

Let our work be God's work

John 2:1-11

Life Group Discussion – August 19th, 2018

Christianity, in a simple sense, is a religion of miracles. There are miracles that we believe as Christians that surpass human logic and understanding. The Bible contains a lot of miracles. It begins with the miracle of creation, recording, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

According to its dictionary definition, a miracle is a extraordinary event that man cannot produce. In other words, miracles happen based on the power of God, not on the power of men.

In today's passage, Jesus begins His public ministry with a miracle. Jesus turns water into wine at a wedding in Cana.

After Jesus called His first disciples, He was invited to a wedding at Cana. There, the wedding ran out of wine, which was essential at a feast with many guests.

When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." (John 2:3)

When do miracles happen?

1. Miracles happen when we invite Jesus.

If Jesus was not invited to the wedding at Cana, the wedding host would have never witnessed the miracle of water turning into wine. People witnessed this miracle because Jesus was first invited to the wedding.

It is true that "Our struggles in life end when we meet Jesus and our struggles in faith end when we meet a good church." This is true because when believe in Jesus, we are no longer the owner of our lives. When we accept Jesus into our hearts, there is a change in ownership that takes place in our lives. Therefore, in order for us to experience miracles, we need to invite Jesus into our lives.

2. Miracles happen when we pray.

Prayer makes our agenda to God's agenda.

When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." (John 2:3)

Faith has power to move God's mighty hand. Faith makes things that irrelevant, relevant to God. Jesus had nothing to with this problem of running out of wine. However, when Mary brought this problem to Jesus with faith, now it became relevant problem to Him. In other words, her agenda became God's agenda. This is how prayer works.

Even we, as humans, get weak when someone desperately asks for help. God is a personal God. When we cry out to

Him, He listens and answers our prayers. We often think God only answers requests that are holy and honorable since He is a holy God. However, we should be able to ask even the little things in faith. When we make our request known to God, we get to experience miracles. I hope that you will seek God in prayer.

3. Miracles happen when we obey.

His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." (John 2:5)

When Mary told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you," the servants responded with obedience. They did ask any questions. They simply responded in obedience.

"To obey" is "to trust someone without any questions."

God told the Israelites to walk around the walls of Jericho once every day, for six days. And on the seventh day, He told them walk around it seven times. In one sense, the six days prior to the seventh day could seem meaningless. Some might ask, "Why walk around Jericho for six days if it is going to fall on the seventh day?"

But not a single person questioned God's command. They faithfully responded to God's word in obedience. What God was looking for was "obedience." I pray that you will experience the miracles of God as you simply obey.

4. Miracles happen when Jesus is present.

Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. And he said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast." So they took it. When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now." (John 2:7-10)

When the servants simply obeyed, water turned into fine wine. This was not magic. It was a miracle done by our Creator.

People can't change the inside of others. All we can do is change the outside. However, Jesus gives us the Holy Spirit that transforms us completely into a new creation.

Just like Jesus changed water into wine, what seems impossible is made possible in Jesus. Jesus did not to us with philosophy, religion, tradition, or knowledge. He came to change evil to good and life to death. Those who believe

in Jesus, although we were once tasteless, Jesus turns us into fine people.

The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low and he exalts. He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world (1 Samuel 2:6-8)

These are the words of Hannah, after she gave birth to her son. By God's grace, Hannah, who had no children, gave birth to a son. She experienced change in her life.

Leo Tolstoy once shared how he was a terrible and evil person before he met Jesus. But when he read the Bible and began to believe in Jesus, God changed his evil thoughts into good thoughts. God changed his messed life into a holy life.

Christianity is unique. It is not just a religion. It brings transformation. Just how Jesus turned water into wine, when the Holy Spirit dwells in us, our messed up life can transform into a new, holy, and blameless life.

Dear members of the church, when we encounter Jesus, things begin to change.

The world does not believe in God. Therefore, the world does not believe in miracles. That is why people of the world live without power. But as His people, we believe in God. Which means, we believe that He can do supernatural things.

This is how we can witness the miracles of God in our lives. I pray that we will all experience the miracles of God in our everyday life.

SHARING-----

1. Based on today's sermon, miracles happen when we invite Jesus, pray, and obey. Have you ever experienced miracles in your life as a result of responding in such a way?
2. As Jesus turned water into wine in today's passage, share how He has changed your from moment you have met Christ.
3. Share any new commitments or decisions that you have made in response to this message.