

Adventure Club

A weekly lesson for children, young people, parents and grandparents, from the GCI Watford Church.
Number 50, 5th March 2021

Learning From and About Some Bible

MIRACLES

'You are the [awesome] God who works [powerful] wonders' Psalm 77:14, *Amp.*

All of the miracles in the Bible actually happened (despite what some people think). We can learn many lessons from the over 150 miracles documented in the Scriptures. Some selected miracles are very briefly introduced below.

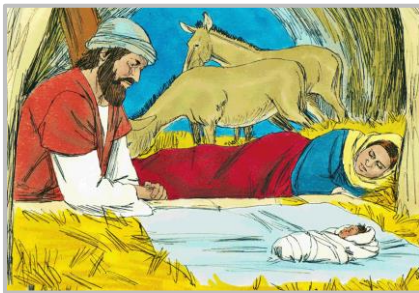


Jesus Meets Mary in the Garden

'He Has Risen'

'Very early Sunday morning, the women came to the tomb where Jesus' body was laid. They brought the sweet-smelling spices they had prepared. They saw that the heavy stone that covered the entrance had been rolled away. They went in, but they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. They did not understand this. While they were wondering about it, two men in shining clothes stood beside them. The women were very afraid. They bowed down with their faces to the ground. The men said to them, "Why are you looking for a living person here? This is a place for dead people. Jesus is not here. He has risen" ' Luke 24:1-6, *ERV*

'The Baby Will Be Holy and Will be Called The Son of God'



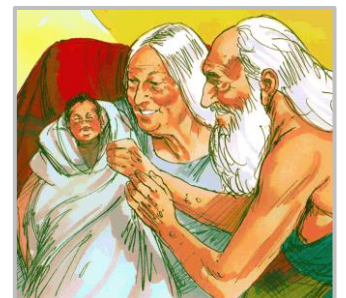
'God sent the angel Gabriel to a virgin girl who lived in Nazareth, a town in Galilee. She was engaged to marry a man named Joseph from the family of David. Her name was Mary. The angel came to her and said, "Greetings! The Lord is with you; you are very special to him." But Mary was very confused about what the angel said. She wondered, "What does this mean?" The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary, because God is very pleased with you. Listen! You will become pregnant and have a baby boy. You will name him Jesus. He will be great. People will call him the Son of the Most High God, and the Lord God will make him king like his ancestor David. He will rule over the people of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." Mary said to the angel, "How will this happen? I am still a virgin." The angel said to Mary, "The Holy Spirit will come to you, and the power of the Most High God will cover you. The baby will be holy and will be called the Son of God" ' Luke 1:26-35, *ERV*.

Some Miraculous Births

Isaac 'Then the men said to Abraham, "Where is your wife Sarah?" Abraham said, "She is there, in the tent." Then one of them said, "I will come again in the spring. At that time your wife Sarah will have a son" ' Genesis 18:9-10, *ERV*.

Samuel 'She [Hannah] made a special promise to God and said, "LORD All-Powerful, you can see how sad I am. Remember me. Don't forget me. If you will give me a son, I will give him to you. He will be yours his whole life" ' 1 Samuel 1:11, *ERV*.

John the Baptist 'But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. For he will be great in the sight of the Lord" ' Luke 1:13-15, *NKJV*.





'God does wonderful things that cannot be understood. He does so many miracles they cannot be counted' Job 5:9, ICB.

The Tower of Babel 'Let's go down and confuse their language. Then they will not understand each other' Genesis 11:7, ERV.

Through the Red Sea 'The Israelites went through the sea on dry land. The water was like a wall on their right and on their left' Exodus 14:22, ERV.

The Sun Stood Still! 'The sun stopped in the middle of the sky. It did not move for a full day. That had never happened before, and it has never happened again' Joshua 10:13-14, ERV.

Shadow Goes Backwards! 'Then Isaiah prayed, and the LORD made the shadow move back ten steps. It went back up the steps that it had already been on' 2 Kings 20:11, ERV.



World's oldest sun-dial from Egypt's Valley of the Kings, dated about 1500 BC



'Lions' Mouths' 'My God sent his angel to save me. The angel closed the lions' mouths. The lions have not hurt me' Daniel 6:22, ERV.

Transfiguration 'While these followers watched him, Jesus was changed. His face became bright like the sun, and his clothes became white as light' Matthew 17:2, ERV.

The Fig Tree 'The next day as Jesus was leaving Bethany, he was hungry. He saw a fig tree in leaf. So he went to the tree to see if it had any figs on it. But he found no figs, only leaves. It was not the right season for figs to grow.

So Jesus said to the tree, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." Jesus' followers heard him say this. . . . The next morning, Jesus was passing by with his followers. They saw the fig tree, and it was dry and dead, even to the roots' Mark 11:12-14, 20, ERV.



'I Am the LORD God. I Rule the World, and I Can Do Anything!' Jeremiah 32:27, CEV.



'What is That?' 'After the dew was gone, something like thin flakes of frost was on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they asked each other, "What is that?" because they did not know what it was. So Moses told them, "This is the food the LORD is giving you to eat. The LORD says, 'Each of you should gather what you need, a basket of manna for everyone in your family' " So that is what the Israelites did. Some people gathered a large amount, some people gathered a little' Exodus 16:14-17, ERV.

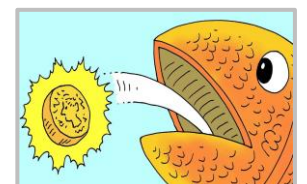
A Talking Donkey! 'The donkey saw the LORD's angel. So the donkey lay down with Balaam sitting on top of it. Balaam was very angry at the donkey. So he hit it with his walking stick. Then the LORD caused the donkey to speak. The donkey said to Balaam, "Why are you angry at me? What have I done to you? You have hit me three times!" Balaam answered the donkey, "You have made me look foolish. If I had a sword in my hand, I would kill you right now!" But the donkey said to Balaam, "Look, I am your donkey. You have ridden me for so many years. And you know that I have never done this to you before!" "That is true," Balaam said. Then the LORD allowed Balaam to see the angel. The LORD's angel was standing in the road, holding a sword in his hand' Numbers 22:27-31, ERV.



Sacrifice Burnt on Mt Carmel 'Elijah approached the altar and prayed, "LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, I ask you now to prove that you are the God of Israel and that I am your servant. Show these people that it was you who commanded me to do all these things. LORD, answer my prayer. Show these people that you, LORD, are God and that you are the one who is bringing them back to you." Then fire came down from the LORD and burned the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, and the ground around the altar.

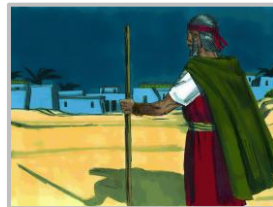
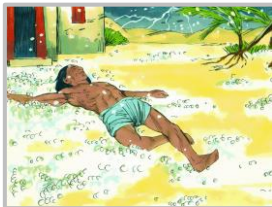
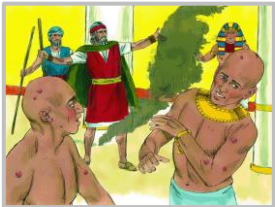
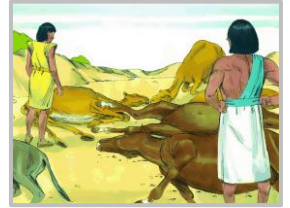
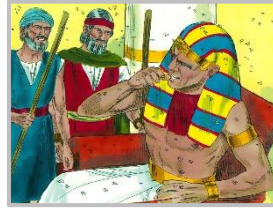
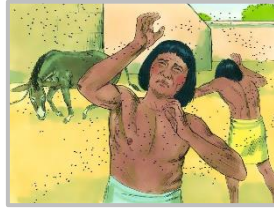
Then it dried up all the water in the ditch' 1 Kings 18:36-38, ERV.

The Fish with a Coin! 'Jesus said to Peter, "Then the children of the king don't have to pay taxes. But we don't want to make these tax collectors angry. So go to the lake and fish. After you catch the first fish, open its mouth. Inside its mouth you will find a coin. Take that coin and give it to the tax collectors. That will pay the tax for you and me" ' Matthew 17:26-27, ICB.



The Ten Plagues

1. 'So all the water in the river changed into blood. The fish in the river died' Exodus 7:20-21, ERV.
2. 'The frogs began coming out of the water and covered the land of Egypt' Exodus 8:6, ERV.
3. 'Everywhere in Egypt the dust became lice. The lice got on the animals and the people' Exodus 8:17, ERV.
4. 'So the LORD did just what he said. Millions of flies came into Egypt' Exodus 8:24, ERV.
5. 'The LORD did what he said. All the farm animals of the Egyptians died' Exodus 9:6, ERV.
6. 'Moses threw the ashes into the air, and sores began breaking out on people and animals' Exodus 9:10, ERV.
7. 'The LORD caused hail to fall all over Egypt. The hail was falling, and lightning was flashing all through it' Ex. 9:23-24, ERV.
8. 'The LORD told Moses, "Raise your hand over the land of Egypt and the locusts will come!" ' Exodus 10:12, ERV.
9. 'Then the LORD told Moses, "Raise your hand into the air and darkness will cover Egypt" ' Exodus 10:21, ERV.
10. 'At midnight the LORD killed all the firstborn sons in Egypt' Exodus 12:29, ERV.

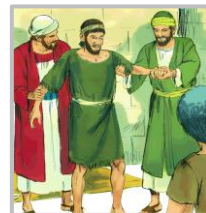
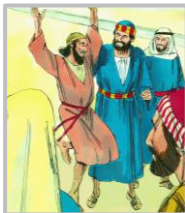


Do you sometimes wish for miraculous signs? God has given you the miracle of eternal life through your faith in Him. This is a quiet miracle and, though less evident right now, like all miracles, is astonishing. Based on the *Life Application Study Bible*, page 112.

Some of the Miracles Connected to Peter and Paul are Similar

Peter Heals a Lame Man

'"By the power of Jesus Christ from Nazareth – stand up and walk!" Then Peter took the man's right hand and lifted him up. Immediately his feet and legs became strong' Acts 3:6-7, ERV.

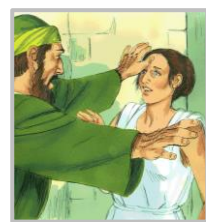
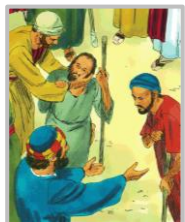


Paul Heals a Lame Man

'Paul looked straight at him and saw that the man believed God could heal him. So Paul shouted, "Stand up on your feet!" The man jumped up and began walking around' Acts 14:9-10, ERV.

Peter Heals Many People

'Sick people were brought out into the streets on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow would fall across some of them as he went by! . . . every one of them was healed' Acts 5:15-16, TLB.

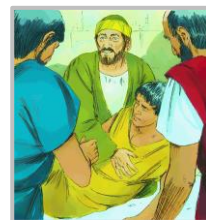


Paul Heals Many People

'Some people carried away handkerchiefs and clothes that Paul had used and put them on those who were sick. The sick people were healed, and evil spirits left them' Acts 19:11-12, ERV.

Peter Raises Dead Tabitha

'Peter sent all the people out of the room. He knelt down and prayed. Then he turned to Tabitha's body and said, "Tabitha, stand up!" She opened her eyes' Acts 9:40, ERV.



Paul Raises Dead Eutychus

'Paul went down to where Eutychus was, knelt down beside him, and put his arms around him. He said to the other believers, "Don't worry. He is alive now" ' Acts 20:10, ERV.

Peter Freed from Prison

'Suddenly an angel of the Lord was standing there. . . . The angel tapped Peter on the side and woke him up. The angel said, "Hurry, get up!" The chains fell off Peter's hands' Acts 12:7, ERV.



Paul Freed from Prison

'Suddenly there was an earthquake so strong that it shook the foundation of the jail. All the doors of the jail opened, and the chains on all the prisoners fell off' Acts 16:26, ERV.

Twice 8 = 16

'After they had reached the other side, Elijah said, "Elisha, the LORD will soon take me away. What can I do for you before that happens?" Elisha answered, "Please give me twice as much of your power as you give the other prophets, so I can be the one who takes your place as their leader"' 2 Kings 2:9, CEV.

Elijah's 8 Miracles:

- 1) 'By his power, I promise that no dew or rain will fall for the next few years' 1 Kings 17:1, ERV.
- 2) 'That jar of flour will never be empty and the jug will always have oil in it' 1 Kings 17:14, ERV.
- 3) 'The LORD answered Elijah's prayer. The boy began breathing again and was alive' 1 Kings 17:22, ERV.
- 4) 'Then fire came down from the LORD and burned the sacrifice' 1 Kings 18:38, ERV.
- 5) 'The wind began to blow, and a heavy rain began to fall' 1 Kings 18:45, ERV.
- 6) 'So fire came down from heaven and destroyed the captain and his 50 men' 2 Kings 1:10, ERV.
- 7) 'Then God's fire came down from heaven and destroyed the captain and his 50 men' 2 Kings 1:12, ERV.
- 8) 'The water separated to the right and to the left. Then Elijah and Elisha crossed the river' 2 Kings 2:8, ERV.

Elisha's 16 Miracles:

- 1) 'Elisha hit the water, the water separated to the right and to the left! Then Elisha crossed the river' 2 Kings 2:14, ERV.
- 2) 'The LORD said, "I am making this water pure!"' 2 Kings 2:21, ERV.
- 3) 'Then two bears came out of the forest and attacked the boys' 2 Kings 2:24, ERV.
- 4) 'Water began flowing from the direction of Edom and filled the valley' 2 Kings 3:20, ERV.
- 5) 'Her sons brought the bowls to her and she poured oil. She filled many bowls' 2 Kings 4:5-6, ERV.
- 6) 'But the woman did become pregnant and gave birth to a son that next spring, just as Elisha had said' 2 Kings 4:17, ERV.
- 7) 'He went back and lay on the child until the child sneezed seven times and opened his eyes' 2 Kings 4:35, ERV.
- 8) 'He threw the flour into the pot. Then he said, "Pour the soup for the people"' 2 Kings 4:41, ERV.
- 9) 'The LORD says, "They will eat and there will still be food left over"' 2 Kings 4:43, ERV.
- 10) 'Go and wash in the Jordan River seven times. Then your skin will be healed' 2 Kings 5:10, ERV.
- 11) 'When Gehazi left Elisha, his skin was as white as snow! He was sick with leprosy' 2 Kings 5:27, ERV.
- 12) 'Elisha cut a stick and threw the stick into the water. The stick made the iron axe head float' 2 Kings 6:6, ERV.
- 13) 'The LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and the servant saw' 2 Kings 6:17, ERV.
- 14) 'So God did what Elisha asked. He caused the Aramean army to become blind' 2 Kings 6:18, ERV.
- 15) 'Then the LORD opened their eyes, and the Aramean army saw they were in the city of Samaria!' 2 Kings 6:20, ERV.
- 16) 'As soon as the dead man touched the bones of Elisha, he came back to life' 2 Kings 13:21, ERV.



Elymas

Some Miracles Regarding God's Judgement

Elymas ' "Now the Lord will touch you and you will be blind. For a time you will not be able to see anything – not even the light from the sun." Then everything became dark for Elymas' Acts 13:11, ERV.

Miriam 'Aaron turned and looked at Miriam. Her skin was white like snow – she had a terrible skin disease!' Numbers 12:10, ERV.



Miriam

Nadab and Abihu 'So fire came from the LORD and destroyed Nadab and Abihu, and they died there in front of the LORD' Leviticus 10:2, ERV.

Sodom and Gomorrah 'The LORD began to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. He caused fire and burning sulphur to fall from the sky. He destroyed the whole valley – all the cities, the people living in the cities, and all the plants in the valley' Genesis 19:24-25, ERV.

Korah 'It was as if the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them. All of Korah's men, their families, and everything they owned went down into the earth' Numbers 16:32, ERV.

Uzziah 'While Uzziah was very angry with the priests, leprosy broke out on his forehead' 2 Chronicles 26:19, ERV.

Ananias and Sapphira 'Peter said to her, "Why did you and your husband agree to test the Spirit of the Lord? Listen! Do you hear those footsteps? The men who buried your husband are at the door. They will carry you out in the same way." At that moment Sapphira fell down by his feet and died' Acts 5:9-10, ERV.

Eight Sēmeia in John's Gospel

Miracles are spoken of in the New Testament under three Greek words:

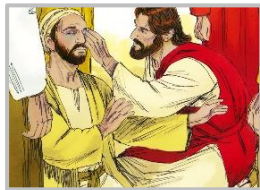
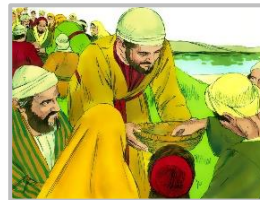
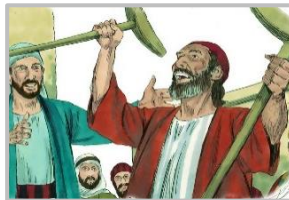
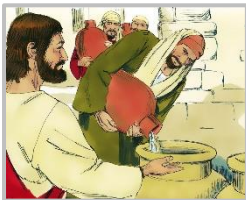
1. *Sēmeia* = signs. This word is used of miracles and wonders as signs demonstrating divine authority.
2. *Teras* = wonders. This word has regard to the effect produced on those who witness extraordinary marvels.
3. *Dunamis* = power. This word describes divine power.

All three words occur in the following verse:

'He validated their ministry with signs, astonishing wonders, all kinds of powerful miracles' Hebrews 2:4, *TPT*.

The Eight Signs (*Sēmeia*) in John's Gospel Clearly Demonstrate Jesus is the Son of God. They are:

1. **Water into Wine** 'Then the man in charge tasted it, but the water had become wine' John 2:9, ERV.
2. **The Ruler's Son** 'The man's servants came and met him. They said, "Your son is well" ' John 4:51, ERV.
3. **Lame Man Healed** 'Jesus said, "Stand up! Pick up your mat and walk." Immediately the man was well' John 5:8-9, ERV.
4. **The 5,000** 'They all had plenty to eat' John 6:12, ERV.
5. **Walking on Water** 'Then they saw Jesus. He was walking on the water' John 6:19, ERV.
6. **Blind Man Sees** 'He put mud on my eyes. I washed, and now I can see' John 9:15, ERV.
7. **Lazarus** 'After Jesus said this he called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out' John 11:43-44, ERV.
8. **153 Fish** 'They caught so many fish that they could not pull the net back into the boat' John 21:6, ERV.



'Jesus gave a great many other signs in the presence of his disciples which are not recorded in this book. But these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is Christ, the Son of God.'

John 20:30-31, *Phillips*

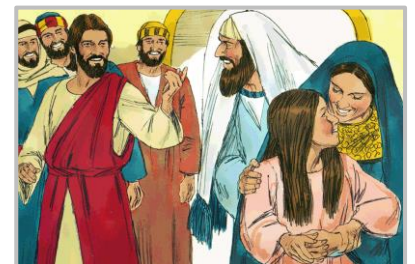
Miraculous Raising of the Dead



'The Boy Sat Up' 'Jesus and his followers went to a town called Nain. A big crowd was travelling with them. When Jesus came near the town gate, he saw some people carrying a dead body. It was the only son of a woman who was a widow. Walking with her were many other people from the town. When the Lord saw the woman, he felt very sorry for her and said, "Don't cry." He walked to the open coffin and touched it. The men who were carrying the coffin stopped. Jesus spoke to the dead son: "Young man, I

tell you, get up!" Then the boy sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother' Luke 7:11-15, ERV.

'Talitha, koum!' 'Jesus saw many people crying loudly. There was a lot of confusion. He entered the house and said, "Why are you people crying and making so much noise? This child is not dead. She is only sleeping." But everyone laughed at him. Jesus told the people to leave the house. Then he went into the room where the child was. He brought the child's father and mother and his three followers into the room with him. Then Jesus held the girl's hand and said to her, "*Talitha, koum!*" (This means "Little girl, I tell you to stand up!") The girl immediately stood up and began walking. (She was twelve years old.) The father and mother and the followers were amazed. Jesus gave the father and mother very strict orders not to tell people about this. Then he told them to give the girl some food to eat' Mark 5:38-43, ERV.



'Out of the Graves' 'The earth shook and rocks were broken. The graves opened, and many of God's people who had died were raised from death. They came out of the graves. And after Jesus was raised from death, they went into the holy city, and many people saw them' Matthew 27:51-53, ERV.

Seven Sabbath Miracles

- Jesus sends a demon out of a man Mark 1:21-28
- Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law Mark 1:29-31
- Jesus heals a man with a shrivelled hand Mark 3:1-5
- Jesus heals a crippled woman Luke 13:10-16
- Jesus heals a man with dropsy (abnormal swelling of the body *NIV*) Luke 14:1-6
- Jesus heals a lame man by the Bethesda Pool John 5:1-18
- Jesus heals a man born blind John 9:1-16

'Over the centuries, the Jewish religious leaders had added rule after rule to God's law. For example, God's law said the Sabbath is a day of rest (Exodus 20:10-11). But the religious leaders added to that law, creating one that said, "You cannot heal on the Sabbath" because that is "work". Seven times Jesus healed people on the Sabbath. In doing this, he was challenging these religious leaders to look beneath their rules to their true purpose – to honour God by helping those in need. Would God have been pleased if Jesus had ignored these people?' Quoted from the *Life Application Study Bible*, page 1825.

See if you can memorise the following:

'Jesus gave a great many other signs in the presence of his disciples which are not recorded in this book. But these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is Christ, the Son of God.'

John 20:30-31, *Phillips*

Word Search

RISEN	MIRACLES
BABEL	DONKEY
LIONS	CARMEL
FIG	PLAGUES
TREE	TABITHA
FISH	LAZARUS
COIN	EUTYCHUS
PETER	NADAB
PAUL	ABIHU
NAIN	MIRIAM
ELIJAH	SEMEIA
ELISHA	TERAS
ELYMAS	DUNAMIS
WATER	TALITHA
WINE	KOUM

M	I	R	A	K	L	E	S	E	M	I	E	A	L	P	C
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Bible abbreviations: CEV: Contemporary English Version. ERV: Easy-to-Read Version. ICB: International Children's Bible. NKJV: New King James Version. Phillips: J.B. Phillips New Testament. TLB: The Living Bible. TPT: The Passion Translation.

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