tell of what He has done for us.

4. WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT DOING TODAY?

I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever – The Spirit (of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him. But you know and recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you (John 14:16-17 AMP).

Jesus said He was sending “Another” one just like Himself, “ALLOS PARACLETOS”. The Holy Spirit is exactly like Jesus. The things Jesus did, the Holy Spirit is also doing right now. Jesus healed the sick and suffering in His earthly ministry. In the same way, the Holy Spirit is healing the sick and suffering today. The Holy Spirit is working all over the modern world. He is bringing people to Christ, healing the sick, and delivering the oppressed. The good news is that the age of miracles is not over. The Holy Spirit is real, He is our Helper. The things Jesus did while on earth, the Holy Spirit is doing today.

Miracle 40: Christ in You Ephesians 3:20

5. WHAT IS ONE OF THE GREATEST MIRACLES TODAY?

One of the greatest, most profound miracles happening today is that _____ is actually living inside of you if you have been born again, and His power is working in us, Ephesians 3:20, “According to the power that worketh in us.” Pastor Frank Bailey writes, “Do you believe that you have the Lord actually living inside of you? I mean really, not just a philosophical or doctrinal belief, but the living Christ living powerfully within

you. If you really have the Lord, the Creator of all things and the restorer of broken lives in your life, I believe He effects every part of you.

How could it be possible to have that kind of power in you and it not make a significant difference in every part of your life? He effects your intelligence because He is the wisdom of God. He effects your conscience because He is the High Priest who forgives all of our sins. He effects your health because He is the very source of all life and the healing power of God. Your emotional condition is absolutely transformed because He is the Wonderful Counselor. Our ineptness and lack of power is totally transformed because He is the very power of God. He absolutely changes everything when He lives in our hearts.

6. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF OUR UNION WITH GOD THROUGH THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

A.B. Simpson writes, “When we reach the place of union with God through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, we come into the inheritance of external blessing and enter upon the land of our possession. Then our health and physical strength come to us through the power of our interior life. Then the prayer is fulfilled that we shall be in health and prosper as our soul prospers. Then, with the kingdom of God and His righteousness within us all things are added unto us. God’s external working always keeps pace with the power that works in us. When God is enthroned in a human soul, the devil and the world soon find it out. We do not need to advertise our power. Jesus could not be hid, and a soul filled with divine power and purity should become the center of attraction to hungry hearts and suffering lives.

7. HOW IS OUR WORLD CHANGED?

Let us receive Him and recognize Him in His indwelling glory, and then we will appropriate all that it means for our life in all its fullness. So let me ask you again, is Jesus in your life? He is bigger and more dynamic than we can ever know. Our world is changed in proportion, or as today’s scripture says, “according to the power that works within us”.

If Christ is in you, then you are more than a match for whatever challenges you are facing in life. Invite the Miracle Worker in and watch as miracles happen within you and all around you today!
Pastor Frank Bailey

answer Key:

- 3. HOLY SPIRIT
- 5. CHRIST HIMSELF

