

Miracles

Part III; August 29, 2010

Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), ²and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the miraculous signs he had performed on the sick. ³Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. ⁴The Jewish Passover Feast was near. ⁵When 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?" ⁶He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!" ⁸Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, ⁹"Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them. ¹¹Jesus 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. ¹²When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." ¹³So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. ¹⁴After 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." ¹⁵Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself. – John 6:1-15 (NIV)

“The Me-racle!”

**Many miracles start out with feeling
a simple divine nudge to help.**

And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. **Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.**

– Acts 10:38 (NLT)

Never minimize who you are or what you have to offer.

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. – 1 Timothy 4:12 (NIV)

**Sometimes, to be a part of something miraculous,
you have to risk looking ridiculous!**

And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him. It was by faith that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood. **He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before**. By his faith Noah condemned the rest of the world, and he received the righteousness that comes by faith. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. **He went without knowing where he was going**. – Hebrews 11:6-8 (NLT)

You are not responsible for the miracle; only for the surrender!

**Stay humble... You may have given the gift,
but it was God who worked the miracle!**

When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in their local dialect, “These men are gods in human form!...But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard what was happening, they tore their clothing in dismay and ran out among the people, shouting, “Friends, why are you doing this? **We are merely human beings—just like you!**

– Acts 14:11; 14-15 (NLT)