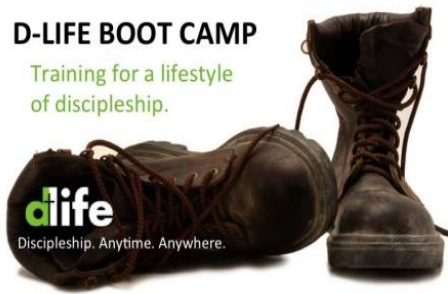


D-LIFE BOOT CAMP

Training for a lifestyle
of discipleship.



Keeping it Real
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor Dale L. Crawley Sr.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

Rev. Dr. Deborah Crawley, Teacher
Sis. Tammi Brown, Asst. Teacher

MIRACLES

Skeptics might scoff at the notion of miracles, but for those who believe in a spiritual realm – especially Christians – miracles are amazing circumstances that definitively point to the power and existence of God.

For instance, the very creation of the universe is a miracle ([Genesis 1:1](#)), as is the parting of the Red Sea ([Exodus 14:21-22](#)). Jesus's incarnational birth and resurrection are miracles, too.

What is a miracle and what makes something miraculous? And are miracles confined only to the times of the Bible, or can we still see miracles being performed today?
What Is a Miracle?

The Cultural Ontology defines miracles as (δύναμις, dynamis), an event that defies common expectations of behavior and subsequently is attributed to a superhuman agent; an occurrence that demonstrates God's involvement in the course of human affairs.

The Dictionary of Bible Themes defines miracles as events, signs, wonders or experiences that demonstrate God's greatness and power.

The word used for miracle in Hebrew is mowpheth, which also means wonder, sign, portent, or token of a future event. In Greek, it's dunamis, meaning the work of a mighty force, or semeion, meaning sign or signal.

Something is considered miraculous when it goes beyond typical human expectations of what normally occurs in the world. For example, the creation of water out of nothing by God is itself a miracle, but a body of water today, even an especially beautiful one, isn't considered a miracle. However, if that body of water were to behave in an unusual way, suddenly parting or bubbling or rising in a way that indicates only the work of the Lord made this happen, that is when it becomes a miracle.

Miracles defy usual laws of nature and indicate the supernatural at work.

Some miracles occur to meet a certain need, such as supplying food. Others occur to showcase the power of God.

What Are Some Miracles in the Bible?

The Bible is filled with miracles. Beyond the creation of the world and the parting of the Red Sea, the Old Testament contains many stories about powerful and mighty signs and wonders—that is, miracles—performed by God. Some of these are as follows:

- The pregnancy of Abraham's wife, Sarah, who gives birth in her 90s to Isaac ([Genesis 17](#), 21)
 - Infertility of women in Abimelech's household, as their wombs were closed because the king of Gerar unknowingly took Sarah, Abraham's wife, and then reopened when Abimelech discovered her identity and returned her ([Genesis 20:17-18](#))
 - Enabling the infertile Rebekah, wife of Isaac, to conceive Esau and Jacob ([Genesis 25:21](#))
 - Enabling the infertile Rachel, wife of Jacob, conceive Joseph and Benjamin ([Genesis 30:22](#))
 - Moses encountering God through a burning bush not consumed ([Exodus 3:2](#))
 - Moses's rod turning into a snake ([Exodus 4](#), 7)
 - The plagues inflicted on Egypt ([Exodus 7-10](#))
 - Transforming the bitter waters of Marah into drinkable, sweet water ([Exodus 15:25](#))
 - Manna sent from [heaven](#) to feed Israelites and quails to provide meat ([Exodus 16](#))
 - Moses's radiant, brilliant face after God talks with him and gives him the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai ([Exodus 34:29-35](#))
 - God sends out fire to consume Aaron's sacrifice ([Leviticus 9:23-24](#))
 - God burns people in fiery deaths for disobedience ([Leviticus 10:1-2](#), [Numbers 11:1-3](#), [Numbers 16:31-35](#));
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- Miriam gets leprosy, then is healed, after criticizing Moses's wife ([Numbers 12](#))
- Water from the rock struck by Moses ([Numbers 20:8-11](#))
- A donkey scolds Balaam for beating him, and Balaam sees an angel ([Numbers 22:22-35](#))
- Parting of the Jordan River as the Israelites enter the Promised Land ([Joshua 3:14-17](#))
- Walls of Jericho fall ([Joshua 6](#))
- Sun and moon stand still to help Joshua's army in the battle against the Amorites ([Joshua 10](#))

What Are Some of Jesus's Miracles in the New Testament?

In the New Testament, Jesus performed many miracles as a way to draw people to him so they could hear his message and believe:

- Peter walks on water ([Matthew 14:28-31](#))
- Coin appears in fish's mouth to pay tax ([Matthew 17:24-27](#))
- Deaf man healed ([Mark 7:31-37](#))
- Son of a widow resurrected ([Mark 7](#))

Can Only God Perform Miracles?

God performs some miracles himself, but some he performs through his **human agents**, those imbued with the spirit who heal on his behalf and in his name.

Whether the miracle has to do with healing sickness or infirmity and showcasing god's power and status as Almighty God matters not; what matters is that the miracle isn't merely coincidence, but rather a big sign or unlikely occurrence that, when it happens, makes people automatically think of God.

Does God Still Perform Miracles Today?

Absolutely yes. Today, many people struggle with a situation or illness. For instance, a man riddled with cancer prays deeply, and when he goes for his next scan, he's

suddenly healed. A woman who couldn't get pregnant or had a procedure preventing pregnancy is suddenly able to conceive. Sometimes, God answers prayers, and sometimes, He decides on His own to do something powerful in someone's life. Whatever it is, the point is that it draws glory and attention to God.

Can I Pray for a Miracle in My Life?

It is certainly permissible to pray for a miracle in your life. A popular misconception is that God will never give you things you cannot handle. But in fact, God often allows situations far beyond our control or ability, and when we turn to God and ask for His help and He grants it, that might help you or another person to believe, too.

Indeed, in [Matthew 15](#), a Canaanite woman cried out to Jesus, begging Jesus to heal her demon-possessed daughter, her persistence was strong. Ultimately, he granted her request and healed her daughter, telling the woman, “You have great [faith](#)! Your request is granted.’ And her daughter was healed at that moment” (v. 28).

This indicates that it is indeed right and godly to pray for a miracle in our own lives.

Miracles are good things, for not only do they help us in some occasions, but they show God's power, might, and glory to the whole world.

When you seek God's presence and request Him to intervene in your situation, you can see miracles happen! God has power over all creation and has the ability to work a miracle for you.
