

Objective: to enable every believer to receive the manifestation of miracles that God intended.

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NLBC a.m.

Embracing The Miracle

Matt. 14:23-34

Introduction

There are 'ordinary miracles' in the Kingdom of God and there are *unusual* or *extraordinary miracles*—those miracles, that are larger in their capacity to exclaim the power of God, to our world. Acts 19:11. Jesus said believers would do greater miracles than He did, if they but believe. John 14:12-14. Every believer is meant to live in the regular expression of the miraculous. What supernatural things are **regularly** occurring in your life and home? Are you cultivating the **culture** or mentality of the supernatural in your life and home?

It is easy, especially in Western countries, to slip into the humanly-capable, the scientifically-available and the culturally-expected norms of managing life and end up neglecting the power of God in our lives.—that is until all other efforts prove useless. God chose to teach Israel who He was throughout the Old Testament. He did this in various ways. In the New Testament, God **showed** us how to live in the lifestyle of Jesus. Are we the storm-calming, water-walking, demon-casting, sick-healing, bread-multiplying, dead-raising, fig tree-

cursing, blind-restoring believers we were made to be? We embrace or draw miracles to us, when we follow Biblical steps. Jesus never meant to make living the miracle-life of being a Christian, difficult, but simple.

Discovering the Passage

- Vs 26 – we sometimes have difficulty discerning that a miracle is truly a miracle because it is so outside of our history or comfort zone of reference
- Vs 27 – Jesus is trying to get through to us...to reassure us that He is the central figure of our journey
- Vs. 28 – we still want verification, assurance...we want a definite ‘word from the Lord’ for our foundation of response...

The Process of the Miracle

- The need – we identify what the need is or the issue that requires a miracle in our situation. “What are you *specifically* believing God for?”
- The word of the Lord – sometimes it is only a simple, “Come.” You discover this in prophesying...you have a simple word and you begin with that...most often you don’t get the whole sentence let alone a paragraph
- The steps – when could prayer about a matter ever be wrong? Answer: when it is a substitute for action.—the

actions of faith. Peter, got down, got out, walked on the water...actual steps of faith he had never taken or seen taken before

The Principles of Miracle-Embracing or Receiving

- The “law of faith” is a law that goes into operation when you believe—the ‘law of faith,’ like the ‘law of gravity,’ is an automatic activity that occurs when certain conditions are met: faith and works (scripture) Rom.3:27 NKJV says, “...By what law? Of works? No, but by **the law of faith.**”
- The principle of “focus” – 2 Chron. 20:12; Heb. 12:2. What is focus: “to concentrate or fix your attention on some thing, some situation, or some effort” – Deut. 11:18; Prov. 4:25; 2 Cor. 4:18; Heb. 3:1 NIV “...fix your **thoughts on...** *Your eyes naturally ‘fix’ or ‘focus’ on something—so what you are ‘looking at’ inwardly in your thoughts, becomes your focus* –sustaining you or killing you--“a death by a thousand cuts...’ Panic or peace, you *decide* by your *choice of focus*. Mt. 14:30. You can cancel out your faith and your miracle by simply focussing wrong. When Israel focussed on their circumstances and not on the Promise to be taken into the Promised Land, they forfeited their great miracle inheritance.

Faith and focus... “...our eyes are on you...”

Peter “saw” the wind and the waves” Waves, winds, are distractions – John 6:18 take your eyes off of Jesus and you begin to fear...fears of all kinds

Faith moves you from one place to another desired place. Your part, His part...you have to step out...He upholds you where there is no visible signs of support.

Summary:

1. Determine the *specific miracle needed*.
2. Hear the 'word of the Lord' through the voice of God speaking to you from the Bible or in your devotional communication with Him. Rom. 10:17.
3. Discern the distractions for what they are and **quit** focussing on them! Matt. 14:30, 31. Get back to focusing on what He has said, rehearsing it! Abram knew he was no longer Abram but Abraham. Whenever, Sarah called him, she was saying, 'Hey, Father of Nations,' its time to eat...etc. He *was* a promise from the Promise-Keeper!
4. Act on whatever He says to do. i.e. do your part. John 2:5; James 2:20-22, 26. **Step out of the boat!**
5. Continue to believe that what He said He will do, **will manifest**. Col. 1:23; Heb. 6:12. **Do not quit!**