**Bridgeway Community Church** 

Series: What About? Dr. David Anderson January 17, 2021

# What About?

### Miracles

There are roughly 39 miracles in the Old Testament, depending on how you count them.

We are going to focus on the miracles of Jesus.

#### Jesus' 2 motivations

- 1. He is moved by compassion
- 2. He is responding to OR trying to inspire faith

Luke 9:38

A man in the crowd called out, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child."

Luke 8:48

Then he [Jesus] said to her [the ill woman], "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace."

Luke 17:12-13, 19

They [10 lepers] stood at a distance <sup>13</sup> and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"...Then he [Jesus] said to him [the returned healed leper], "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

Have you ever needed a miracle? When was the last time you cried out to God because you need him?

If you don't need God, then you are the God of your own life.

Luke 7:2-10

<sup>2</sup> There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die. 3 The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. 4 When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, "This man deserves to have you do this, 5 because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue." 6 So Jesus went with them. He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him: "Lord, don't trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. 7 That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. 8 For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." 9 When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel." 10 Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well.

This is the only miracle we see Jesus perform by not being present but just speaking it out.

### Jesus' 2 models

What KIND of miracles does Jesus do?

- 1. Nature miracles
- 2. Healing miracles

There are 27 miracles done by Jesus in the New Testament. 9 are nature, 18 are healing.

Miracles by speaking: 12 Miracles by touching: 15

Proverbs 18:21
The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

The words that you use can be miracles!

How do you use your word?

You can speak life or you can speak death. You can build others up or you can tear them down.

God has used words to give us life. God has used words to life us up. God has used words to inspire us to faith.

We are to be like God!

Proverbs 12:18
The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Proverbs 15:1 A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Don't allow the enemy to use your mouth to do his dirty work!

Can you use your speech to bring healing to the lives of other people? Do you use healing words or hurting words?

# **Practical Applications**

# A.sk God for a Miracle

Not for a God to be a genie or a magician

# B.e a Miracle for Other People

When we live out the nature of God through us

# C.hase God, don't chase miracles

We can take for granted God's goodness, grace and mercy

Do you want to be with God or just do you want his stuff?

Job 1:9-11

"Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. <sup>10</sup> "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. <sup>11</sup> But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

Do you love God more than the goodies he brings?