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STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

ADULT WEDNESDAY EVENING
BIBLE STUDY
MYRTLE AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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MIRACLES

INTRODUCTION:

1. If we are to be able to discuss miracles and think about them, we must begin by being clear in our minds as to what we mean by "miracle" and know what a miracle is.
2. We often use the word "miracle" in a careless way.
 - (1) Someone's recovery from a serious illness as a "miracle;"
 - (2) Back at work against all expectations - "a walking miracle;"
 - (3) "It'll be a miracle if I get through."
3. This is not what is meant when the word "miracle" is used about certain events in the Bible.
4. "Miracle" is derived from the Latin verb "mirari" which means "to wonder," i.e., a miracle is something which moves us to wonder. (See final page)
5. We wonder at it because we can neither do it ourselves, nor can we understand how it is done. A miracle is something which no man can perform and which no man can explain or understand.
6. The simplest definition is that it is something which defies human skill to perform and which baffles human wisdom to explain.
7. In the New Testament there are two words used for the miracles of Jesus.
 - (1) "Dunamis" - plural of "dunamis" i.e., "power." In a miracle there is power, and power is a power which men do not themselves possess.
 - (2) "Semeion" - meaning a "sign." Jesus' miracles were not only works of power, they were also "signs" - they showed men something.
8. The Scriptures terms "miracles" as "wonders"; "signs"; and sometimes "powers."
 - (1) "Wonder" - the astonishment which the work produces upon the beholders and is transferred to the work itself.
 - (2) "Wonders" is never applied but in connection with some other name, i.e., signs and wonders, or just "signs" alone, or just "powers" alone.

- (3) "Sign" - a token and indication of the near presence and working of God. Also, a "legitimizing act" - by which Jesus claims to be accepted as a messenger from God. Cf. John 2:8.
 - (4) "Sign" - to justify the things which He was doing, by showing that He had special authority to do them.
 - (5) "Powers" - the effect transferred and gives a name to the cause, so here the cause gives its name to the effect - one with which he is himself equipped of God.
 - (6) "Powers" - the word comes to signify the exertions and separate putting forth of this power.
9. These three terms occur three times in connection with one another. Cf. Acts 2:22; 2 Corinthians 12:12; 2 Thessalonians 2:9.
10. They are descriptive of different aspects of the same works.
- (1) Cf. Mark 2:1-12.
 - (2) The healing of the paralytic was a "wonder", for they who beheld it "were all amazed."
 - (3) It was a "power" for the man at Christ's word "arose, took up his bed, and went forth before them all."
 - (4) It was a "sign" for it gave token that One greater than men deemed was among them. It stood in connection with a higher fact of which it was the seal and sign being worked that they might "know that the Son of man has power on earth to forgive sins."

DISCUSSION: LET US NOTICE--

I. THE PROOF OF JESUS' MIRACLES.

1. Admitted by His disciples and friends.
2. Admitted by His enemies (John 11:47,48; Matthew 12:24)
3. Admitted by those "neutral" (John 3:2)
4. Taught in the New Testament (John 20:30,31; Matthew 4:23)

II. THE VARIETY OF JESUS' MIRACLES.

1. Healed people of disease (Matthew 8:1-4; 9:1-6; 9:20-22); Opened the eyes of the blind (Matthew 9:27-30; 20:30-34; Mark 8:22); Unstopped the deaf ears (Mark 7:31-37; Matthew 18:5); Unloosed dumb tongues (Mark 7:31-37; Matthew 15:30,31); Caused the lame to walk (Matthew 11:5; 15:30,31).
2. Fed the hungry (Matthew 14:15-21; 15:32-39); Calmed the storm (Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 11:33-41); Cast out devils (Mark 1:23-27; 3:10-12); Healed withered hands (Mark 3:1-5); Caused the stooped to stand erect (Luke 13:11-17); Raised the dead (Matthew 11:5; John 11:43,44)
3. Jesus performed the miracles publicly, before both friend and enemy, and on various occasions.
4. Thousands examined the miracles closely and all admitted He performed them.

III. IF CHRIST DID NOT PERFORM MIRACLES, THEN THE FOLLOWING IS TRUE.

1. His character and integrity are destroyed. He is an impostor. He claimed to perform miracles, but didn't. He is a liar. He said He performed miracles, but did not.
2. The New Testament is discredited. If it is wrong on this point, it is unreliable on all that it teaches.
3. We cannot, as the modernist says, "accept the teachings of Christ, and then deny His miracles for He taught miracles."

IV. THE DESIGN OF MIRACLES.

1. To Prove Deity - Cf. John 20:30,31. They did assure many people of His deity. (John 2:23; 3:2; 4:46-54; 6:14; 9:38; 11:47,48; 12:11-19; 20:8)
2. To Confirm the Word - Cf. Matthew 4:23. When the apostles went out preaching, they confirmed the word by miracles (Mark 16:20; Hebrews 2:2-4).
3. To Reveal the Character of Christ - we see compassion, tenderness, concern, love, sympathy, and consideration for human need that was such a great trait of Christ. In His teachings Christ tells us what He was, in His miracles, he show us what He was.

4. To Depict His Power.

- (1) Casting out demons - can cast out demon of sin in our life;
- (2) Feeding the multitudes - can feed our souls with the Bread of Life;
- (3) Opening the eyes of the blind - can open our spiritual eyes to God;
- (4) Healing the sick - can heal all the ills of our soul;
- (5) Healing the cripple - can heal all the ills of our soul;
- (6) Cleanse the lepers - can cleanse us from sin;
- (7) Calming the storm - can calm the storms of our lives;
- (8) Raising the dead - can and will raise us from the grave.

CONCLUSION: Christ's miracles to Christians constitute more than a proof of His deity and power - they are pledges of what He can do in our lives.

"Miracle" - an event or effect in the physical world deviating from the known laws of nature, or transcending our knowledge of these laws; an extraordinary, anomalous, or abnormal event brought about by superhuman agency. A wonder or wonderful thing; a marvel. A miracle play.

(Christian Science - that which is divinely natural, but must be learned humanly; a phenomenon of science.)

(Page 536, Websters New Collegiate Dictionary, 1958)

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF CHRIST
LESSON NUMBER ONE
"JESUS' USE OF MIRACLES"
JOHN 20:30,31

INTRODUCTION: Our study of the miracles of Jesus include the fact that Jesus did perform miracles for a distinct purpose.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. How do *you* define the word "miracle?"
2. How does the *world* use the word "miracle?"
3. What is the "proof" of the miracles of Jesus?
4. List at least five (5) miracles performed by Christ.
5. If Christ *did not* perform miracles, then what would be true about Him?
6. What is the "purpose" of miracles?
 - (1)
 - (2)
 - (3)
 - (4)

LESSON PLAN
THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

LESSON ONE	Jesus' Use Of Miracles	John 20:30,31
LESSON TWO	The Feeding of the 5000	Matthew 14:15-21; Mark 6:34-44; Luke 9:12-17; John 6:5-14
LESSON THREE	The Raising of Lazarus	John 11:1-54
LESSON FIVE	The Healing of The Centurion's Servant	Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10
LESSON SIX	The Cleansing of The Lepers	Luke 17:11-19
LESSON SEVEN	The Woman With The Issue of Blood	Matthew 9:20-22; Luke 8:43-48
LESSON EIGHT	The Demoniacs (Gadarenes)	Matthew 8:28-34
LESSON NINE	The Boy Whom The Disciples Could Not Heal	Matthew 17:14-20
LESSON TEN	Raising Of Jairus' Daughter/The Widow's Son	Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:22-43; Luke 8:41-56; 7:11-17
LESSON ELEVEN	Opening The Eyes of The Two Blind Men	Matthew 20:29-34
LESSON TWELVE	Changing Of Water Into Wine	John 2:1-11
LESSON THIRTEEN	A Group Of Miracles	

Jesus Made The DIFFERENCE!

Jesus is Powerful! We need to believe in His power

Mat 14:15

As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food."

Mat 14:16

Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." same as in Mark 6:37

Mat 14:17

"We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.

Mat 14:18

"Bring them here to me," he said.

Mat 14:19

And he directed the people to sit down on the grass.

Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people.

ALL WORKED TOGETHER - 1 Co 3:9 2 Co 6:1 1 Co 3:6

The lesson of human instrumentality in God's plan

Mark 6:41
Luke 9:16
John 6:11

God is the Giver of all good things - Js 1¹⁷
We should be thankful for the blessings
we have - Lv 22:19; Ac 27:35

UNTHANKFULNESS - the mark of inexcusable ingratitude

Mat 14:20

They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

Mark 6:42
Luke 9:17
John 6:12

The Lord supplies in abundance - Lk 15:17
God can take little and use it - 2 Co 9:10,11
All our needs are supplied in Christ; complete in Him

He will supply all our need (Mt 6:33; Heb 13:5)
God cares for His people (Mt 6:25-34)
Benevolence; relieve the needs of people (Ga 6:10)

Mat 14:21

The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

MARK 6:31 - "Then, because so many people were coming and going that they didn't even have a chance to eat, He said to them, 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.'"

Rest & Relaxation are needed for physical needs, review of labors, communion with God, etc.
we rest by taking days off, visits, vacations, holidays, etc.
much of nervous tension is due to being constantly tired
The Lord shared in this rest with His disciples
it would fit them for further service
it would increase their strength & vision.

Mark 6:34

When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

Mark 6:35

By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late.

Mark 6:36

Send the people away so they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."

Mark 6:37

But he answered, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "That would take eight months of a man's wages ! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?"

Mark 6:38

"How many loaves do you have?" he asked. "Go and see." When they found out, they said, "Five--and two fish."

The Lord wants us to take stock + inventory
of what we have
Bringing to the Lord what we had to be used of Him
and for Him?

Mark 6:39

Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. (LK 9:14)

None would be overlooked
assure easy distribution
Intensify the effect of the miracle
was orderly - 1 co 14:40

Mark 6:40

So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties.

in all of God's work there is order

Mark 6:41

Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to set before the people. He also divided the two fish among them all.

Mark 6:42

They all ate and were satisfied,

Mark 6:43

and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish.

Mark 6:44

The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

Luke 9:12

Late in the afternoon the Twelve came to him and said, "Send the crowd away so they can go to the surrounding villages and countryside and find food and lodging, because we are in a remote place here."

Luke 9:13

He replied, "You give them something to eat." They answered, "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish--unless we go and buy food for all this crowd."

Luke 9:14

(About five thousand men were there.) But he said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each."

Luke 9:15

The disciples did so, and everybody sat down.

Luke 9:16

Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to set before the people.

Luke 9:17

They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

John 6:5

When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?"

John 6:6

He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

God has a plan to meet every situation
cf. Gn 4⁴ Jo 14¹²

John 6:7

Philip answered him, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

John 6:8

Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up,

John 6:9

"Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

Don't know his name, nor anything else about him. - He did give what he had! (For the blessing of other people)

You can't lose in giving! Pr 11^{24,25} Lk 6³⁸ Mal 3¹⁰
2 Co 9⁶

Loaves were small + square → we are never to deprecate small or few talents

John 6:10

Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them.

of Luke 6:38 - "I won't be missed"
"They don't know me"

The law of gain
The amount of gain
The location of gain
We should give all we have to the Lord.

John 6:11

Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

John 6:12

When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted."

Things we waste:

Time; money; energy; souls;
character; children.

John 6:13

So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

John 6:14

After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world."

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS
LESSON TWO
“THE FEEDING OF THE FIVE THOUSAND”
MATTHEW 14:15-21; MARK 6:34-44; LUKE 9:12-17; JOHN 6:5-14

INTRODUCTION: Of the miracles performed by Jesus, this is the only one recorded by all four evangelists. This would indicate that the miracle was highly important.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. Which New Testament writers record this miracle?
2. TRUE FALSE Jesus found no time in His busy ministry for relaxation and refreshment.
3. Of what value is physical rest or relaxation?
4. What is the most important bread Christians provide for the world?
5. What is involved in eating the bread of Life?
6. Does the Lord expect us to “take stock” of our possessions? For what purpose?
7. What important fact do we have concerning the little boy with the loaves and fish?
8. What important lesson do we learn from the small loaves and fish used in this miracle?
9. Why was the multitude seated as they were?
10. How was the food distributed to the multitude?
11. What does this miracle demonstrate about God’s care for people, including the physical aspects of life?
12. Why do we in the 20th century need to believe in the power of Christ?
13. What action of our Lord following the miracle indicates that He is economical?
14. What other valuable lessons do you learn from this event?

John 11:1

Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.

John 11:2

This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair. → "Deathly sick" (Pl 2: 26, 27)
"ELEAZER" - He whom God Helped"
"snap-shot" tense
 MK 14:3-9; MATT 26:6-13

John 11:3

So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick." → Phileis - "FOND OF"

John 11:4

When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." DEATH IS NOT THE FINAL OUTCOME OF THIS ILLNESS
→ דִּבְלָא = 19X - honor, power, prestige

John 11:5

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. IMPERFECT OF CONTINUAL ACTION, i.e., permanent; self-sacrificing

John 11:6

Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days. → NOT A CRUEL DELAY, but a tender concern FOR THE SPIRITUAL welfare of HIS DISCIPLES

John 11:7

Then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

John 11:8

"But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews tried to stone you, and yet you are going back there?"

which would be greater?
 1. healing one sick
 2. Raising one from the dead
 (The miracle and glory are even greater)

John 11:9

Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? A man who walks by day will not stumble, for he sees by this world's light."

The time allotted is definitely fixed and cannot be shortened, or lengthened by anything we do.

John 11:10

It is when he walks by night that he stumbles, for he has no light."

"I MUST WALK IN THE PLAN OF GOD. IF WE DO, WE WILL NOT FAIL."

John 11:11

After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

John 11:12

His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better."

John 11:13

Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

John 11:14

So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead,

John 11:15

and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

John 11:16

Then Thomas (called Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

John 11:17

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

John 11:18

Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem,

John 11:19

and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother.

John 11:20

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

John 11:21

"Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

John 11:22

But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

ἐρωτᾷν - "To make request; To question"

αἰτέω - "inferior asking favor of a superior"
(never used of Jesus)

characterized by Thomas - despondent but devoted
cf 11:16; 14:5; 20:24-28

The magnitude of the sign!
Rabbinical tradition said that the soul hovers
around the body for three days in hope of reunion.

not viewed as a reproach or resentment, but
of grief

Bold confidence

John 11:23

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

John 11:24

Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." *Ps 16 9-11 17 15 49 16 73 24, 26*

John 11:25

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;

5th "I Am"

6 35 8 12 10 9, 14 6 15 5

John 11:26

and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:27

"Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."

} *confession*

John 11:28

And after she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you."

John 11:29

When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him.

John 11:30

Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him.

John 11:31

When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. *Κλαίω - "wailing", also v. 33*

John 11:32

When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

why?

1. EFFECTS OF SIN?

2. Unbelief of the people?

John 11:33

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. - "inward DISTURBANCE; indignation"

"shook Himself"

→ *"To snort like a horse"*

anger; charge sternly

MK 14 5 MT 9 20 MK 1 43

John 11:34

"Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied.

John 11:35

Jesus wept. "BURST INTO TEARS"
Hb 5:7

ἐδάκρυεν - genuine sympathy out of love
Hb 4:15 Ro 12:11-15

John 11:36

Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" imperfect tense - "was, and is constantly"

John 11:37

But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

John 11:38

Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance.

"Token of Remembrance"

μνημεῖον

Grief?
anger?

Present Participle Progressive
"emotion, lasts for a long time"

John 11:39

"Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days." (Lit., "He is a 4th day man")

EMPHASIZES THE GREATNESS
OF THE SIGN

John 11:40

Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

John 11:41

So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me.

John 11:42

I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

MIGHT COME TO BELIEVE (ingressive aorist)

Prayer of trust, simplicity, sincerity

John 11:43

When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

DISTINCT, AUDIBLE

↳

LOUD FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CROWD

John 11:44

The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

"SWEAT"

σινδριον

Lessons:

1. Jesus had special friends
2. God may take our afflictions and use them for His glory, and others' good
3. Duty should be performed in spite of danger (8)
4. God's power is unlimited
5. When one does a good work, he is often criticized.

EFFECT OF THIS SIGN:

1. Some believed (45)
2. Christ's death planned (46-54)
3. Great excitement (55-57)
4. Faith strengthened (4, 15, 26, 40)

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SIGN:

1. It was a sign pointing to Jesus as God's Son - the Resurrection of Life (5,000 = Bread of Life; blind man = light of the world)
2. It was a sign revealing Jesus as the Messiah - dying for His people - fulfillment of prophecy (11:51, 52; 12:14, 15)
3. It was a sign that led to the formal decision to put Him to death (11:47-55)

THE MIRACLES OF JESUS
LESSON THREE
"THE RAISING OF LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD"
JOHN 11:1-44

INTRODUCTION:

1. The relationship between Jesus and the family at Bethany was both interesting and beautiful.
2. This "I Am" is the introduction to Jesus' most outstanding miracle which is recorded only by John.
3. The raising of Lazarus from the dead was a dramatic demonstration of the truthfulness of the statement made by Jesus as recorded in John 5:21.

DISCUSSION: LET US NOTICE--

I. THE FAMILY (1-3)

1. Cf. Luke 10:38-42.
2. Lazarus was sick unto death.
3. Lessons: One's being sick is no sign that the Lord doesn't care about him. Cf. Hebrews 4:15; Blessings may come from sickness and pain.

II. BEYOND THE JORDAN (4-16)

1. Jesus did not go to the sorrowing sisters immediately.
2. Why the delay?
3. Jesus did not regard the death of a saint as "tragic."
4. Lessons: God may take our afflictions and use them for His glory; God may wisely delay an answer to our prayers and make it work for our good (Romans 8:28).

III. JESUS AND MARTHA (17-24)

IV. THE CLAIM (25-27)

1. Jesus is the Source of all life - John 1:4
2. Jesus is the Source of physical life - Genesis 1:26

3. Jesus is the Source of spiritual life - Ephesians 2:1; 1 John 5:11
4. Jesus is the Source of the resurrection - 1 Corinthians 15:20-22.

V. JESUS AND MARY (28-37)

1. Jesus sends for Mary and she responds.
2. Jesus' attitude (verses 33-35)

VI. AT THE TOMB (38-40)

1. It should be observed that Jesus did not do anything in connection with the raising of Lazarus which the men who were present could do.
2. Martha objects about removing the stone from the opening.

VII. THE DEAD AND THE VOICE OF THE SON OF GOD (41,44)

1. This same Jesus will some day call all from the grave.
2. Cf. John 5:28,29; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS
LESSON THREE
“THE RAISING OF LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD”
JOHN 11:1-44

INTRODUCTION: Jesus had a beautiful relationship with the family at Bethany. This miracle is recorded only by John. Why others omit it, we do not know.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. What do you know of the relationship of Jesus with the family of Bethany?
2. Under what circumstances did Jesus come to Bethany at the time of this lesson?
3. Where were He and His disciples at the time the word of Lazarus' illness reached Him?
4. What were some possible reasons for His delay?
5. How did Mary come to go out to meet Jesus?
6. What regret did both of the sisters seem to express to Jesus?
7. What effect did the weeping of Mary and the Jews have on Jesus?
8. What objection did Martha raise to the opening of the grave?
9. In what way did Jesus reassure her?
10. Why did Jesus pray to the Father and cry to Lazarus with a loud voice?
11. What valuable lessons do you learn from this miracle?

Mat 9:1

Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to his own town.

Mat 9:2

Some men brought to him a paralytic, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven."

Mat 9:3

At this, some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, "This fellow is blaspheming!"

Mat 9:4

Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, "Why do you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts?"

Mat 9:5

Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'?

Mat 9:6

But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins. . . ." Then he said to the paralytic, "Get up, take your mat and go home."

Mat 9:7

And the man got up and went home.

Mat 9:8

When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such authority to men.

Mark 2:1

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home.

The Helpless
Helpers
Hinders
Healer

Mark 2:2

So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them.

Mark 2:3

Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them.

"Helpless" - loss of motion
sin makes us inert & paralyzed

Mark 2:4 "Helpers" - *grace; trust; love; kind; sympathetic; united in effort* } *faith; love; courage = determination*

Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on.

"Healer" - immediately; freely; completely; authoritatively; effectually

concern
compassion
conviction
courage

Mark 2:5

When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

Mark 2:6

Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves,

"Hinders" *Passive - blocked the way; self-seeking; Active - cold, critical; scornful; looking for flaws*

Mark 2:7

"Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

Mark 2:8

Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things?"

Mark 2:9

Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'?

Mark 2:10

But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" He said to the paralytic,

Mark 2:11

"I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home."

Mark 2:12

He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

*what actions grow out of your
faith in God?*

*How would you respond if it
were your roof being torn up?*

*who are you most like?
The paralyzed man
His friends
The Teacher*

Why?

Luke 5:16

But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

Luke 5:17

One day as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law, who had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem, were sitting there. And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick.

Luke 5:18

Some men came carrying a paralytic on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus.

Luke 5:19

When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

Luke 5:20

When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

Luke 5:21

The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, "Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

Luke 5:22

Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts?"

Luke 5:23

Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'?

Luke 5:24

But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins. . . ." He said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home."

Luke 5:25

Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God.

Luke 5:26

Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, "We have seen remarkable things today."

If you had been the paralytic when your friends decided to take you up on the roof, remove the tiles, and lower you into the room, how would you have felt?

(embarrassed - scared - dubious - grateful
apprehensive - mixed)

When the crowd heard all of the commotion on the roof and saw the paralytic being lowered into the room, how do you think the bystanders felt?

(annoyed - amused - angry - sympathy)

If something like this ever happened in your congregation, what would people say?

(excitement - who's going to pay for the roof? -
fine with us - we are used to these things -
let's see this never happens again!)

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS
LESSON FOUR
"THE HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC"
MATTHEW 9:1-8, MARK 2:1-12, LUKE 5:16-26

INTRODUCTION: In this parable we have the cross-section of humanity. there are the helpless; the helpers and the hinderers. Christ is the Healer.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. What was the helpless man's condition? How does this malady affect the body?
2. What is sin? Give Scriptures.
3. In what ways is the "Healer" qualified to heal this man afflicted?
4. What role did the "helpers" play in this miracle?
5. How do the helpers demonstrate the value of "united" effort?
6. List some of the "helpers" characteristics.
7. What hindrances were encountered by the friends as they sought the Christ?
8. How would this apply today?
9. List some valuable lessons to be learned from this lesson.
10. Would you be willing to do what these "friends" did for their friend?

#9. Christ's divinity - forgave sins, knows the heart
Faith that acts is a condition of salvation
Only Christ can save
Truth corrects & speaks out
Crowd and religion - what will they think?
Friends were interested - he couldn't help himself

Mat 8:5

When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help.

*Probably a heathen by birth
MILITARY OFFICER
Placed over a hundred men*

would be surrounded by Judaism and polytheistic religions

Mat 8:6

"Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed and in terrible suffering."

Mat 8:7

Jesus said to him, "I will go and heal him."

Mat 8:8

The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed.

Mat 8:9

For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

Mat 8:10

When Jesus heard this, he was astonished and said to those following him, "I tell you the truth, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith.

Mat 8:11

I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 8:12

But the subjects of the kingdom will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Mat 8:13

Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go! It will be done just as you believed it would." And his servant was healed at that very hour.

Luke 7:1

When Jesus had finished saying all this in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum.

Luke 7:2

There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die.

concerned about other people

Luke 7:3

The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant.

HUMBLE - elders interceded for him
felt unworthy to approach Jesus - 6,7

Luke 7:4

When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, "This man deserves to have you do this,

Luke 7:5

because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue."

Love for his fellowman

Luke 7:6

So Jesus went with them. He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him: "Lord, don't trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof.

Luke 7:7

That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed.

Luke 7:8

For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

HAD Faith in Christ
and His word

He 11:6

Luke 7:9

When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel."

Jesus amazed

Luke 7:10

Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well.

LESSONS:

1. Man is not totally a product of environment and can change.
2. Our faith will be strengthened when we take Jesus at His word.
3. There is power in the Lord's word.

Mat 15:21

Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.

Mat 15:22

A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is suffering terribly from demon-possession."

an interceding prayer

the misery of her child became her misery

her prayer was definite, specific and to the point

Mat 15:23

the obstacle of silence

Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us."

the obstacle of the disciples' attitude

Mat 15:24

the obstacle of unwillingness

He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."

Mat 15:25

a prayer of reverence - honor, respect + worship

The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said.

her prayer was persistent

Mat 15:26

He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to their dogs."

Mat 15:27

"Yes, Lord," she said, "but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

a prayer of humility

Mat 15:28

Then Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

- LESSONS:
1. we should pray for other people - Mt 5⁴⁴
 2. Our prayers can be specific - 1 Ti 2^{1,2}
 3. we should be persistent in prayer - Luke 18¹⁻⁸
 4. we should be humble + patient in prayer - Luke 18⁹⁻¹⁴

Mark 7:24

Jesus left that place and went to the vicinity of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret.

Mark 7:25

In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an evil spirit came and fell at his feet.

Mark 7:26

The woman was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia. She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter.

Mark 7:27

"First let the children eat all they want," he told her, "for it is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to their dogs."

Mark 7:28

"Yes, Lord," she replied, "but even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."

Mark 7:29

Then he told her, "For such a reply, you may go; the demon has left your daughter."

Mark 7:30

She went home and found her child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS
LESSON FIVE
"THE HEALING OF THE CENTURION'S SERVANT"
"THE HEALING OF THE SYROPHOENICIAN WOMAN'S DAUGHTER"
MATTHEW 8:5-13; LUKE 7:1-10
MATTHEW 15:21-28; MARK 7:24-30

INTRODUCTION: The parable follows the Sermon on the Mountain. The teachings of Jesus are confirmed by the might signs which He did. This Greek woman from Canaan heard about Jesus and proceeded to tell Him about her daughter who had an unclean spirit. the prayer she gave is the reason for our lesson.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. The account of the healing of the Centurion's servant follows the narrative of what great event?
2. Our Lord was in what city at the time this miracle was performed?
3. What good qualities of character were possessed by the Centurion?
4. What caused Jesus to marvel about this man?
5. List at least two lessons learned from this account.
6. Matthew says, "There came unto him a centurion." Luke says, "He sent unto him the elders of the Jews." Unbelievers say that the account of Matthew and Luke contradict each other. How should this charge be answered?
7. At the time Jesus encountered the Syrophoenician woman He was in what locality?
8. Why did Jesus at first decline this woman's request?
9. How did the woman respond to Jesus' statement, "Let the children first be filled: for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs."
10. From what was her daughter suffering?
11. What was the apparent reason for Jesus' decision to heal the girl?
12. Matthew says, "A woman of Canaan." Mark says, "The woman was a Greek, a Syrophoenician by nation." Unbelievers point to this as a contradiction. How is this matter resolved?
13. List at least two valuable lessons to be learned from this account.

Luke 17:11

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee.

contagious & repulsive

Chronic, infectious disease of the skin, tissues, nerves characterized by ulcers, white scaly scars, deformities

Luke 17:12

no name given

As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance

1. Unclean
2. not allowed to enter town
3. found near gates begging
4. isolated
5. Required by law to keep to themselves
6. caused despair - no human remedy

Luke 17:13

and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

they wanted help!

Got attention and received mercy from Jesus

Luke 17:14

When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.

A TEST OF THEIR FAITH

when cleansed they were to go to the Priest

OBEDIENCE

Luke 17:15

not cleansed right away, but on the way

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice.

THIS MAN WAS GRATEFUL

Luke 17:16

He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him--and he was a Samaritan. (virtue is often found in unlikely places)

Luke 17:17

Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? (they were ungrateful)"

something pathetic in the question

Luke 17:18

Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" (Jews - privileged men - this makes their ingratitude more conspicuous - ingratitude is an ugly sin! - Ro 1)

Luke 17:19

Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well." (Gratitude opens the door of the heart)

Abundantly blessed

LESSONS: SIN MAKES MAN UNCLEAN IN GOD'S EYES
sin separates
Afflictions often make us look to God

- DISEASES -

1. HAD LIMITED MEANS TO DIAGNOSE + TREAT ILLNESSES
2. BEST EDUCATED HAD ONLY A MEAGER UNDERSTANDING OF ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY
3. EVEN LESS KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE NATURE + EFFECT OF DISEASE ON THE BODY.
4. NOTHING WAS KNOWN OF BACTERIA + VIRUSES
5. DIAGNOSIS WAS HINDERED - OFTEN ATTRIBUTED TO SIN, OR TO A CURSE BY AN ENEMY.
6. MAIN DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS WERE OBSERVATION AND SUPERFICIAL PHYSICAL EXAMINATION
7. A PHYSICIAN HAD FEW AIDS TO USE - NO THERMOMETERS, STETHOSCOPES, MICROSCOPES, X-RAY MACHINES, EEG, ECG
8. LABORATORY TECHNIQUES TO EXAMINE BLOOD, URINE + OTHER FLUIDS DID NOT EXIST.
9. WAYS OF PREVENTING + TREATING DISEASES WERE NOT AVAILABLE THEN.
10. NO IMMUNIZATIONS, ANTIBIOTICS, VITAMINS, HORMONES, ANESTHETICS AND SURGICAL PROCEDURES WERE NOT KNOWN.
11. LIFE EXPECTANCY WAS SHORT
12. MAJORITY OF PEOPLE WERE BORN, AND DIED, w/o ever seeing a physician

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

LESSON SIX

"WHERE ARE THE NINE?"

LUKE 17:11-19

INTRODUCTION: In the neighborhood of a village the Lord and His disciples are brought face to face with a group of leprous men. In this miracle, recorded only by Luke, we have an exhibition of pity, power and pathos.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. What is leprosy? Have you ever seen someone who has leprosy?
2. Explain how the lepers were isolated from the mainstream of life. Why were they so separated?
3. What did these leprous men want of Jesus?
4. In what way did Jesus test the faith of these ten men?
5. When were these men cleansed of their disease?
6. Why were they told to go and show themselves to the priest?
7. Under the new covenant what makes a person "unclean" in the sight of God?
8. How do you feel about the "nine?" What was their problem?
9. List some lessons you have learned from this miracle.

WE SEEM TO RESENT INTERRUPTIONS - BUT NOT JESUS!
MAY WE NOT BECOME SO ABSORBED IN OUR WORK THAT
WE DO NOT TAKE TIME FOR PEOPLE.

Mat 9:20

Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. *WOULD SHE HAVE BEEN HEALED BY SOMEONE ELSE'S?*

Mat 9:21

She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed." → "CLUTCH of the hand of despair" (Lk)

Mat 9:22

Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed from that moment.

BECAUSE OF HER TROUBLE -

1. excommunicated religiously
 - (1) no part in worship services
 - (2) shut out of temple and synagogues
 - (3) divorced from her husband by same law
 - (4) ostracized from society

THE WOMAN

1. Had heavy handicaps
2. FOUGHT passionately for life - didn't quit after one effort
3. GOT WORSE INSTEAD OF BETTER
4. TALKED to herself - what we say to ourselves is OF UTMOST importance!
 - (1) The rich farmer - LK 12
 - (2) The prodigal son - LK 15

often called the parenthetical miracle

The great crowd! happy, sorrowful, seeing, eager - humanity!

Mark 5:25

And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years.

Mark 5:26

She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse.

Mark 5:27

When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak,

Mark 5:28

because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed."

Mark 5:29

Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

Mark 5:30

At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" Jesus wanted to acknowledge from her for his sake, for her sake, sake of others

Mark 5:31

"You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'" it was preposterous to the disciples!

Mark 5:32

But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it.

Mark 5:33

Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.

Mark 5:34

only time used by Jesus when addressing another person.

He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

→ Things belonging to the Lord:

1. His name - Ac 4¹² Co 3¹⁷ Ac 2³⁸ 10⁴³
2. His gospel - Ro 1¹⁶ Ga 1⁸ 2 Th 1^{7,8}
3. His faith - Ga 3^{26,27} 2¹⁶
4. His baptism - Ro 6³⁻⁵
5. His church - Mt 16¹⁸ Ac 20²⁸

→ The Power did not reside in the garment

1. Naaman - 2Ki 5
2. Brazen serpent - Nu 21
3. Baptism
4. blood on doorstep - Ex 12
5. walls of Jericho - Jos 6

→ 1 Jo 2³ 5¹⁹ Ro 8¹⁶

we know when we are saved

she heard - Mk 5:17

she believed what she heard

she went into action despite the crowd

she was dismissed with abiding peace

Luke 8:43

And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years, but no one could heal her.

Luke 8:44

She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped.

Luke 8:45

"Who touched me?" Jesus asked. When they all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you."

Luke 8:46

But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me."

Luke 8:47

Then the woman, seeing that she could not go unnoticed, came trembling and fell at his feet. In the presence of all the people, she told why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed.

Luke 8:48

Then he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace." - "Go into peace!"

1. She realized her need
 - (1) Many today do not realize their need
 - (2) Must go to the right source
2. Many have "touched" Him, but had no purpose in doing so - like warm
3. She touched as a matter of faith
Ro 10:17; 1:16
It may sound foolish to us, but God requires many things that are "foolish"
4. Needing God is not enough, for everyone needs Him!

TWO THINGS ABOUT JESUS:

1. His concern & consideration for people and individuals
2. The cost of helping someone

Parallel of her need and our need:

1. The disease of sin - Mk 4:12; Mt 13:15
2. The uncleanness of sin - 1 Jo 1:7
3. The separation sin causes - Is 59:1, 2
4. Makes us miserable

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS
LESSON SEVEN
"AN UNFORTUNATE WOMAN"
MATTHEW 9:20-22; MARK 5:25-34; LUKE 8:43-48

INTRODUCTION: Jesus is going on an errand of life and death. In such an hour we would resent such an interruption, but Jesus made use of it and performed one of His most beautiful works. May we not become so absorbed in our work that we do not take time to do such beautiful acts.

LESSON QUESTIONS

1. Describe the malady this woman had.
2. What is the background of this miracle?
3. How long had this woman suffered the affliction?
4. What had been the results of physicians' efforts to treat her condition?
5. This woman was "unclean" according to the law of Moses. What restrictions were hers as one who was unclean?
6. Is it possible for a person to lose faith in God in such adverse circumstances as experienced by this woman? Why?
7. Are trials in life blessings "in disguise?"
8. In seeking a "cure" for sin, what are some of the avenues taken by people other than Jesus?
9. How important is it for the sinner to recognize his condition?
10. Did the power to heal reside in Jesus' garment itself?
11. This woman knew she was healed. Is it possible for us to know whether or not we are saved? How?
12. What part does faith have in salvation?

Mat 8:28

When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way.

Mat 8:29

"What do you want with us, Son of God?" they shouted.
"Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?"

Mat 8:30

Some distance from them a large herd of pigs was feeding.

Mat 8:31

The demons begged Jesus, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs."

Mat 8:32

He said to them, "Go!" So they came out and went into the pigs, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and died in the water.

Mat 8:33

Those tending the pigs ran off, went into the town and reported all this, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men.

Mat 8:34

Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus. And when they saw him, they pleaded with him to leave their region.

Mark 5:1

They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes.

Mark 5:2

When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him.

Mark 5:3

This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him any more, not even with a chain.

Mark 5:4

For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him.

Mark 5:5

Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

Mark 5:6

When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him.

Mark 5:7

He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!"

Mark 5:8

For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!"

Mark 5:9

Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many."

Mark 5:10

And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

Mark 5:11

A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside.

The Man Possessed:

1. Mentally deranged
2. No clothes
3. Lonely
4. Self-tormented
5. Possessed with devils

Mark 5:12

The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them."

Mark 5:13

He gave them permission, and the evil spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

Mark 5:14

Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened.

Mark 5:15

When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid.

Mark 5:16

Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man--and told about the pigs as well.

Mark 5:17

Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

Mark 5:18

As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him.

Mark 5:19

Jesus did not let him, but said, "Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."

Mark 5:20

So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

The Change:

1. Tranquilized (sitting instead of raging)
2. Civilized (clothed instead of naked)
3. Intellectualized (in right mind - no longer deranged)
4. Spiritualized (at Jesus' feet)

Luke 8:26

They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee.

Luke 8:27

When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs.

Luke 8:28

When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!"

Luke 8:29

For Jesus had commanded the evil spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places.

Luke 8:30

Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "Legion," he replied, because many demons had gone into him.

Luke 8:31

And they begged him repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss.

Luke 8:32

A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into them, and he gave them permission.

Luke 8:33

When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

Luke 8:34

When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside,

Luke 8:35

and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid.

Luke 8:36

Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured.

Luke 8:37

Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left.

Luke 8:38

The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying,

Luke 8:39

"Return home and tell how much God has done for you."
So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.

LESSONS:

1. Jesus can transform man's nature - mental, moral, social, physical (Ro 1:15; Ep 1:3)
2. We should desire the continued presence of our Savior - Ga 1:20; 1 Jo 1:7
3. We should beware of the examples of the Gerasenes who dismissed Jesus from their midst for fear of material loss - Lu 8:37; Mk 5:16-18

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS
LESSON EIGHT
"THE DEMONIAK IN THE COUNTRY OF THE GADARENES
MATTHEW 8:28-34; MARK 5:1-20; LUKE 8:26-39

INTRODUCTION: Jesus and His disciples crossed the sea and landed in Geresá, a city in Perea. It is located in the middle of the eastern coast and is encompassed with mountains. Mark and Luke mention only one demoniac - probably the fiercer of the two, while Matthew mentions two men.

QUESTIONS

1. Where did this miracle take place?
2. Why was the man, Legion, dangerous?
3. How strong was the demon-possessed man?
4. What took place when Jesus and the man came face to face?
5. What request was made by the demons possessing this man?
6. Did Jesus absolutely refuse to grant the request of the demons?
7. What was the man called "Legion?"
8. Contrast the man "before" with the "after."
9. What lessons are we able to learn from this miracle?

Mat 17:14

When they came to the crowd, a man approached Jesus and knelt before him.

Mat 17:15

"Lord, have mercy on my son," he said. "He has seizures and is suffering greatly. He often falls into the fire or into the water.

Mat 17:16

I brought him to your disciples, but they could not heal him."

Mat 17:17

"O unbelieving and perverse generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me."

Mat 17:18

Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed from that moment.

Mat 17:19

Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"

Mat 17:20

He replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

The Horror - dashed / tore
The Healing - rebuked the spirit
The Completeness - Mark 9:25
The Compassion - Luke 9:42
The Astonishment - Luke 9:43

*would it not have enhanced Christ's prestige
to have the story + story of the Transfiguration
circulated?*

*what is the lesson concerning faith in relation
to powerlessness?*

what does verse 20 mean?

*The need of our young people
to guard against Satan, and to
resist his powers.*

The overwhelming contrast of the mt + of the world below Vatican Gallery - Raphael's Last Paintings

"The Transfiguration"

uppermost - transfigured Christ with Moses + Elijah

middle level - three disciples recently awakened + shielding their eyes

ground level - a poor demon possessed boy, at his side his desperate hideously gaping with father wildly weeping. The other disciples - some pointing upward to the figure of Christ

Mark 9:14

When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them.

one noisy hassle!

The heckling and taunting of learning, self-satisfied teachers

"You're phoning it so in your Master!"

Mark 9:15

As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him.

Mark 9:16

"What are you arguing with them about?" he asked.

Mark 9:17

the distraught father answers

A man in the crowd answered, "Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech.

Mark 9:18

Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not."

Satan's motivation - to destroy the image of God in mankind.

the real struggle + radical struggle between Satan + God

Mark 9:19

"O" - rarely used result of his deep emotion

"O unbelieving generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me."

"Will you ever learn?!"

① Boy to be brought to him

② Jesus drew the father out - (allowed him to unburden himself + to recognize the desperate extremity of his boy's plight)

③ "If you can" is not the issue here. The Lord challenges him to believe

Mark 9:20

So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

the raging hatred the demons have for Christ

"continued" tense

Mark 9:21

Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?" "From childhood," he answered.

Mark 9:22

"It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us."

Imagine the pain of the father!

Mark 9:23

"If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for him who believes."

men have made their version man-made, man-centered religion

It's not a question of whether can I do it, but will you believe - for everything is possible for him who believes.

(If the man doesn't believe, his son is going to remain as he is!)

Mark 9:24

Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

an honest man
transparent

Mark 9:25

When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the evil spirit. "You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again."

- Two questions we ask ourselves -
1. Do we believe God can do anything?
 2. Do we believe that He will do what He has promised to do?

Mark 9:26

The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, "He's dead."

They would say, "He cured him alright!
He's dead!"

Mark 9:27

But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up.

Satan is defeated

Mark 9:28

After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"

Mark 9:29

He replied, "This kind can come out only by prayer."

The disciples were somehow deceived in thinking that the gift they had received was under their own control and could be exercised at will - They did not think to pray

The dependence on God was to come through them.

We believe in a Christ who can fulfill His word to us and will do so.

And if you believe this, then your life will be given more and more to dependent prayer.

A true test of our spiritual walk is our prayer life. We must be people of profound prayer if we believe in the Christ of this chapter.

Luke 9:37

The next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him.

Luke 9:38

A man in the crowd called out, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. *only Luke says so*

A very Loud voice

MR 27:46 MK 15:8

Luke 9:39

A spirit seizes him and he suddenly screams; it throws him into convulsions so that he foams at the mouth. It scarcely ever leaves him and is destroying him.

Luke 9:40

I begged your disciples to drive it out, but they could not."

Luke 9:41

To whom were these words delivered?

"O unbelieving and perverse generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you and put up with you? Bring your son here."

disciples only? (their unbelief)

To THE Jews + disciples?

To THE mount of transfiguration + its glory

To THE father of the boy?

Luke 9:42

Even while the boy was coming, the demon threw him to the ground in a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the evil spirit, healed the boy and gave him back to his father.

LESSONS:

1. The despair with human nature

the disciples ineffectiveness

the Master still will take of matters!

2. The Cause of failure

Mark tells us why the disciples failed -

had not lived close enough to God

They needed prayer -

They had not exercised proper spiritual discipline

Maybe they thought the power was within them.

People (37)

Problem (38, 39)

Powerless (40)

Power (41-43)

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

LESSON NINE

"THEY COULDN'T DO IT!"

MATTHEW 17:14-20; MARK 9:14-29; LUKE 9:37-42

INTRODUCTION: The arrival of the Master with the three on the scene of this miracle was almost dramatic in its timeliness. A poor and distressed father had brought to the other disciples his only child suffering from an aggravated form of epilepsy.

QUESTIONS

1. This miracle occurred immediately after what event?

2. What contrast do you see between the "mountain" and the "valley?"

holiness of heaven	Tranquility	calm	Blessedness	gladness	glory	happiness	confidence
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
sinfulness of man	Tumult	unrest	Distress	sadness	gloominess	misery	unbelief

3. What was the boy brought to Jesus suffering from?

4. Why do you feel the disciples were unable to heal this boy?

5. What was the result of their failure?

6. Why was the multitudes amazed when they say Jesus?

7. Describe the earnestness of the father's petition to Jesus in behalf of his son.

8. Why did the Lord rebuke the disciples?

9. How was the unclean spirit removed from the boy?

10. What lessons can we learn from this event? In the prosecution of the Lord's work, we must have Him with us -
The importance of prayer

Mat 9:18

While he was saying this, a ruler came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live."

Mat 9:19

Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples.

Mat 9:20

Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak.

Mat 9:21

She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed."

Mat 9:22

Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed from that moment.

Parenthetical

Miracle

Mat 9:23

When Jesus entered the ruler's house and saw the flute players and the noisy crowd,

Mat 9:24

he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him.

A proof of the reality of the miracle

"UTTERLY DERIDED HIM"

Mat 9:25

After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up.

Mat 9:26

News of this spread through all that region.

Progression of the miracles
of raising the dead:

Raising from the dead (OT)

Elijah - son of the widow of Zarephath

1 Kg 17:17-24

Elisha - Shunammite's Son 2 Kg 4:13-25

Dead man placed in the tomb of Elisha is
restored to life 2 Kg 13:20, 21

Raising from the dead (Acts)

Peter - Tabitha - Ac 9:36-42 (Toppa)

Paul - Eutychus - Ac 20:9-11 (Troas)

1. Son of the widow of Nain = being carried
to his burial

2. Jairus' daughter - lying in the house
just dead

3. Lazarus - in the tomb, dead four days

Mark 5:22

Then one of the synagogue rulers, named Jairus, came there. Seeing Jesus, he fell at his feet

*supervised the worship
ran the weekly school
cared for the building*

*Probably close ties
to the Pharisees*

a significant and daring act of respect and worship

Mark 5:23

and pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live."

Mark 5:24

So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him.

Mark 5:25

And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years.

Mark 5:26

She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse.

Mark 5:27

When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak,

Mark 5:28

because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed."

Mark 5:29

Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

Mark 5:30

At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

Mark 5:31

"You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'"

*Parenthetical
Miracle*

Mark 5:32

But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it.

Mark 5:33

Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.

*Parenthetical
miracle*

Mark 5:34

He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

Mark 5:35

While Jesus was still speaking, some men came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher any more?"

Mark 5:36

Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

Mark 5:37

He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James.

Mark 5:38

When they came to the home of the synagogue ruler, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly.

*Lack of mourning was the ultimate
disgrace and disrespect*

Mark 5:39

He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." *(temporary condition!)*

Mark 5:40

But they laughed at him. After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was.

Mark 5:41

He took her by the hand and said to her, "*Talitha kum!*" (which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!").

*demonstrated great power
and
compassion!*

Mark 5:42

Immediately the girl stood up and walked around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished.

Mark 5:43

He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Luke 8:41

Then a man named Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue, came and fell at Jesus' feet, pleading with him to come to his house

never read in the gospels of children coming to Christ on behalf of their parents

Luke 8:42

because his only daughter, a girl of about twelve, was dying. As Jesus was on his way, the crowds almost crushed him.

→ Gr. - "was dying; at the point of death"

Age of womanhood
Would soon marry

Luke 8:43

And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years, but no one could heal her.

Luke 8:44

She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped.

Luke 8:45

"Who touched me?" Jesus asked. When they all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you."

Luke 8:46

But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me."

Paranatural
miracle

Luke 8:47

Then the woman, seeing that she could not go unnoticed, came trembling and fell at his feet. In the presence of all the people, she told why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed.

Luke 8:48

Then he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace."

Luke 8:49

While Jesus was still speaking, someone came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. "Your daughter is dead," he said. "Don't bother the teacher any more."

Luke 8:50

Hearing this, Jesus said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid; just believe, and she will be healed."

Luke 8:51

When he arrived at the house of Jairus, he did not let anyone go in with him except Peter, John and James, and the child's father and mother.

5 witnesses of Jesus' power

*Others could have been scoffers
Probably hired mourners*

Luke 8:52

Meanwhile, all the people were wailing and mourning for her. "Stop wailing," Jesus said. "She is not dead but asleep."

Jesus' conception of death!

*cf. Stephen Ac 7
1 Th 4:13, 15*

(dead to you - asleep to me!)

Luke 8:53

They laughed at him, knowing that she was dead.

Luke 8:54

But he took her by the hand and said, "My child, get up!"

cf. with a helping hand + word of command

Luke 8:55

Her spirit returned, and at once she stood up. Then Jesus told them to give her something to eat. *she was really alive*

The marvelous miracle

The nature of the miracle:

reunion of body & spirit - "spirit returned"

immediate - "at once"

complete - "give her something to eat"

Luke 8:56

Her parents were astonished, but he ordered them not to tell anyone what had happened.

Luke 7:11

Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him.

Two processions meet!

a meeting of death + life

a dead man and the Lord of life!

Luke 7:12

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.

The extremity of the horror!

He was her earthly support + stay

Luke 7:13

When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, "Don't cry." A loving entreaty → Compassion

Luke 7:14

Then he went up and touched the coffin, and those carrying it stood still. He said, "Young man, I say to you, get up!" → Power!
→ command!

Luke 7:15

The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother. → Life with all its facilities was restored
→ Son given back to his mother

Luke 7:16

They were all filled with awe and praised God. "A great prophet has appeared among us," they said. "God has come to help his people."

Luke 7:17

This news about Jesus spread throughout Judea and the surrounding country.

This miracle was performed without a request

Lessons:

Christ comes as the gracious Giver of life (world in the grip of death)

Christ comes as a fountain of Joy (world in the depth of sorrow)

Christ comes with pity and compassion (world encircled by cruelty and coldness)

Christ comes with marvelous power (world paralyzed by infirmities)

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

LESSON TEN

"TWO MIRACLES"

MATTHEW 9:18-26; MARK 5:22-43; LUKE 8:41-56; LUKE 7:11-17

INTRODUCTION: This lesson covers two miracles. In the first, Jesus had been summoned by a ruler of the Synagogue. His only daughter was dying, and he knew Jesus could make her well. In the second, we find the time of this miracle was during the first year of the Lord's public ministry, soon after the healing of the Centurion's servant (Luke 7:2-10). Luke is the only evangelist to record this miracle.

QUESTIONS

1. What information is revealed about the man called Jairus?
2. What incident took place while on the road to the house of Jairus?
3. While still on the way, what news was received concerning his daughter?
4. Do you think the family members which brought the news of the girl's death believed in Jesus?
5. What was the response of Jesus to the news that the girl had died?
6. Who was allowed to enter the room where she lay?
7. "The damsel is not dead, but sleeps." Explain.
8. What was the reaction of the family to the above statement of Jesus?
9. In the second miracle - the loss of any family member is tragic, but what made this particular situation so pathetic?
10. Why did Jesus perform this particular miracle?
11. What was the reaction of the onlookers when this man sat up and began to speak?
12. List some lessons to be learned from these miracles.
 - Death can come to the young as well as the old*
 - Jesus has the remedy for the heavy heart (Jo 14:1)*
 - Jesus has been the road of death before, and understands (He 4:15)*
 - Death is not the end of life (Ps 116:15)*

John 2:1

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee.
Jesus' mother was there,

John 2:2

and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.

John 2:3

When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

John 2:4

"Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come."

John 2:5

His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

John 2:6

Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

John 2:7

Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim.

John 2:8

Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so,

John 2:9

and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside

John 2:10

and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

John 2:11

This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

The Results

1. Man's needs met
2. Christ's glory revealed
3. Disciples' strength (faith)

who is the bride? } we don't know
who is the bridegroom? }

Two Things About Christ -

1. He was a sociable person
2. He sanctioned marriage

The Occasion (1-5)

The Sign (6-10)

The Effect (11)

John 2:1 after conversation with Nathaniel

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee.

Jesus' mother was there, not named by John { 1. Could be a relative of Mary that was getting married }
Joseph not mentioned 2. Indicated by actions during the feast

John 2:2 at this time: Andrew, Simon, Philip, Nathaniel, John

and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. (Jesus sanctions marriage) always accepted regardless of wealth, rank, achievements, social position or intellect
↳ the home will be happier and safer

John 2:3 "wine having failed" = Probably not wealthy people

When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." → why say this? The only recorded petition that was addressed to Jesus by Mary

John 2:4 not a statement of disrespect - cf Jo 19²⁶ 20¹⁵

"Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come." → Jesus is under His Father's directives spiritually and not His mother's. "What to Me, and you?" (LIT) "What is in common between us?"

John 2:5

His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." - marvellous statement on obedience
↳ whether we understand it or not; or easy or difficult

John 2:6 details for the Gentile reader - a natural consequence of Jewish habits; not a prearrangement or collusion
Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews. They washed their hands in these for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons.

John 2:7

Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they → uses human instrumentality to work His will
filled them to the brim. - genuineness of the miracle → servants; not the disciples

↳ no wine could be poured in

no parade or demonstration - Lord simply willed it

"mere act of will"

no outward, visible action
not told if He touched the pots
not said He commanded the water to change
not told if He prayed

John 2:8

Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, } sign done immediately, openly, perfectly

John 2:9

and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside
shows the reality of the miracle
- Presider over the feast; directed the ceremonies of the occasion

John 2:10

and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now." } shows the greatness of the miracle
↳ to drink sufficiently
"the product of the grape" - on this occasion, after they had well drunk they were still able to distinguish the good from the bad. Doesn't sound like the wine was intoxicating

John 2:11

This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

↳ more confidently } thoroughly convinced
more implicitly }

revealed for the first time
His glorious power and authority

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS
LESSON ELEVEN
"THE CHANGING OF WATER INTO WINE"
JOHN 2:1-11

QUESTIONS

1. What day is referred to in the expression, "And the third day?"
2. The occasion of the first miracle was a wedding at _____.
3. Which of Jesus' relatives were present for the marriage feast?
4. Were Jesus and His disciples invited guests at this marriage?
5. Which of Jesus' disciples were present for the marriage ceremony?
6. How do we know that Christ was interested in the "common place" activities of life?
7. Why should young people today be strongly encouraged to invite Jesus to their wedding?
8. List some factors missing in many 20th Century homes which leads to heartache.
9. Is there anything wrong with turning to Jesus in time of trouble?
10. Explain the statement, "Woman, what have I to do with thee?"
11. What did Jesus mean when He said, "My hour is not yet come?"
12. How many water pots were available for use in this home?
13. Why did many Jewish families, such as this one, own so many large waterpots?
14. Explain: Our Lord uses human instrumentality to work His will.
15. What evidence is found in the narrative that establishes the genuineness of the miracle?
16. Is there any indication that the wine at this marriage feast was intoxicating? Explain.

Christ has passed from Perea
toward Jerusalem, crossing at Jericho

Mat 20:29

As Jesus and his disciples were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. — Jesus now beginning the fateful ascent to Jerusalem

Mat 20:30

Two blind men were sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was going by, they shouted, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!" — now a popular title

Mat 20:31

The crowd rebuked them and told them to be quiet, but they shouted all the louder, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!"

Mat 20:32

Jesus stopped and called them. "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked.

Jesus never fails to respond to a call for help

Mat 20:33

"Lord," they answered, "we want our sight."

Mat 20:34

Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him. — only Matthew records this

MARK & LUKE SPEAK OF ONLY ONE MAN -
BARTIMEUS

Mark 10:46

Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (that is, the Son of Timaeus), was sitting by the roadside begging.

Notice - The blind man's spiritual sight seems to be clearer than that of the nation Israel

Mark 10:47

When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

→ Good news!

loudly
promptly
perseveringly

1. Recognized as Messiah
2. "Son of David"
3. Divine power
4. Received gracious help
5. Instantly delivered from distress

Mark 10:48

Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

→ obstacles to be overcome

→ eager determination

Mark 10:49

Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called to the blind man, "Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you."

a blind man stopped Jesus!

Mark 10:50

Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.

usually their only worldly possession

Mark 10:51

"What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him. The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see."

Mark 10:52

"Go," said Jesus, "your faith has healed you." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

Darkness: physically (no sight, stranger to beauties of nature, want)

spiritually (more severe than physical blindness!)

Bible is dull

Worship uninteresting

God is unreal

Understanding darkened

mark 8¹⁸ matt 13¹⁵

The Sinner

The Savior

Going to Jerusalem to die!

Sad condition - Blind
Helpless

Luke 18:35

As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. - wisdom of conduct - what if he had not sat by the way side?!

Luke 18:36

When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening.

Hope - circumstances (crowd, noise, inquiry, answer, opportunity)
why not seize the opportunity?

Luke 18:37

They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by."

note difference in name

Luke 18:38

Remarkable statement

He called out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

bystanders
blind man

Personal, well aimed, real
belief

Luke 18:39

Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

hindrances deepened determination to use
his only chance
Earnestness often tested by hindrances

Luke 18:40

→ teaching obedience + humility

Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to him.
When he came near, Jesus asked him,

stood still upon hearing the cry

Luke 18:41

"What do you want me to do for you?" "Lord, I want to see," he replied.

Spoke to the man individually

Luke 18:42

"look up" "see again" - Lit.

Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has healed you."

sight immediate + perfect

Luke 18:43

Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God.

satisfaction - assurance - praise

} The conduct of one that has
received mercy! Gratefulness - true springs
of real obedience

Song: "I heard the voice
of Jesus say"

"What is He to you?" - Jesus of Nazareth
Jesus, Son of David

many are spiritually blind

Jesus will soon have passed by

an encouraging instance of Christ's kindness/compassion

cf. John 6:37 - "He that comes to me I will in no way
cast out."

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS
LESSON TWELVE
"BARTIMAEUS"
MATTHEW 20:29-34; MARK 10:46-52; LUKE 18:35-43

QUESTIONS

1. What was the name of the city where Jesus encountered the blind men?
2. Why did these blind men happen to be on the road that day?
3. Did they believe Jesus to be the Messiah? Why?
4. How does the physical blindness of Bartimaeus compare with the spiritual blindness of that day, and of this day?
5. How did the crowd of onlookers react when the blind men cried out to Jesus?
6. Would you describe these men as "determined" to talk to Jesus? Why?
7. How would you describe their plea for help?
8. What was the Lord's reaction when He heard their call?
9. What question did Jesus ask Bartimaeus?
10. How did Bartimaeus demonstrate his gratitude? How can we demonstrate our gratitude today?
11. What was the reaction of the crowd to the miracle performed?
12. What valuable lessons can we learn from this miracle?

Mat 21:18

Early in the morning, as he was on his way back to the city, he was hungry. —→ just like anyone else would

Mat 21:19 *The most common and most valuable tree of Palestine / Symbol of peace + plenty*

Seeing a fig tree by the road, he went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. Then he said to it, "May you → see note below" never bear fruit again!" Immediately the tree withered.

Mat 21:20

When the disciples saw this, they were amazed. "How did the fig tree wither so quickly?" they asked.

Mat 21:21

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done.

Done to strengthen their faith, and to prepare them for greater trials

This promise belonged to the apostles

Mat 21:22

If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."

LESSONS:

1. Teacher the disastrous fall of Israel
2. The sin of hypocrisy
3. We are to bear fruit today as Christians

The day after Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem

Had lodged in Bethany - v. 17

McGarvey states: "The fact it was not yet fig time made it worse for this tree. On this kind of tree the fruit forms before the leaves, and should be full grown before the leaves appear: so this tree, by putting on its foliage before the time for figs, was proclaiming itself superior to all other fig trees."

Mark 11:12

The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry.

Mark 11:13

Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs.

Mark 11:14

Then he said to the tree, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard him say it.

Mark 11:20

In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots.

Mark 11:21

Peter remembered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!"

Mark 11:22

"Have faith in God," Jesus answered.

Mark 11:23

"I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him.

Mark 11:24

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Prayers are offered in the

1. name of Jesus
2. in faith
3. according to God's will

(1 Jo. 3:22; 5:14)

The Sign (1-9)
The Sequel (10-18)
The Sermon (19-37)

John 5:1

Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for a feast of the Jews. (Passover Feast)

John 5:2

Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is → "house of mercy; house of loving kindness" surrounded by five covered colonnades.

John 5:3

Here a great number of disabled people used to lie--the blind, the lame, the paralyzed.

John 5:4

John 5:5

One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.

John 5:6

When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?"

why the question?
1. acknowledge of deep misery
2. inability to deliver self
3. cause the sign to stand out boldly
4. promise of hope
5. shows compassion - Is 53⁵

John 5:7

"Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me."

John 5:8

Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk."

John 5:9

At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath,

"man for the Sabbath; Sabbath for the man?"

John 5:10

and so the Jews said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat."

{ Ex 20¹⁰ Jr 17¹⁹⁻²⁷
Neh 13:15

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John 5:11

But he replied, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.'"

John 5:12

So they asked him, "Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?"

no mention of the healing!

John 5:13

The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

why didn't Jesus heal them all?

John 5:14

Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, "See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you."

John 5:15

The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

John 5:16

So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jews persecuted him. - "continued" hostile action

John 5:17

Jesus said to them, "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I, too, am working."

Assertion of Deity

John 5:18

For this reason the Jews tried all the harder to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.

"It is amazing how careful people are of their bodies, and so careless about their souls" (Bodies to the Spring; souls left at the sewer)

note the witnesses of Deity:

- 1. Himself (31)*
- 2. John, the Baptist (33-35)*
- 3. His works (36)*
- 4. The Father (37, 38)*
- 5. The Scriptures (39-47)*

Luke 14:1

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

Luke 14:2

There in front of him was a man suffering from dropsy. *an excess accumulation of water in any part of the body*

Luke 14:3

Jesus asked the Pharisees and experts in the law, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath or not?"

Luke 14:4

But they remained silent. So taking hold of the man, he healed him and sent him away.

Luke 14:5

Then he asked them, "If one of you has a son or an ox that falls into a well on the Sabbath day, will you not immediately pull him out?"

Luke 14:6

And they had nothing to say.

Luke 13:10

On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues,

Luke 13:11

and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all.

Luke 13:12

When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity."

Luke 13:13

Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.

Luke 13:14

Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue ruler said to the people, "There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath."

Luke 13:15

The Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water?

Luke 13:16

Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?"

Luke 13:17

When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.

STUDIES IN THE MIRACLES OF JESUS
LESSON THIRTEEN
"A GROUP OF MIRACLES"
MATTHEW 21:18-22; MARK 11:12-14, 20-24
JOHN 5:1-18; LUKE 14:1-6; 13:10-17

1. At what point in His personal ministry did Jesus pronounce the curse upon the fig tree?
2. What is significant about the statement, "He hungered?"
3. Why was the fig tree cursed?
4. What seems to be the main lesson that Jesus desired His disciples to learn from this miracle?
5. What are some of the practical lessons for 20th century Christians in this narrative?
6. Describe the setting of the miracle recorded in John 5:1-18.
7. What does the name "Bethesda" mean?
8. Describe the dialogue and actions which brought about the man's cure.
9. Why the controversy over the healing of this man?
10. When in the temple Jesus encountered the man who was healed, what admonition did He give?
11. Describe the setting of the miracle recorded in Luke 13:10-17
12. What criticism followed the miracle?
13. What was Jesus' response to His critics?
14. What are some of the practical lessons to be learned from this passage?
15. Describe the setting of the miracle recorded in Luke 14:1-6.
16. What are some of the lessons to be learned from this event?