

A Miracle Like None Other



Word of Life Christian Fellowship

September 25, 2011

A Miracle Like None Other

- Miracles performed by Jesus

– Healing	19
– Casting out demons	6
– Raising the dead	3
– Feeding multitudes	2
– Catch of fish	2
– Calm sea/walk on water	2
– Other	3

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- Detour 1: The Disciples
 - Often criticized for lack of understanding/belief
 - Three points to consider
 - No indwelling Holy Spirit until Calvary
 - New followers of Christ
 - No New Testament to rely on
 - Key Issue: the Pre-eminence of Christ

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- Detour 1: The Disciples
 - Key Point: They were ordinary people who did extraordinary things because they served an extraordinary God; a God Who was not limited by their limitations!

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- Detour 2: Peter
 - Most often criticized of the disciples
 - Points to consider
 - Expert fisherman
 - Knew the sea

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- Detour 2: Peter
 - Key Issue: Peter obeyed the Word of the Lord even when it made no sense in the natural
 - Miracles
 - 1st miraculous catch of fish (Luke 4:4-5)
 - 2nd miraculous catch of fish (John 21:5-6)
 - Coin in fish's mouth (Mat 17:24-27)
 - Obeyed and walked on water (Mat 14:25-27)
 - Brought gospel to Gentiles (Act 10:25-29)

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- Detour 2: Peter
 - Key Point: Jesus was showing Peter that He could perform the miraculous in the familiar!
 - Issue where we all likely struggle the most

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- “Other” miracle we typically pass over
- Reveals Lord’s concern like none other
- A miracle like none other
 - The miracle at Cana (John 2:1-11)

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- The miracle at Cana
 - On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." Jesus said to her, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come." (John 2:1-4)

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- Jewish Weddings
 - Celebration!
 - Family and friends
 - Not allowed to marry until ready
 - Considerable planning
- Jewish Society
 - Providing for guests/visitors

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- Mary's response to lack of resources
 - Obvious concern about resources running out
 - Turns to Son/Unclear what she expects
- Jesus' response
 - Indicate Mary has no authority over His ministry
 - Indicate His time had not yet come

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- The miracle at Cana
 - His mother said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it.” Now there were set there six water pots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece Jesus said to them, “Fill the water pots with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, “Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast.” And they took it. (John 2:5-8)

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- **Mary's response**
 - Not deterred by His response
 - Expresses faith that He would act
- **Jesus' response**
 - Alters plans to respond to faith
- **Servant's response**
 - Obedience and faith

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- The miracle at Cana
 - When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. And he said to him, "Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!" This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him. (John 2:9-11)

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- Master of the feast was unaware
- Bridegroom was unaware
 - Problem solved without his involvement by Jesus responding to someone else's request and faith
- Superior result
- First sign of Jesus' ministry

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- Miracle at Cana
 - Nothing earth-shattering
 - Unforeseen lack
 - Planning/preparation failure
 - Potential embarrassment
 - Not where Jesus planned to begin ministry
 - Yet...
 - Jesus altered plans to address “insignificant” need
 - Responded to request/faith of someone’s concern
 - Person in need unaware of answer to need

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- Lessons for us
 - Jesus is concerned with the insignificant
 - Unforeseen lack
 - Insufficient planning/preparation
 - Embarrassment
 - Jesus altered plans in response to request/faith
 - Prayer changes things (petition from person without need)
 - Person with need may not even know Jesus responded
 - Obedience to His directions brings the answer