

Talk it Over: Miracles, Week 3

April 25-26, 2020

Looking back at the message this weekend, what was the key thought for you?

Key Scripture

'What god is as great as our God? You are the God who performs miracles, you display your power among the peoples.' Psalm 77:13-14

Other Scriptures

John 2:1-12, John 10:10, John 15:11, Matthew 6:33

Key Thoughts

What do you do when your Joy is Gone?

1. **Realize** things may get worse before God makes them better. John 2:10
2. **Bring** your problems to the Problem Solver! John 2:3
3. Jesus' **presence** opens the door to the possibility of a miracle!
4. **Obedience** always precedes the Miraculous. John 2:5
5. The Level of **Blessings** we receive from God is often in proportion to the amount of **Obedience** we give!

Start Talking:

For this week, start off by asking everyone to take a minute to gauge their "joy tank"-- ask your connect group members to indicate their level of joy by giving a rating on a thumbs up scale. Thumbs up for "tank is overflowing with

joy" and thumbs down for "no joy left in this tank today"-- They can go full thumbs up, full thumbs down, and anywhere in between to indicate their joy in this season. Take stalk of what each connect group member shares and use this as a jumping off point for checking in with one another as you begin to move into the sermon questions.

Start Thinking:

This first miracle of Jesus is often the most famous and the most misunderstood. Why do you think Jesus chose turning the jugs of water into wine at the wedding to be his first miracle? What does this miracle reveal about the character of God?

In the Bible wine can often symbolize joy and celebration, and Jesus says " I have told you these things so my joy may be in you and that your joy may be overflowing!" Jesus came to restore our joy. Where in our own lives do we need our joy to be restored?

Pastor Troy said "sometimes things may get worse before it gets better." How can we find hope and resilience in the liminal space between "worse" and "better"?

Pastor Troy said "Jesus' presence in our lives creates an opportunity for a miracle" Where have you seen this to be true in other parts of scripture and in our own lives?

In life, so often we can seek to solve our problems through so many different means when the reality is, we need to "bring our problems to the problem solver". Is there a specific problem you are facing in your life now that he is inviting you to bring to God to solve?

"Before God does his part, he often asks us to do our part, before God steps out and does something big, he asks you and I to step out and do something little " Are there areas where the Holy Spirit might be inviting you toward a step of obedience that may proceed the miracle that God wants to do in your life?

Start Praying:

Throughout your discussion, take note, are there people in your connect group who:

1. Were able to pinpoint areas where they need their joy to be restored?

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2. Identified problems that came up that need to be taken to the “problem solver”?
3. Noticed invitations to obedience that the Holy Spirit is inviting them to step into?

Spend some time in prayer for one another over these things. Ask the Lord to restore one another’s joy and to give one another courage to bring their problems to God or to step into obedience.

Start Doing:

This week, actively look for the ways the Lord is restoring your joy in this season even amidst the challenges. Share these things with friends, family, co-workers, whoever! Share your joy, and in doing so, spark others to look to Jesus to be the restorer of their joy as well. The miracle is found in Christ’s ability to produce never-ending streams of joy from the well of His great kindness. That is something worth sharing...