

Jesus, Lord of My Life

MIRACLE WORKER

UNIT

1

LESSON
THREE

From Our Hearts to God

When I have tried my hardest and still need help, I turn to you, Lord. I know you want me to do well and do right things, and I trust that you will give me the help I need. Amen.

MY WORLD

It's a miracle!

Today we use these words rather easily.

It's a miracle I passed my test. I didn't even study!

It's a miracle mom didn't crash the car. She swerved away just in time.

It's a miracle ... (You fill in the rest from your experiences.)

One of the things Jesus is best known for is performing miracles.

What is a miracle? Is it like magic?

A miracle is when God makes something happen that could not happen in any natural way. Magic is a clever trick that fools people into believing what they think they see.

A miracle is God's ability to change what we think of as normal into what is better. Jesus performed miracles to glorify his Father and fulfill the Old Testament prophecies.

Some Miracles of Jesus

Mark 4:35-41

Matthew 14:22-33

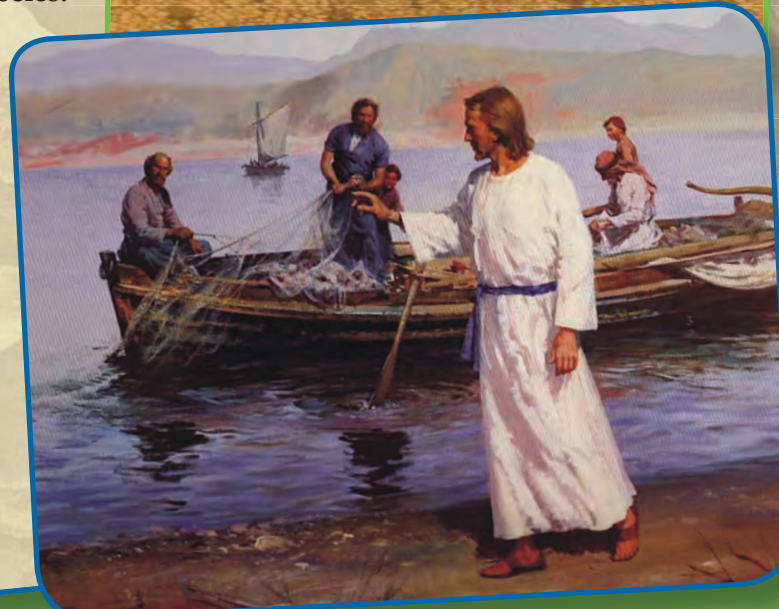
Luke 9:10-17

Luke 5:1-11

Mark 5:21-24; 35-42

John 2:1-11

Mark 1:29-31



Luke 7:11-17

Mark 7:31-37

Luke 13:10-17

Choose one of the miracle stories above. Read it. Write a title for it here:

Now be prepared to tell the class the story in a few sentences.



Taking a Closer Look

Why did these miracles happen?

Because Jesus wanted to share the greatness and glory of God through miracles. Jesus is God and with God nothing is impossible. God made the universe and he can change it as he pleases.

God changed the normal to what he wanted, the "real" normal.

Questions and answers about miracles

Q. Why did Jesus perform miracles?

A. To give people a glimpse of God's glory, out of love for people who were suffering, and to fulfill the prophecies about him.

Q. Was Jesus the only person who performed miracles?

A. No. Many of Jesus' disciples performed miracles with Jesus' help.

Q. Can miracles happen now?

A. Yes, but we need to be looking to truly see the miracles God sends our way.

Q. Should we ask for a miracle such as when someone is hurt or sick and you want them to get well?

A. Yes. You can pray to God and ask him to change things to an outcome you would like. But remember, sometimes it will not happen for reasons we don't understand now.

Q. What is the final miracle we will experience ourselves?

A. Heaven. There we will be in the presence of God. There we will find complete peace and happiness.

GOD'S GUIDING WORDS

Everyone was amazed at God's great power.

Luke 9:45



Getting Closer to God

Jesus' enemies even demanded a miracle from him. Read Matthew 12:38-40. The Pharisees are asking Jesus to perform a miracle. They don't really think he can do it. They think what Jesus does is a trick and they want to trap him. Jesus scolds them calling them evil and godless because he knows their purpose. So Jesus tells them the only miracle they will experience is one like the miracle the Prophet Jonah experienced. Jonah was in the belly of the big fish for three days and came out alive and well. Jesus was telling those

people who didn't believe in him that he would be buried for three days just like Jonah was in the fish for three days and then he would be out and okay. They would see the miracle of Jesus' Resurrection.

Our Armenian Way

A MIRACLE IN ARMENIA

When Jesus was in Jerusalem, the Armenian King Apkar was King of the capital city of Edessa. Armenia was a land of many kingdoms at that time. King Apkar had heard of Jesus and his miracle healings and sent a messenger to Jesus asking if Jesus could come to Edessa and heal him. He suffered from a terrible disease. Jesus was unable to go there, but said he would send his disciple Thaddeus. After the death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord, Thaddeus set out on his journey to King Apkar and healed him. The King had faith in Jesus and told others of Jesus' love and concern for him.



Time to Celebrate

Celebrate the Miracles of Jesus by creating Miracle Posters to place in your classroom.



RESPONDING IN FAITH

Help me, Lord, to always see the miracles you have performed for me. Amen.

FAMILY CORNER

Sharing Our Faith

Today we read and talked about many of the miracles Jesus performed; these miracles were performed out of our Lord's love for people who were suffering, to give people a glimpse of God's glory, and to fulfill the prophecies about him. Today, we need to look for the miracles that God sends our way.

Living Our Faith

Sharing in God's Miracles

1. Take a family hike. Take a picture of your family on the hike. Pick up interesting items along the way. Use a box picture frame to display some of the items with your photo and call it *God Gave Us The Miracle of Nature*. Display it in your home.
2. At the dinner table have everyone take turns finishing the sentence "I'm glad God made ___ because..."
3. As a family, read the Bible stories of Jesus' miracles.