

A Miracle Testimony

When I was a child, going to church was always so boring-- every Sunday you'd have to endure it. One Sunday, I came to church, and there was a lady sitting on the platform up where the minister normally sat.

I had never seen that before. Right away, that got my attention. The minister got up and introduced the lady. Her name was Miss Watson, and she had been a missionary in Africa to a tribe back in the jungles. He said she went there this summer and he wanted her to share some of her experiences.

We had never had anyone share except for when the pastor was on vacation, and then the associate would take over. So, this lady got up and began to tell a story about her vacation Bible school, where they had 50 children in attendance. Well, I perked up, because as a child, I went to vacation Bible school, and it was two weeks, and Miss Watson said the one she did in Africa was for two weeks.

She explained that on Monday it started, and 50 children showed up, and she told the children if they would show up every day for the next 2 weeks, on the last day, each one would get a Dixie cup full of Kool-Aid. Well, I could relate to that... I knew what a Dixie cup was, and I knew what Kool-Aid was, and what kid doesn't like Kool-Aid?

And she said that the last day of those two weeks of vacation Bible school, more than a thousand children's showed up! Apparently, the word had gotten out that if you show up today, you'll get Kool-Aid. Well, that really wasn't what was said... What was said was, if you show up every day, you'll get Kool-Aid on the last day.

Miss Watson said, *"My assistant asked, 'What are we going to do with all these children? How are we going to know which ones came faithfully?' We knew some, but not all of them. And what about the ones that didn't come? We can't just send the children away."*

They just had two pitchers of Kool-Aid there that they split between each other. And Miss Watson said, *“All I know is that Jesus prayed over the loaves and fishes, and God was able to feed the 5,000. Let's just lift this Kool-Aid up to God and pray over it and believe that it will go to all these 1,000 children.”*

So they passed these cups around, and every little child had a Kool-Aid mustache around its mouth showing they had some Kool-Aid. And it was just enough to go around that all those 1,000 children got Kool-Aid!

This got my attention. I was stunned! Our minister immediately got up and interrupted her, because he was so uncomfortable and distressed about what she had shared, because we never heard about miracles.

I thought miracles had passed away. And this lady got up and shared something I could relate to! That is the only message I ever remember as a child that was preached in church. It's as fresh to me today as if it just happened yesterday.

I often think of Miss Watson and how she referred to that story in John, chapter 6, where Jesus was able to feed the 5,000. She was trying to say, and didn't get to finish her message, that if God did those miracles **then**, He'll do those miracles **today**.

What is it that you need God to do for you? What kind of miracle do you need God to do in your life? Is it a miracle healing? Is it restoration of a family member, or child, or loved one, or husband, or wife, or ministry, or something you lost, or that the devil took from you?

How are you going to receive that miracle?

You receive it with miracle faith based in God's Word and upon God's Word.

If God wrote this Bible, ***and I believe that He did,***

- and if Jesus Christ came to this earth, ***and I believe that He did,***
- and if Jesus Christ died, and took the sins of the world upon Himself,
- and if He came and died and was resurrected from the dead, ***and I believe that happened,***
- if that same Jesus Who walked the shores of Galilee and did these miracles,
- if the same God that honored His Word, and backed His Word,
is still alive today, ***and I believe He is,***
then, ***what He did in the Bible, He will do today for you and me!***

All we have to do is act like those people did--we have to act in child-like faith. And so, I want you to think about what it is that you need God to do in your life. A financial miracle? A healing? A breakthrough in your life? Restoration of something?

Job lost everything. He lost his children, he lost his wife and his health, but God restored everything to him, and gave him twice as much as he had before. And Job had 10 more children, and he got a new wife and lived another 140 years and was well stricken in years when he went home to be with Lord.

People in the Bible ran across difficulties and trouble. That's why we need God in our life -- because we get in trouble. Sometimes we get in trouble because we did right, and sometimes we get in trouble because we did wrong, but nevertheless, God is here to deliver us out of trouble. He is here to help us out.

How are we going to receive from God?

We receive from God by going to His Word first, and doing what His Word says to do.

We receive from God by activating our covenant through being a doer of the Word of God.

And when we tithe, and when we give, and support the gospel, God is able to come through for us and do the miracles we need in our lives. Every one of us is going to need a miracle sooner or later. Many people need one today.

I want you to know God is just waiting to pour His blessings out on your life, and in your life, and through your life, if you'll just hang on to your faith, and not let go of it.

Though Job lost almost everything, he didn't lose his faith in God, and his heart was perfect before the Lord. He said, **For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me** (Job 3:25). Fear will cause things to happen in our lives that God never intended to happen. And these things will overtake us if we don't keep ourselves built up in the Word of God.

I got a hold of the scripture where Jesus said in Luke 6:38, **Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.**

There's another testimony in Luke 5. In verse 1, it says these people came to hear the Word of God. And, any place in the New Testament, or in the Bible where the people did what God told them to do, based on His Word and from His Word, they would receive a miracle from God. And every one of us at one time or another, needs a miracle from God. Every day of my life, I need God to do something for me that is beyond me.

Luke 5:1 says, **And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret.** In this testimony, the people didn't come to hear Jesus sing, perform, or entertain... they came to hear the Word of God.

Continuing with verse 2, the Bible goes on to say, **And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing *their* nets. And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship.**

Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.

And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. Now think about this: they took in so many fish that they went from having nothing, to where their nets were breaking from so many fish.

How did all this happen?

It happened by Peter doing what Jesus told him to do.

Peter said **Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.**

It goes on and says in verse 7, **And they beckoned unto *their* partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.**

We not only have nets breaking, but we have ships sinking!

Because why?

Because of the abundance.

Remember, Jesus said in John 10:10, **...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.**

God is known as El Shaddai, the God that is more than enough. When Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes, He not only fed the 5,000, but there was more left over so that it took 12

baskets to hold the fragments that were left over. You can see now that God is very extravagant. He's not just barely getting by... He has more than enough.

Ask yourself this question: Do I have more than enough in every area of my life? Do I have more than enough in my finances, good health, joy, peace, and victory?

If we come up short in one of these areas -- *and we may* – we have to get to the place where we have abundance. Jesus wants us to have abundance spiritually, physically and financially.

God was not only interested in these people's spiritual life, He was interested in these people eating, and He was interested in Peter's fishing business. So what does Jesus do? He tells Peter what to do. Peter said, **Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing:** If Peter had stopped there, we would never have had the miracle. But Peter went on to say, **nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.**

Mary's Example of Believing God's Word

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, *thou that art* highly favoured, the Lord *is* with thee: blessed *art* thou among women. And when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible.

And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her. Luke 1:26-38

How did Mary conceive and have that miracle baby Jesus when she had never known a man? The angel told Mary the Holy Spirit would come upon her and she was going to conceive. And she said, **Be it unto me according to thy word.**

That's how she got her miracle. That's how we have Jesus today. How He came is through a miracle birth -- *the virgin birth*. God is a miracle performer.

I look forward to sharing more with you tomorrow. Remember that God wishes above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers (3 John 2).

Your Word of faith pastor,

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