Miracles

Jesus did miracles as signs pointing to spiritual truth, but just as people can misread road signs, so His contemporaries sometimes misread His signs. What did Jesus’ miracles mean? How can you read the signs?

**1. Faith and Miracles**

What is the relationship between faith & miracles?

A. Faith *without* miracles (4:42)

John 17:20; 20:26-29

B. Faith *dependent* on miracles (4:43-48)

C. Faith *confirmed* by miracles (4:49-54)

D. Miracles *without* faith (5:1-16)

Faith hindered by *spiritual dullness*

Faith rejected by *religious traditionalism*

**2. Jesus and Miracles**

What marks Jesus’ miracles as from the Father (5:36)?

A. The character of *Jesus*

B. The character of the *works*

Their *goodness*

Their *number & variety*

Their *power*

C. His *predicted resurrection*

John 2:19-21 [Mark 8:31; 9:30-32; 10:32-34]

**3. You and Miracles**

A. Beware when *money & miracles* are linked

Matthew 10:8-11; Acts 8:18-24

B. Trust in the *power & goodness* of your Father

Ephesians 1:15-23

**For Private Meditation or Family Discussion**

1. How did the Lord speak to you through the message? Did He put His finger on any habits or attitudes that you need to change? Did He encourage you regarding some difficulty, move you to undertake some new challenge, or open your heart to some truth you hadn’t seen before?

2. Jesus frequently cast out demons. Why must Jesus’ exorcisms have been from the Spirit of God rather than from the power of the devil (Matthew 12:22-29, 43-45)?

3. Why does God sometimes allow Satan to deceive people with miracles and prophecies (2 Thessalonians 2:8-12)?

4. How can you maintain a healthy skepticism about the claims of modern miracle workers and still have a confident faith in the power of Christ to be at work in your life?