

Summer of Miracles



A Family Journey through God's Faithfulness

From the Children's Ministry Program at Mineral Baptist Church

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

WHAT IS A MIRACLE???

An extraordinary answer or solution from GOD that is beyond human abilities.

Journey through the Bible each week this summer with your family as we investigate the God of Miracles! The same God that parted the Red Sea and fed over 5,000 people with one small lunch, is the same God we serve today. Help your family tune into the miracles God is working in our lives every day by examining His Word together. His mercies, faithfulness, and provisions become clearer as we actively seek Him in our daily walk. May this summer journey strengthen the faith of your family, providing opportunities to "dig into" the Scriptures, ask questions, discuss ideas, worship and pray together.

Blessings!

Arabella Winfree

Children that participate regularly in our Children's Church program at Mineral Baptist Church receive a copy of The Beginner's Bible-Timeless Children's Stories published by ZonderKidz. The story references and page numbers coincide with this Bible, but Scripture references are provided as well for your family to use in place of, or alongside, The Beginner's Bible.

Week 1: Jesus' First Miracle

READ: The Beginner's Bible pg 314 and/or [John 2:1-11](#)

THINK:

1. When Mary overhears the servant's worry and concern that there is no more wine, how does she respond? (She tells them to do what Jesus says.)
2. What miracle does Jesus perform? (He turns the water to wine.)

DISCUSS: There are times when we feel worried and concerned about things.

1. What can we learn from this story about how to handle those fears? (Do what Jesus tells us to do.)
2. Since Jesus isn't physically here for us to ask, how can we know what He wants us to do? (Read the Bible, obey and pray)
3. Has God helped you through something in the past that caused you worry and concern? Share about it with your family

Remembering HIS faithfulness by sharing our stories helps grow our faith. The last page of this resource includes some verses that will also help you get started in knowing what Jesus wants us to do when we're worried, concerned or scared and the promises He gives to be with us always as we seek Him more.

DO: Choose one or more of the verses to write down on a piece of paper or notecard and put it in your house where everyone can see it. Memorize the scripture together, hiding the TRUTH in your heart so you can remember it when you feel worried. Challenge each other to practice every day.

SING: [No Matter What I'm Facing](#) ROAR VBS 2019

[I'm Trusting You God](#) ROAR VBS 2019

PRAY: God, thank you for your WORD to guide us every day. Thank you for going before us, preparing the way for us, and being with us all the time. Help me remember what you want me to do when I am worried, concerned or afraid. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WEEK 2: Jesus Calms the Storm

READ: The Beginner's Bible pg 334 and/or [Matthew 8:23-27](#)

THINK:

1. Why were the disciples in the boat afraid? (a great storm was sinking the boat)
2. What did they do? (they woke Jesus up and asked Him if He cared)
3. What miracle did Jesus perform? (He calmed the storm by just speaking to it)

DISCUSS: The disciples were Jesus' followers that devoted themselves to learning from Him and sharing the Good News. They knew His power and had watched Him perform miracles, but they were still very afraid when the storm came up. They felt like Jesus didn't care about them. Have you ever felt like Jesus has forgotten you? That He doesn't care that you are having a hard time or are afraid?

DO: One of the best ways to overcome fear is by changing our thinking from fear to praise. Our minds can get stuck on bad things, making it difficult for us to see the good things God is still doing in the midst of the storm. Praising God out loud with songs and writing down things you are thankful for are both great ways to redirect your thoughts.

- Ask everyone in your family to share their favorite worship song. How do you feel when you sing it?
- Start a gratitude journal by having each person write something they are thankful for on a sheet of paper. Post it somewhere in your house and add to it daily. Or write down 3 things each night before bed.

For journaling ideas, check out <https://annvoskamp.com/joy-dares/> for fun ways to seek God each day!

SING: [Million Reasons](#) Shipwrecked VBS 2018

[The Maker](#) Maker Fun Factory VBS 2017

PRAY: Lord, thank you that you are with us always, even when we face the "storms" of life. Help us cry to out to you when we are afraid knowing you will hear us. May praises fill our lips as we glorify You in song. Help us direct our thoughts by giving thanks for good gifts. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WEEK 3: Jesus Heals a Blind Beggar

READ: The Beginner's Bible pg 371 and/or [John 9:1-12](#)

THINK:

1. Why was the man blind? (He was born that way.)
2. What miracle does Jesus perform? (He wipes mud on his eyes, tells him to wash in the pool and then he could see!)

DISCUSS: The disciples ask Jesus why the man is blind. Jesus answers that the man didn't do anything wrong, but that he was blind so that God's work could be shown in his life. Wow! Although the Bible doesn't say how old this man was, we can assume he is an adult by the text. He has been blind since birth. He had no way to provide for himself except begging, and from the scripture we read that EVERYONE knew him because he was a blind beggar. I want to be a lot of things, but that is not on my list! BUT GOD had plans for this man. All his years of blindness were part of God's plan. Once he was healed, he wanted to tell everyone about Jesus and they wanted to know how it was that he could now see! Are there things in your life that you wish were different? Do you feel like they weigh you down? Do you struggle with wondering how they could be part of God's plan?

Isaiah 55:8 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord.

Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

DO: Trusting God means we know how He works even when things don't make sense. This comes from building a relationship with Him through studying His Word and talking with Him regularly through prayer. Find a simple puzzle at your house or make one by cutting apart a picture in a magazine or a cereal box (with permission, of course!) Give each person in your family one piece to hold. Is it easy to tell the whole picture from one piece? Some puzzles have pieces so small it's impossible to tell anything from one piece! But when all the pieces are in place, they come together to form a complete picture. God knows all the pieces to the puzzle of our life and is working all things for good – the dark parts and the light come together to make the picture complete!

SING: [He Knows My Name](#) Maker Fun Factory VBS 2017

[Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus](#) Shipwrecked VBS 2018

PRAY: Lord, help me to trust that You are working all things for my good even when I don't understand how. Thank you for creating me on purpose, with a purpose. I pray that my life and words and actions would bring you honor and glory. In Jesus' Name, Amen

WEEK 4: Ten Lepers

READ: The Beginner's Bible pg 405 and/or [Luke 17:11-19](#)

THINK:

1. What did the lepers ask Jesus to do? (to heal them)
2. How did Jesus respond? (He told them to go show themselves to the priests)
3. When did the miracle take place? (while they were on the way to the city)
4. How did one leper respond? (he returned to thank Jesus)

DISCUSS: Leprosy was a highly contagious disease. Those who had it were declared unclean and forced to live separately from the rest of their family and community. They were isolated, quarantined, unable to be with family and other believers. Sound familiar? While we may be separated and distanced to prevent disease, some of our feelings are still the same as the lepers. We miss our friends, our sports teams, our grandparents, and even school. We miss going to the movies, eating dinner at a restaurant, and worshipping together at church. We miss being together. The ten lepers stayed a safe distance away from Jesus, shouting for Him to heal them from this disease. He could have healed them immediately, but instead He tells them to go to the priest. The priest was the only one who could declare them clean and allow them to return to the community. They BELIEVED in the power of Jesus and obeyed his command. On the way, their skin was made like new! But of the 10, only one ran back to Jesus to thank Him for His gift. I believe the others were also grateful, but only one chose to thank and honor the GIVER Himself.

DO: Revisit the past three weeks of devotions. Has your family memorized a new scripture? Are you learning more about how He asks us to live? Have you been listening to our VBS songs or other worship music? How many good things have you listed in your gratitude journal? Are some of the pieces coming together for you to see how God is working in your life? GIVE THANKS!! The more we thank God, the more we see HIM at work. As a family, spend some time today giving thanks for WHO God is - Shepherd, Creator, Everlasting God, Savior. PS....*Our scripture page is a great place to start!*

SING: [Thankful](#) ROAR VBS 2019

[To God Be the Glory](#) ROAR VBS 2019

PRAY: Thank you Lord for WHO you are. Thank you for being our Shield, our Hope and our Savior. Even when our lives on earth are drastically changed, YOU are still GOD. YOU are all powerful, all knowing, in control and on your throne as King of Kings. We praise you Lord for WHO you are and we GIVE THANKS! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

SCRIPTURES THAT TELL US HOW TO DEAL WITH WORRY, FEAR, and CONCERN

“Be still and know that I am God...” Psalm 46:10

“Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.” Psalm 34:8

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Psalm 23

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

“Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe. Proverbs 29:25

“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.” 2 Timothy 1:7

“Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not faint.” Isaiah 40:28–31

“When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’” John 8:12

“But now, this is what the LORD says—he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: ‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you; you are mine. When you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...” Isaiah 43:1-3

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ. Jesus. “ Philippians 4: 4-7

“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.” Philippians 4: 8-9

Look up these longer passages and enjoy them together!

[2 Corinthians 4:7-18](#)

[Matthew 6:25-34](#)

[Philippians 4:4-13](#)