



THE PROBLEM OF JESUS

THE PROBLEM OF JESUS PT 3: THE PROBLEM OF MIRACLES

What do we do with the millions of stories held by rational, credible people that defy all logic? Belief in miracles is seen by skeptics as something for the ancient mind - the naive and uninformed - and not for modern, scientific, rational people. But what if miracles are actually probable given the universe in which we live? What if the miracles we read about in the accounts of Jesus' life on earth really did happen? What would those miracles mean to us in our world today? Jesus' miracles weren't an end unto themselves. They relayed messages about God, love, humankind, and life.

BIG IDEA: The miracles of Jesus aren't about our goodness, they're about His goodness and for His glory.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Name a miracle of Jesus recorded in the Gospels that stands out to you and share why.
2. Have you ever witnessed a miracle in your own life or someone else's life? If so, what was it?
3. Does it take more faith to be skeptical of miracles or to believe in miracles? Why?
4. What do we do with stories about the supernatural? What are your initial reactions when you hear those stories?
5. Read mark 1:16-45. Why do you think Jesus asks for people to remain quiet about the miracles he does for them? From your perspective, when would it be wise to stay quiet about miracles, and when would it be wise to speak up about them?
6. Read John 2:1-12. What would your response have been if you were one of the disciples watching this scene unfold? What is the significance of the new wine Jesus created at Cana when thinking about our lives today? What does that mean for you and me?
7. How does it make you feel or what does it mean to you to consider miracles as God's intimate participation in our lives?
8. What about when the miracle you are praying for doesn't happen? Spend time with your group praying for peace through the lasting question mark of "why?" Pray that you can trust God is still working when there aren't easy, quick answers.

Jesus is still doing miracles and transforming our lives today. He transforms us from the selfish beings we were into something entirely different. He transforms us so that we use money differently, treat our spouses differently, interact with strangers differently, raise our kids differently, and do our jobs differently. Everything changes when it is put into the hands of Jesus. This week, consider what miracle God could do in your life to change you for the better. Ask him for a miracle of transformation.