

MONTE VISTA ADULT BIBLE CLASS



The **Miracles** of **Jesus**

Exploring the Powerful Signs of the Messiah



Monte Vista
church of Christ

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The Miracles of Jesus

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Lesson 1

Water Into Wine

Key Scripture Readings: John 2:1-11

Fast Facts

- Jesus, His disciples, and mother, were invited to a wedding in Cana of Galilee. These events lasted up to seven days.
- Weddings were intended to be joyous occasions, but at this one, something went wrong. The wine ran out! This would have been a humiliating experience for the hosts.
- Mary informed Jesus of this dilemma. She wanted Jesus to use His miraculous power to make the situation better. Jesus seemed to have given her a mild rebuke for this request in verse 4.
- While Jesus' time to manifest His power had not yet come, Jesus performed a miracle on this occasion. He instantly turned the water into wine!
- This would be Jesus' first public miracle. After this demonstration of power, the people of Galilee knew that Jesus wasn't an ordinary man.

Study Questions

1. Why did Mary tell Jesus about the problem with wine at the wedding in Cana?
2. How did Jesus respond to Mary's request? What does this show about their two-fold relationship?
3. How did the wedding guests respond to Jesus' miracle?
4. What are some lessons we learn about Jesus from this miracle?
5. What does Solomon say about fermented wine in Proverbs 20:1; 23:29-39? Why is this important to consider when studying this miracle of Jesus?

Lesson 2

An Explosion of Miracles

Key Scripture Readings: Matthew 8-9

Fast Facts

- Matthew 8-9 contains eleven specific miracles performed by Jesus!
- Jesus heals a man with leprosy (Matthew 8:1-4).
- He heals a paralyzed servant (Matthew 8:5-13).
- He heals Peter's mother-in-law of a severe fever (Matthew 8:14-15).
- He cast demons out of those possessed (Matthew 8:16-17).
- He calms a terrible storm with just a few words (Matthew 8:18-27).
- He delivers a demon-possessed man in the country of the Gadarenes (Matthew 8:28-34).
- He makes whole a paralytic brought to Him in His home (Matthew 9:1-8).
- He raises a little girl from the dead (Matthew 9:18-19, 23-26).
- He heals a woman who had been sick for twelve years (Matthew 9:20-22).
- He gives sight to the blind (Matthew 9:27-31).
- His ability to cast out demons couldn't even be denied by His enemies (Matthew 9:32-34).

Study Questions

1. Of the miracles records in these two chapters, which one stands out to you the most? Why?
2. How many of the miracles were tied to the faith of the afflicted?
3. How many of the miracles were not tied to the faith of the afflicted?
4. What is unique about the miracle performed in Matthew 8:5-13?
5. Who did the enemies of Jesus attribute His ability to cast out demons? What can learn about Jesus from their accusation?

Lesson 3

Giving Sight to the Blind

Key Scripture Readings: Mark 8:22-26; Luke 18:35-43; John 9:1-41

Fast Facts

- Isaiah prophesied about a time when the blind would see (Isaiah 35:5-6). As far as we know, Jesus was the first person to make that possible supernaturally.
- Jesus healed two blind men in His home city of Capernaum (Matthew 9:27-31). These men had great faith in Jesus and acknowledged Him as “the Son of David.”
- Jesus healed a blind man near Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26). The Lord did this by spitting on his eyes and laying hands on him.
- Jesus healed two blind men in Jericho (Matthew 20:29-34). One of the men was named Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52). Jesus helped these men during His final journey to Jerusalem.
- Jesus healed a man who was born blind (John 9:1-41). While the Pharisees continue to reject Jesus after this miracle, the blind man was converted. He knew that Jesus had to be the Lord and Messiah.

Study Questions

1. Describe the faith of two blind men healed by Jesus in Matthew 9:27-31.
2. Describe the process Jesus used to give sight to the blind man in Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26).
3. Are the accounts of the healing of the two beggars in Jericho contradictory? How can they be reconciled?
4. Describe the process Jesus used to give sight to a man born blind in John 9.
5. In what way does Jesus give sight to the blind today (John 9:35-41)?

Lesson 4

Feeding the Multitudes

Key Scripture Readings: Matthew 14:13-21; 15:32-39; Mark 6:33-44; 8:1-10; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-14

Fast Facts

- The miraculous feeding of the 5,000 is found in all four the gospels. There was a separate occasion when Jesus fed 4,000.
- The word language “5,000 men” means adult males. The actual number of people fed could have been tripled (when you count the women and children present).
- Jesus fed the 5,000 near Bethsaida in Galilee. He fed the 4,000 several months later in Decapolis (a region on the southeast side of the Sea of Galilee). Both of these miracles seemed to have taken place during the last year of Jesus’ life.
- With both miracles, Jesus multiplied a few fish and loaves of bread. After eating, the multitudes left satisfied. They were even enough for leftovers!
- After feeding the 5,000, the people said, “This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world” (John 6:14). They then intended to take Him by force and make Him a king. Jesus withdrew from the crowd and went to a mountain to pray.

Study Questions

1. What moved Jesus to feed the multitudes?
2. How did the 5,000 respond to the miracle they experienced from Jesus?
3. Where in the Old Testament, does God perform a similar miracle? How long did God perform this miracle among Israel?
4. How much food was left following each of the miracles? Why do you think the leftovers were collected?
5. What were these miracles designed to prove about Jesus?

Lesson 5

Power Over Nature

Key Scripture Readings: Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25

Fast Facts

- While the Sea of Galilee was known to have sudden and violent storms, the storm encountered by the apostles in Mark 4:35-41 was no ordinary storm. Both the waves and wind were battering the boat. Water was even filling into the boat!
- While Jesus was asleep, the disciples became afraid. They woke the Lord up and asked Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" They were puzzled as to how Jesus could have slept during a time like that.
- Jesus then got up and rebuked the strong winds. He also said to the sea, "Hush, be still." Amazingly, "the wind died down, and it became perfectly calm." The Lord stopped a sea storm with just a few words!
- Jesus then expressed disappointment to His apostles' lack of faith (Mark 4:40). They shouldn't have been afraid during the storm because they had Jesus in their boat.
- The apostles were amazed by the power exercised by Jesus on this occasion. They wondered, "Who then is this, that even the wind and sea obey Him?" They rightly concluded that Jesus wasn't just an ordinary man. No average man had the power to control the mighty forces of nature.

Study Questions

1. Where were Jesus and His disciples traveling? What time of day was it?
2. What was Jesus doing when the storm came on the sea? How did the apostles respond to this?
3. Describe how Jesus calmed this storm?
4. How did the apostles respond to this miracle? How should we respond?
5. Why was Jesus disappointed in the disciples? What did He expect of them by this time?

Lesson 6

Raising the Dead

Key Scripture Readings: Mark 5:22-43; Luke 7:11-17; John 11:1-46

Fast Facts

- The gospels record three incidents in which Jesus raised the dead. These miracles demonstrated that the Lord had power even over death and the grave!
- Mark 5:22-43 talks about the occasion in which Jesus raised a twelve-year-old girl from the dead. This little girl was the daughter of Jairus. Jairus was the ruler of a synagogue. He initially came to Jesus, begging Him to come into his home to heal his sick daughter. By the time they arrived, the girl was dead. The Lord said a few words and raised her back to life.
- Luke 7:11-17 mentions the time in which Jesus raised a widow's son. This miracle took place in the village of Nain. After running into a funeral procession, Jesus touched the coffin being carried by the bearers, said a few words, and the young man was brought resurrected. After witnessing this miracle, the people knew that Jesus had to be sent from heaven.
- John 11:1-46 records the most famous case of resurrection Jesus performed. After being dead for four days, Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. This case of resurrection could not even be denied by the Lord's enemies (John 12:9-11). The chief priests became very nervous because many Jews started believing in Jesus after this miracle. They decided that Jesus had to die, and so did Lazarus (because he was living proof of Jesus' miraculous power).

Study Questions

1. Besides the people raised by Jesus, list some other cases of resurrection found in the Bible?
2. Who was Jairus? What did he want Jesus to do? Describe his faith.
3. How did the people of Nain respond to Jesus, raising the widow's son?
4. What evidence makes the raising of Lazarus an undeniable case of resurrection?
5. What does Jesus' power to raise the dead demonstrate about Him?

Lesson 7

The Cleansing of Lepers

Key Scripture Readings: Matthew 8:1-4; Luke 17:11-17

Fast Facts

- Leprosy is a dreadful, horrifying, and flesh-destroying disease. Those who contracted in Bible times were considered to have received a death sentence.
- In Leviticus 13-14, God gave specific instructions to Israel on what to do with those who contracted leprosy. Due to its contagion, lepers were to be cast out and held in isolation.
- Jesus demonstrated power over while walking on the earth. Whereas all of Israel avoided lepers, Jesus gave attention to them. Jesus touched them. He talked with them. He even showed mercy and healed them!
- Three of the gospel writers record the incident in which showed mercy and compassion on a leper in Galilee (Matthew 8:1-4; Mark 1:40-45; Luke 5:12-14). After cleansing the sick man, Jesus commanded Him not to tell anyone of the miracle. Instead, "Go and show yourself to the priest and make an offering for your cleansing, just as Moses commanded, as a testimony to them" (Luke 5:14).
- When passing between Samaria and Galilee, Jesus healed ten lepers who begged for His mercy. Unfortunately, only one returned to give Him thanks. It was the Samaritan!

Study Questions

1. What was leprosy, and how could it be identified (Leviticus 13-14).
2. Describe the attitude of the leper that approached Jesus in Matthew 8:1-4. What led Jesus to cleanse him?
3. What instructions did Jesus give the healed man in Matthew 8:4? Why?
4. How many lepers asked Jesus to heal them in Luke 17:11-19? Describe the process Jesus used to heal these men? What was unique about the one man who gave thanks?
5. What does Jesus' power to heal leprosy demonstrate about Him?

Lesson 8

Miracles with Fish

Key Scripture Readings: Matthew 17:24-27; Luke 5:1-11; John 21:1-11

Fast Facts

- In the gospel, there are three instances in which Jesus performed miracles with fish. All seem to have occurred on the Sea of Galilee.
- The first occurred in the calling of Peter to be a disciple (Luke 5:1-11). Peter was a fisherman by trade. After spending the entire night at sea, Peter caught nothing. The next day, Jesus miraculously placed in his net a “great quantity of fish.” The catch was so great that it began to break the nets! Peter was humbled by the power of Jesus (Luke 5:8-9).
- The second miracle occurred in Capernaum (Matthew 17:24-27). Even though Jesus was exempt (because everything belongs to Him), to not offend the Roman government, Jesus paid the temple tax. He miraculously placed the money inside a fish! It was enough to pay the tax for both Himself and Peter.
- The third miracle occurred after His resurrection (John 21:1-11). After an entire night of fishing, the apostles caught nothing. The next morning, the resurrected Jesus stood on the beach (the disciples did not recognize Him at this point) and told them to cast the net on the right side of their boat. The apostles obeyed and pulled in a large amount of fish. The number was so great that they could not pull it all in! They then recognized it was Jesus who gave them the instructions and rushed to the shore to eat breakfast with Him.

Study Questions

1. Describe the circumstances before the miracle Jesus performed in Luke 5:1-11. How did Peter respond to this miracle?
2. Why did Jesus say He was exempt from paying the temple tax in Matthew 17:24-27? Besides supernaturally placing the money inside of a fish, what other supernatural thing did the Lord do on this occasion?
3. In John 21:1-11, how many fish did the apostles catch the night they went fishing? How many fish did they catch the next morning? What was the difference?
4. What does Jesus' power over fish demonstrate about Him?

Lesson 9

Casting Out Demons

Key Scripture Readings: Luke 8:26-39; Matthew 15:21-28; 17:14-21

Fast Facts

- Demon possession is something that we don't find in the Bible until the time of Jesus. After arriving in the land of the Gadarenes, Jesus and His disciples encountered a violent man possessed with demons (Luke 8:26-39; Mark 5:1-20). Matthew tells that there two demon-possessed men (Matthew 8:28-34). It seems as though Mark and Luke focus on the one man because he was probably more violent. These men were living in the cemetery. They were naked and unable to be bound. The unclean spirit inside one of the men identified himself as "legion, for we are many" (Mark 5:9). These demons recognized the power of Jesus and begged to be cast into the nearby swine. The Lord granted their request. After the miracle, the once possessed man was then found to be in his right mind, and Jesus told him to go and tell others about the great things that had been done for him.
- Jesus also cast a cruel demon out of the daughter of a Syrophenician (Gentile) woman (Matthew 15:21-28). The Lord rewarded her great faith in Him.
- After being transfigured in the mountain, Jesus encountered a father who begged Him to cure his son, who was being tormented by a demon (Matthew 17:14-21). The disciples had previously attempted to cast out the demon but were not successful. Jesus rebuked them for their lack of faith and cast the demon out at once.

Study Questions

1. What was demon possession? What did it cause the afflicted to do?
2. How did the people in the land of the Gadarenes respond to the miracle of Jesus? How did the at one time possessed man respond?
3. How did Jesus initially respond to the request of the Syrophenician woman? Why did He eventually grant her request?
4. Why were the apostles unable to cast the demon out in Matthew 17:14-21? Why was it vital that they correct this problem?
5. What does Jesus' power over demons demonstrate about Him?