



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

KNOWING JESUS

The Miracles of Jesus

A Beginner Guide to Seeing His Authority, Compassion, and Saving Mission

The short answer

Jesus' miracles were real acts of power and compassion. They helped people in immediate need, revealed who Jesus is, confirmed the arrival of God's kingdom, and pointed ahead to the complete restoration He will bring.

"These are written, that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God."

John 20:31 WEB

Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

PART ONE · BEGINNER GUIDE

Jesus' miracles invite us to see—and believe

This Companion was not written to replace your Bible. It was written to help you fall in love with it. Every page is intended to send you back into God's Word with greater confidence, deeper understanding, and a clearer picture of Jesus Christ.

The Gospels show Jesus healing disease, freeing people from demons, commanding creation, multiplying food, forgiving sin, and raising the dead. The miracles matter because of what happened—and because of what they reveal about Him.

Begin with the Gospel account

Read the entire passage before reading a summary. Notice the need, Jesus' words and actions, the response of witnesses, and what the writer wants you to understand about Jesus.

Three truths to remember

01

The miracles were acts of compassion

Jesus saw real people and responded to suffering with mercy (Matthew 14:14).

02

The miracles were signs

They pointed beyond the event toward Jesus' identity and the arrival of God's kingdom (John 2:11; Matthew 12:28).

03

The miracles call for a response

A person may witness power and still resist Jesus. The Gospels call readers to trust and follow Him.

Beginner memory anchor

The miracles show Jesus' power, reveal Jesus' heart, and invite faith in Jesus.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

[BEGIN HERE](#)

What is a miracle?

In the Gospels, a miracle is an extraordinary work of God displayed through Jesus. The Gospel writers also use words such as signs, mighty works, and wonders. Each word draws attention to a different part of the same reality.

01

A mighty work displays power

Jesus does what ordinary human ability cannot do.

02

A wonder produces amazement

People recognize that something extraordinary has happened.

03

A sign points beyond itself

The act directs attention toward Jesus and the truth of His mission.

Not every miracle is called a sign

The Gospel writers use their words with different emphases. John especially selects signs to help readers believe that Jesus is the Messiah and Son of God (John 20:30–31).

Miracles are not magic

Jesus does not perform tricks, manipulate hidden forces, or use power for entertainment. He acts with divine authority, in harmony with the Father's will, and for purposes consistent with God's holy character.

A simple definition

A miracle is an extraordinary act of God that reveals His power and purpose.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

WHY THE MIRACLES MATTER

The miracles reveal more than power

01

They reveal who Jesus is

He exercises authority over realms that belong to God: creation, sickness, evil spirits, sin, and death.

02

They announce God's kingdom

Jesus' works show that God's saving rule has entered the world and is pushing back the effects of sin and evil (Matthew 12:28).

03

They fulfill Scripture

Jesus' healing and restoration echo Old Testament promises about the coming work of God (Isaiah 35:5–6; Matthew 11:2–6).

04

They confirm God's message

Jesus' works bear witness that the Father sent Him. God also confirmed the apostles' Gospel witness through signs, wonders, mighty works, and gifts of the Holy Spirit (John 5:36; 10:37–38; Hebrews 2:3–4).

05

They show His compassion

Jesus does not treat suffering people as object lessons. He sees, touches, listens, grieves, and restores.

06

They preview final restoration

The miracles are small foretastes of a day when death, mourning, crying, and pain will be no more (Revelation 21:4–5).

The greatest need remains deeper

A healed body is a gift, but every person still needs reconciliation with God. Jesus' miracles point toward His saving work at the cross and empty tomb.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

PRACTICAL TOOL

Use this five-question beginner method

01

What is the need?

Name the sickness, danger, bondage, hunger, grief, sin, or confusion in the passage.

02

What does Jesus do?

Notice His words, actions, timing, touch, command, question, or prayer.

03

What does this reveal about Jesus?

Look for His authority, compassion, holiness, wisdom, identity, or saving purpose.

04

How do people respond?

Notice faith, worship, amazement, fear, gratitude, opposition, misunderstanding, or unbelief.

05

How should I respond?

Ask what the passage invites you to believe about Jesus and how that truth should shape your life.

A one-sentence worksheet

Jesus has authority over _____. This reveals that He is _____, so I can respond by _____.

Keep context in control

Do not turn every detail into a hidden symbol. Let the Gospel writer's words, the surrounding passage, and Scripture's wider message guide your conclusion.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

A SIGN OF GLORY

Water becomes wine

Read John 2:1–11.

At a wedding in Cana, the wine runs out. Jesus tells servants to fill six stone water jars, and the water becomes excellent wine. John calls this the first of Jesus' signs and says that He revealed His glory.

What should a beginner notice?

01

Jesus responds to an ordinary human need

Running out of wine would bring public shame to the family. Jesus quietly provides with abundance.

02

The jars belonged to purification practices

John's detail helps readers see that Jesus brings something greater than outward ceremonial cleansing.

03

The sign points to Jesus

The main point is not that every shortage will be miraculously replaced. The sign reveals His glory and leads His disciples to believe.

Main truth

Jesus is not merely a helpful guest. He is the promised One whose presence brings the joy and abundance associated with God's saving kingdom (Isaiah 25:6–9; John 2:11).

Heart question

Am I seeking only what Jesus can provide—or am I learning to trust who He is?



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

AUTHORITY OVER CREATION

Jesus calms the storm

Read Mark 4:35–41; Matthew 8:23–27; Luke 8:22–25.

A violent storm threatens the boat while Jesus sleeps. The disciples wake Him in fear. Jesus rebukes the wind and commands the sea, and a great calm follows.

Follow the movement

01	A real danger Experienced fishermen believe they are about to die.
02	A fearful question Their words reveal both desperation and uncertainty about Jesus' care.
03	An authoritative command Jesus speaks to creation, and it immediately obeys.
04	A deeper question The disciples ask, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?" (Mark 4:41 WEB).

Main truth

The Old Testament describes the Lord as ruler over the sea (Psalm 107:23–30). Jesus' command reveals authority that forces the disciples—and us—to ask who He truly is.

Read carefully

This passage does not promise that every dangerous situation will end immediately. It shows that Jesus is Lord even when His presence does not remove fear on our preferred timetable.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE

The paralyzed man is forgiven and healed

Read Mark 2:1–12; Matthew 9:1–8; Luke 5:17–26.

Friends lower a paralyzed man through a roof because the house is crowded. Before healing his body, Jesus tells him that his sins are forgiven. Religious teachers correctly recognize that only God can forgive sins; Jesus then heals the man as visible evidence of His authority.

01

Jesus sees faith

The friends' determined action brings the man before Jesus.

02

Jesus addresses the deepest need

Physical healing matters, but reconciliation with God matters eternally.

03

Jesus makes a deliberate claim

The healing confirms that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.

Main truth

The miracle is not only about walking. It reveals that Jesus has divine authority to forgive and restore sinners.

Heart question

Do I bring my deepest need to Jesus—or only the need that is easiest to see?



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

COMPASSION WITHOUT HURRY

A suffering woman and a grieving father

Read Mark 5:21–43; Matthew 9:18–26; Luke 8:40–56.

Jairus begs Jesus to help his dying daughter. On the way, a woman who has suffered bleeding for twelve years touches Jesus' clothing in faith. Jesus stops, speaks to her with dignity, and then continues to Jairus's home, where He raises the child.

Two stories woven together

01	Both are desperate One person is socially prominent; the other has been isolated and impoverished by long suffering.
02	Jesus is not too busy to notice He pauses for the woman without forgetting the child.
03	Delay does not defeat Him News of death arrives, but death does not place the girl beyond Jesus' authority.
04	He restores more than bodies He calls the woman "Daughter" and returns the child to her family.

Main truth

Jesus' compassion is personal, and His authority is not limited by chronic suffering, social status, delay, or death.

Heart question

Where do I need to trust that Jesus sees me even when His timing is difficult to understand?



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

PROVISION IN THE WILDERNESS

Jesus feeds the five thousand

Read Matthew 14:13–21; Mark 6:30–44; Luke 9:10–17; John 6:1–15.

A large crowd follows Jesus to a remote place. With five loaves and two fish, Jesus gives thanks, feeds thousands, and leaves twelve baskets of food remaining. This is the only miracle of Jesus—apart from His resurrection—recorded in all four Gospels.

01

Jesus sees the crowd with compassion

He teaches and feeds people who are tired and hungry.

02

Human resources are clearly insufficient

The disciples cannot solve the need with what they have.

03

Jesus provides abundantly

Everyone eats and is satisfied; the leftovers show that His provision is not barely enough.

04

The sign points beyond bread

In John 6, Jesus identifies Himself as the bread of life. The Provider is the greater gift.

Main truth

Jesus is the compassionate Shepherd who provides in the wilderness and the true Bread who gives eternal life (Psalm 23; John 6:32–35).

Read carefully

The passage is not a formula guaranteeing material abundance. It reveals Jesus' sufficiency and invites us to receive Him in faith.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

LIGHT AND SPIRITUAL SIGHT

Jesus gives sight to a man born blind

Read John 9.

Jesus heals a man who had never been able to see. As the healed man grows in understanding and courage, religious leaders who possess physical sight become increasingly resistant to the truth in front of them.

Two kinds of sight

01	Physical sight is given The man washes and returns seeing.
02	Spiritual understanding grows He moves from calling Jesus “the man,” to “a prophet,” to one from God, and finally worships the Son of Man.
03	Religious certainty can hide blindness The leaders investigate the evidence but refuse the conclusion because it threatens their position.

Main truth

Jesus is the Light of the world. He opens physical eyes and exposes the deeper blindness of hearts unwilling to receive Him (John 9:5, 35–41).

Heart question

Am I willing to follow the evidence toward Jesus—even when it challenges what I assumed?



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

FREEDOM FROM EVIL

Jesus frees a man living among the tombs

Read Mark 5:1–20; Matthew 8:28–34; Luke 8:26–39.

Jesus meets a man living among the tombs under severe demonic oppression. Other people have tried to restrain him, but no one has been able to subdue him. The unclean spirits immediately recognize Jesus' authority. At His command they leave, and the man is later seen clothed, calm, and thinking clearly.

What should a beginner notice?

01	Jesus moves toward someone others fear The man is isolated, suffering, and treated as dangerous. Jesus sees a person worth rescuing.
02	Evil recognizes Jesus' authority The spirits resist and plead, but they cannot overpower Him or ignore His command.
03	Deliverance brings visible restoration The man moves from bondage and isolation toward dignity, clarity, community, and purpose.
04	Jesus gives him a new mission He is told to return home and tell what the Lord has done for him and how mercy was shown.

Main truth

Jesus is Lord over every spiritual power. His authority brings freedom and restores a suffering person to dignity, relationship, and faithful witness.

Read with pastoral care

- Not every illness, mental-health struggle, addiction, or unusual behavior is caused by a demon.
- The Bible calls believers to resist the devil and remain alert, but not to become fascinated with evil or afraid of it (James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8–9).
- Prayer, wise pastoral support, medical care, and licensed mental-health care can work together rather than compete.

Beginner memory anchor

Jesus is stronger than evil. We keep our attention on Him, test spiritual claims by Scripture, and treat suffering people with compassion.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

AUTHORITY OVER DEATH

Jesus raises Lazarus

Read John 11:1–44.

Jesus loves Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, yet He does not arrive before Lazarus dies. At the tomb, Jesus weeps. Then He calls Lazarus out, and the dead man comes alive.

01

Love and delay can exist together

The delay is painful, but it is not evidence that Jesus stopped loving the family.

02

Jesus enters human grief

He knows what He will do and still weeps with those who mourn.

03

Jesus is more than a miracle worker

He says, "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25 WEB).

04

The sign points toward a greater victory

Lazarus will die again; Jesus' own resurrection defeats death permanently and guarantees resurrection life for His people.

Main truth

Jesus does not merely give resurrection. He is the resurrection and the life. Death is a real enemy, but it will not have the final word.

Heart question

Can I bring Jesus both my faith and my grief while I wait for final restoration?



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

COMMON QUESTIONS

Does faith make a miracle happen?

Some miracle accounts emphasize faith; others do not. Scripture never presents faith as a force that controls God. Faith trusts Jesus—it does not place Him under our control.

What the Gospels show

01

Jesus sometimes responds to expressed faith

Examples include the centurion and the woman who touched His clothing (Matthew 8:5–13; Mark 5:25–34).

02

Jesus sometimes acts before faith is expressed

The widow's son is raised because Jesus has compassion; the dead man cannot exercise faith (Luke 7:11–17).

03

Another person's faith may be in view

Jesus sees the faith of the paralyzed man's friends (Mark 2:5).

04

Unbelief can reject evidence

Some observers see miracles and still oppose Jesus (John 11:45–53).

Faith is not a guarantee of immediate healing

Faithful Christians may pray earnestly and remain ill. Paul's thorn was not removed, and he learned the sufficiency of Christ's grace (2 Corinthians 12:7–10). Lack of healing should not be used to shame a suffering person.

Beginner memory anchor

Faith receives Jesus; it does not control Jesus.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

COMMON QUESTIONS

Does Jesus still heal today?

Christians agree that God can heal and that believers should pray. Christians differ about how often miraculous gifts should be expected today and how some New Testament gift passages should be understood.

What we can say confidently

- God is able to heal, and every healing ultimately comes from Him (Psalm 103:2–5; James 5:13–16).
- Christians may pray boldly while submitting to God's wisdom and will (Matthew 26:39; 2 Corinthians 12:7–10).
- Prayer and appropriate medical care are not enemies. Luke was a physician, and Scripture recognizes ordinary means of care (Colossians 4:14; 1 Timothy 5:23).
- Claims of healing should be truthful, testable where possible, and never used to exploit vulnerable people.
- A person who is not healed is not less loved by God, and ongoing illness is not proof of defective faith.

Our sure hope

Whether healing comes now or not, everyone who belongs to Christ will share in complete bodily restoration at the resurrection (Romans 8:22–25; 1 Corinthians 15:42–57; Revelation 21:4).

A faithful prayer

Lord, You are able. Please bring healing, wisdom, endurance, and peace. Help me trust Your heart while I wait.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

PRACTICAL TOOL · SIX-WEEK READING PATH

Study one kind of miracle at a time

01

WEEK 1 · Signs of glory

Read John 2:1–11 and 4:46–54. Ask what each sign reveals about Jesus.

02

WEEK 2 · Authority over creation

Read Mark 4:35–41 and 6:45–52. Notice the disciples' fear and growing questions.

03

WEEK 3 · Healing and dignity

Read Mark 1:40–45 and 5:21–43. Notice compassion, touch, faith, delay, and restoration.

04

WEEK 4 · Freedom from evil

Read Mark 1:21–28 and 5:1–20. Notice Jesus' authority and the restored person's new mission.

05

WEEK 5 · Provision and identity

Read John 6:1–40. Follow the movement from bread to the Bread of Life.

06

WEEK 6 · Life over death

Read Luke 7:11–17 and John 11:1–44. Notice grief, compassion, glory, and resurrection hope.

Use the five questions every week

What is the need? What does Jesus do? What does this reveal about Him? How do people respond? How should I respond?

Keep a simple record

Write one truth about Jesus, one question to explore, and one response of faith or obedience.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

REVIEW AND REFLECTION

What do the miracles help me see?

Which miracle most clearly reveals Jesus' authority to me? _____

Which miracle most clearly reveals Jesus' compassion? _____

What need or fear am I bringing to Jesus today? _____

Am I seeking Jesus Himself—or mainly what I want Him to do? _____

Where do I need to trust His heart when I do not understand His timing?

What is one truth about Jesus I want to remember? _____

What is one faithful response I can make this week? _____

A simple prayer

Jesus, open my eyes to see You clearly. Help me trust Your authority, receive Your compassion, and follow You even when I do not understand Your timing. Use Your Word to deepen my faith and shape my response. Amen.

One faithful summary

Jesus' miracles are compassionate acts, kingdom signs, and trustworthy witnesses to His identity. They point us beyond the gift to the Giver.

This content is made to be used and shared

You may freely print, copy, and share this resource to encourage others to open their Bibles. Please preserve source acknowledgments, do not sell it, and do not present it as error-free.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

PART TWO · WANT TO DIG DEEPER? · INTERMEDIATE

Miracles within the Bible's larger story

This section is optional

Part One gives a complete beginner framework. Continue here when you are ready to explore how Jesus' miracles connect with creation, Exodus, prophecy, kingdom, cross, and new creation.

New creation

Jesus restores bodies and creation damaged by the Fall. His works do not complete new creation during His earthly ministry, but they preview the restoration secured by His death and resurrection (Romans 8:18–25; Revelation 21:1–5).

A new Exodus

Provision in the wilderness, authority over the sea, and deliverance from bondage echo God's Exodus works. Jesus is not merely another Moses; He is the divine Son who brings a greater deliverance from sin and death (John 6; 1 Corinthians 10:1–4).

Messianic fulfillment

When John the Baptist asks whether Jesus is the coming One, Jesus points to the blind seeing, the lame walking, lepers being cleansed, the deaf hearing, the dead being raised, and good news reaching the poor—echoing Isaiah 35 and 61 (Matthew 11:2–6).

Already and not yet

The kingdom is already present in Jesus' works, but sickness, evil, and death have not yet disappeared. His resurrection begins the promised new creation; His return will bring its complete fulfillment.

Intermediate memory anchor

The miracles are signs of the King, foretastes of restoration, and witnesses that lead toward the cross and empty tomb.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

WANT TO DIG DEEPER? · INTERMEDIATE

Read difficult miracle passages carefully

Why are the Gospel accounts sometimes different?

The writers may select different details, arrange material for literary purposes, or summarize speech in faithful ways. Difference is not automatically contradiction. First ask what each Gospel emphasizes in its own context before combining the accounts.

Why did Jesus sometimes tell people to remain quiet?

In Mark especially, Jesus sometimes restricts publicity. Crowds could misunderstand His mission as merely political, spectacular, or therapeutic. His identity must finally be understood through the cross and resurrection, not miracles alone (Mark 1:40–45; 8:27–33; 9:9).

Why were miracles not equally distributed?

Biblical miracles cluster around key moments in redemptive history, including Moses, Elijah and Elisha, Jesus, and the apostolic witness. They serve God's saving purposes rather than functioning as a constant spectacle.

Did Jesus perform miracles by divine power or through the Spirit?

The New Testament presents Jesus as the eternal Son and also emphasizes that His incarnate ministry was conducted in the power of the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:1, 14, 18; Acts 10:38). These truths belong together within the mystery of the incarnation.

A safeguard against speculation

Build conclusions from what the text says. Avoid invented medical diagnoses, hidden codes, unsupported symbolism, and claims that every detail must carry a separate spiritual meaning.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

THE GREATEST SIGN

Jesus rose from the dead

Jesus' resurrection is not simply one more miracle in a collection. It is the decisive act that vindicates His identity, confirms the sufficiency of His saving work, defeats death, and begins the new creation.

01

The cross addresses sin

Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3).

02

The empty tomb announces victory

He was buried and raised on the third day (1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:1–8).

03

The risen Jesus appeared to witnesses

The New Testament grounds its proclamation in public testimony, not private wishful thinking (1 Corinthians 15:5–8).

04

His resurrection guarantees ours

Christ is the firstfruits of those who belong to Him (1 Corinthians 15:20–23).

Why this matters

If Jesus remained dead, Christian faith would be empty. Because He lives, forgiveness is real, death is defeated, and resurrection hope is secure (1 Corinthians 15:14–20).

The central response

The miracles invite amazement; the resurrection calls for repentance, faith, worship, and lifelong allegiance to the risen Lord.



Rooted in Scripture - Pointing to Jesus

THE MOST IMPORTANT INVITATION

Will you trust the One the miracles reveal?

Jesus' miracles reveal His authority and compassion, but they also direct us toward our deepest need. Sin separates every person from God, and no amount of effort can repair that separation.

God did for us what we could not do for ourselves. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, lived without sin, died for our sins, and rose from the dead. Through Him, God offers forgiveness, reconciliation, and eternal life as a gift of grace (Romans 3:23; 5:6–8; 6:23; 1 Corinthians 15:3–4; Ephesians 2:8–9).

How do we respond?

01

Turn toward God

Repentance means turning from sin and self-rule toward God. It is not becoming perfect before you come to Him (Acts 3:19).

02

Believe in Jesus

Trust that Jesus is Lord and that His death and resurrection are sufficient to save you (John 3:16; Romans 10:9–10).

03

Call on Him

Confess your need, place your trust in Jesus, and ask Him to forgive and lead you (Romans 10:13).

A prayer can express your faith

Jesus, I know that I have sinned and cannot save myself. I believe You died for my sins and rose again. I turn to You, ask for Your forgiveness, and trust You as my Savior and Lord. Help me know You and follow You. Amen.

A prayer is not a magic formula—the words themselves do not save us. Jesus saves everyone who truly comes to Him in faith. If you have trusted Christ, begin reading His Word, tell another faithful Christian, connect with a Bible-believing local church, and learn about baptism and discipleship (Matthew 28:18–20; Acts 2:38–42).