

November 10, 2019
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
Grace on the Galilee
Episode 1: Bending The Natural
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Luke 4:38-44

³⁸ Jesus left the synagogue and **went to the home of Simon**. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. ³⁹ So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them.

⁴⁰ At sunset, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. ⁴¹ Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Messiah.

⁴² At daybreak, Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them. ⁴³ But he said, "I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent." ⁴⁴ And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

What are miracles? A surprising and **welcome event** that is **not explicable by natural or scientific laws** and is therefore considered to be the **work of a divine agency**.

- A welcomed event.
 - Not explicable by natural or scientific law.
 - A work of divine agency.
 - **The bible speaks of 3 types of divine miracles.**
 - Cures (Physical) **Vs. 40**
 - Exorcisms (Emotional Mental) **Vs. 41**
 - Nature (Often Climatic)
 - Most of Jesus recorded miracles often record the geographical location of the miracles. Why?
1. **Jesus brings the miracle home:** Vs 38 Jesus left the synagogue and **went to the home** of Simon.
 - a. Here we see the intimate and personal nature of many of Christ's miracles.
 - i. **Jesus is not a magician**, his miracles have a purpose beyond producing awe and wonder, they are deeply personal.
 2. **Jesus rebukes the unnatural.**
 - a. According to scripture, disease is an aberration of the universe original nature.
 - i. **Vs. 39** So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her.
 1. Why does the scripture personify disease? "It left her."

3. Jesus miracles are meant to draw people into the kingdom.

- a. **Vs. 43** But he said, "I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent."
- b. Luke 10:13 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.

Jesus was not interested in creating a cult of personality based around miracle seekers.

- John 4:48 "Unless you people see signs and wonders," Jesus told him, "you will never believe."

Food for the journey: Use these questions and challenges to go deeper in reflection or in one of our community groups.

1. Do you believe in miracles and if so, have you ever experienced one?
2. What was something new about miracles that this message revealed to you?
3. Why would Jesus not want to create a cult of personality around miracle seeking?
4. Jesus went into the home of Peter and created a miracle that was deeply personal. What does this say about Jesus and God his father?
5. Do you need a miracle? If so, would you be willing to share it?