

Miracles of Protection

Gregg Brenes

A miracle. When our God in heaven intervenes on earth.

Expectation creates an arena for miracles to happen.

The Lord rescues the godly; he is their fortress in times of trouble. Ps 37:39 NLT

- **Long before you face a problem, God already has a plan.**

The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas. And the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. Acts 16:22-23

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. Acts 16:25

Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. Acts 16:26

- **Sometimes God's eternal purposes don't align with our temporary plans.**

How do we approach a God who can protect, and doesn't always do it?

Connect

- Have you ever experienced a miracle of protection? If so, what happened?

Word and Reflection

A miracle – when our God in heaven intervenes on earth. God has all power and authority. He has the ability to protect us but doesn't always do it. So how do we approach a God who can protect, but still allows pain, disease and suffering to enter our life? By faith. You can be certain that long before you face a problem, God already has a plan. Sometimes God's eternal purposes don't align with our temporary plans and He asks us to use our faith and trust in His goodness.

Psalm 37:39 NLT; Psalm 91; Acts 16:22-34; 1 Peter 1:3-9; Hebrews 13:15

- Which part of the message made an impact, caught your attention or challenged you?
- Read Psalm 37:39. Why do you think it's sometimes hard to accept that God miraculously intervenes with protection and at other times does not?
- Pastor Gregg mentioned, "Before you face a problem, God has a plan." Share a story of how this has played out in your life.
- Read Acts 16:22-26. What do you see in this story that you can start living out? What's your first step?
- Read Psalm 91 and Hebrews 13:15. What problems and pain are you currently experiencing? What are some ways God could be working them together for your good? What are you currently praying for protection from? How can we pray with you about it?

Action

- Write down the miracle of protection you're asking God for and share it with your Grace Group. Pray for each other all week.

Prayer

- God, You are a miracle-working God. We've read Your stories of protection in the Bible, and we've seen them in our own lives. We trust You to protect us from what could destroy us and expose us to what will grow us. Thank You for Your good plans for our lives. We love You. In Jesus' powerful name Amen!
- Pray for your group and for those whom you're reaching out to.