



**COLLEGE HEIGHTS  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

**“The Miracles of Jesus”**

**Part I**

**Daily Scripture Readings for  
February 11-March 17**

## **Week 1:**

### **Monday, Feb. 11 - John 1:14-18 - Who is Jesus?**

This week, we are looking at different passages of Scripture which the youth will be studying this weekend in DiscipleNow. Start praying now for our youth this weekend. Pray that they discover who Christ is and grow in their faith.

It doesn't have the shepherds, manger, wise men, or Mary and Joseph, but the first section of John ends with the Christmas story. "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us..." Because of Christ coming to earth, we get to see God's glory. And because of God's glory, we receive grace upon grace. One of my favorite hymns is "Grace Greater than All Our Sin." That theme is what we see in verses 16-17. The law was given and it makes us aware of our sin. Grace and truth through Christ was given to us to do something about our sin. "The Word became flesh..." Merry Christmas! Relish in God's glory! Have you seen his glory in your life?

### **Tuesday, Feb. 12 - Acts 4:5-12 - Jesus brings salvation.**

Depending on how much time elapses between Acts 2 and Acts 3, these verse that we are reading in Acts 4:5-12 probably happened close to two months after Peter denies he knows who Jesus is after Jesus is arrested. Now, Peter has been arrested for healing a man and proclaiming the name of Jesus. He is now standing up to the religious leaders and proclaiming Jesus to them! This is the power of God when we allow Him to work through us.

The message of Peter is the simple gospel message. Jesus is the one who brings salvation. Verse 12 is very clear: "there is salvation in no one else." Pray right now that the youth of our church hear the Spirit's call on their lives this weekend. That they recognize that salvation can only come through Jesus.

### **Wednesday, Feb. 13 - Revelation 2-3 - Last Word on the Church**

These letters are written to seven real churches in Modern-Day Turkey. Read through the seven letters and think what are the qualities that God finds accepting and what are the weaknesses of these churches that are being condemned? What is a common statement made to each church? Where are there similarities between these churches and our church? Think through these things and let's look at these letters in depth tonight.

### **Thursday, Feb. 14 - Romans 10:9-13 - Jesus needs to be in charge of your life.**

Having Jesus as your Savior also means making Him Lord of your life. The gift of salvation is available to all but there is a price to pay, as we discussed last Sunday. Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved, but that means calling him Lord and meaning it. Is Jesus really the boss of your life? Commit to giving Him his proper position today. Let Him control your every move. Let His glory shine through your actions.

Pray for the youth leaders and volunteers today. Pray that God prepares them for whatever guidance the youth need this weekend. Pray that they are able to grow spiritually too.

### **Friday, Feb. 15 - Hebrews 8:1-6 - Jesus as our high priest.**

The High Priest in the Jewish Temple was a mediator. He was an advocate. He was the one that offered the sacrifice on behalf of the worshippers. The passage we read today in Hebrews tells us that Jesus is our high priest. He is the one who intermediates between God and us. Jesus does this by advocating for us before God. He is serving in the heavenly sanctuary on our behalf. As Romans 8:31 says, "if God is for us, then who is against us?" In the earthly sanctuary, the priests only offer earthly sacrifices that cannot sufficiently forgive sin. Jesus as the high priest sacrificed himself once and for all. He truly mediated a better covenant as Hebrews 8:6 says.

Continue to pray for our youth and youth leaders. Today is the beginning of DNow. Pray for safety. Pray for an open mind and heart. Pray for the youth to allow the love of Christ to come into their lives.

### **Saturday, Feb. 16 - Micah 1-3 - Accusation, Destruction, Hope**

We turn our attention to our Sunday Night study on the Prophets by reading the first three chapters of Micah. In Micah 3:4 and 3:7, the prophet proclaims that the people will cry out to the Lord and God will not answer because of their wicked ways. But I thought God always answered prayers and sometimes He just answers with a "No?" Let's talk about that tomorrow night.

### **Sunday, Feb. 17 - Lamentations 3:22-24**

This song of praise is in the midst of gut-wrenching laments. It reminds us of the love of God even when times are tough. In what part of your life do you need a reminder to sing a song of praise?

## **Week 2:**

### **Monday, Feb. 18 - John 2:1-5 - “Do whatever he tells you”**

The reason for Jesus' first miracle is very similar to many of the reasons for his miracles. There is a need. Running out of wine at a wedding would have been a major faux pas. The need has arisen and Jesus' mother knows of a solution. Why is Jesus' mother looking for a solution? Lots of theologians have asked this question and there have not been any definite answers. The best argument is that this is a family wedding. Mary does not want her family to be ridiculed for running out of wine.

The interchange between Jesus and Mary is amusing to me. Jesus does not indicate at all that he is prepared to perform a miracle, but Mary moves along as if he is. It reminds me of the human nature of Jesus and the role he has as a son to Mary. What mother and son have not had this conversation? The mother knows all along what the son is going to do, even if he doesn't tell her that he will do it. Mary's words to the servants are also good words to us. When it comes to following Jesus “Do whatever he tells you.”

### **Tuesday, Feb. 19 - John 2:6-11 - The Sign**

Something different about John's Gospel than the other three (called the Synoptic Gospels) is that John does not call these acts that Jesus does as “miracles.” He calls them “signs.” There are a total of seven signs in the gospel, but John 20:30 indicates Jesus completed other signs that aren't recorded in John. The miracles that Jesus does is a sign to all of us that God is real and God is active in our world.

Something interesting about this sign is the sheer volume of the act. Stone water jars for purification were not normally this large. And to fill 6 of them would be over 120 gallons of wine. Not that any miracle is minor or ho-hum, but this amount of water into wine shows the power of God through Jesus. What is going on in your life today where you need this type of power? Pray for God to show up in a big way today.

### **Wednesday, Feb. 20 - Revelation 4-5 - Last Word on Worship**

Holy, holy, holy is one of my favorite hymns and has been since childhood. In Revelation 4:8, we see that familiar refrain of “Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come.” It is so comforting to know that God has seen all and will continue to see all long after all of us have departed this earth. When we do depart, we get to join the creatures from this passage in continuous worship of God. What a great eternity that will be!

However, right now we are on earth and still get to participate in the worship of God. What strength it can give us to know that no matter who is worshipping with us on the earth, there are those in the heavenly realm who are worshipping with us. We join the heavenly chorus to sing holy, holy, holy. Take the time today to join with them to sing in praise of our Heavenly Father.

#### **Thursday, Feb. 21 - Exodus 24:15-18 - “Glory of the Lord”**

In this passage in Exodus, we see a phrase the “glory of the Lord.” The “glory of the Lord” is shown like a devouring fire. Compare that to John 2:11 from our reading on Tuesday. Jesus showed his glory by turning the water into wine. This comparison shows who Jesus is and from where his power comes. It also shows the difference between the Father and Son. The Father comes and is more exclusive by being in a cloud and only allowing Moses to enter. The Son changes the water into wine and all who are at the wedding are allowed to drink. Jesus has come to make God accessible to all. I hope all of us are entering the “glory of the Lord.”

#### **Friday, Feb. 22 - John 2:12, Genesis 2:1-3 - The Importance of Rest**

At the end of Jesus’ first miracle, we see that he retreats to spend a few days with family and friends. This is not the only time this occurs in Jesus’ ministry, but is more the rule than the exception. Jesus makes sure to keep a balance with ministry and rest. While he doesn’t keep the Sabbath as the Pharisees think he should, he does take time to rest to be with family and to pray to God. This is important for all of us. There is a time for work and a time for rest. Make sure you are taking the time for rest.

At the end of the week of creation, God instituted the Sabbath. Jesus is continuing on this principle of rest after his first miracle. How are you making sure you are resting in a world where there is “always something else to do?”

#### **Saturday, Feb. 23 - Nahum**

Preparing for Sunday Night, we read all three chapters of Nahum today. This is a difficult book to read because of the joyous pronouncement of the destruction and violence against other people. As you read this short prophetic book, ask this question: how does this text bring glory to a loving God? Think about this and let’s discuss Sunday night.

#### **Sunday, Feb. 24 - Psalm 145:8-21**

### **Week 3:**

#### **Monday, Feb. 25 - Mark 7:31-37 - Deaf hear**

This week, we are going to see that Jesus is in control of the world and in control of the problems in this world. In today's reading, we see Jesus heal a man who is deaf and struggles with speech. Rightly so, we think of salvation in an eternal sense most of the time. However, we will clearly see this week that God can provide saving from today's problems as well. What are you struggling with today? God can help you just like Jesus helped people while he was on this earth. God is still in the miracle business. He can provide immediate saving as well as eternal salvation.

#### **Tuesday, Feb. 26 - Mark 8:22-26 - Blind See**

This passage will be our text for the Sunday Morning Sermon coming this week. It is an interesting text to me because it seems as if Jesus takes two tries to heal the man. Did Jesus mess it up the first time? Well, you'll have to come on Sunday to find out about that.

At the end of the passage, Jesus tells the man to not go into the village. In yesterday's reading, Jesus told the people to not tell others about the miracle as well. What is going on here? In Mark's gospel, there is a theme of Jesus telling other people not to tell others about who he was. Jesus wants people to discover who he is on their own. He doesn't want the world to know he is the Messiah until the time is right. The time is right now. Who are you going to tell today about the Messiah?

#### **Wednesday, Feb. 27 - Revelation 6-7 - Last Word on Evil**

We are going to dive deep into the six seals that are opened in these two chapters tonight, but for the moment, I want you to notice the flow of the passage. Verse by verse we see the seven seals being opened and after the Lamb opens the sixth, there is suddenly an interlude. While violence and destruction are continuing and the crescendo is growing, we suddenly take a break (chapter 7). That break is where God helps us in life. That break is where we have hope. As the end of Revelation 7:17 tells us, "God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." Even in the midst of chaos, destruction, and brokenness, God is there with you and gives you hope in the face of evil.

### **Thursday, Feb. 28 - Mark 8:27-30 - Jesus is Christ!**

The Gospel of Mark can be seen as a journey. The book had gone until this point without the disciples mentioning that Jesus was the Messiah. Jesus and the disciples had been journeying north and had reached Caesarea Philippi. Once Peter made this proclamation (and Jesus once again told them not to tell anyone), their journey started toward Jerusalem for Jesus to fulfill his ultimate purpose of providing salvation to all.

### **Friday, Mar. 1 - Mark 9:14-29 - Mute Speak**

Here we see another time when Jesus is control of the spiritual and earthly battles that occur. The boy is saved through the power of Jesus and prayer. He is also saved because of the faith of the father. The father's statement to Jesus is a prayer I think all of us can pray. "I believe, help my unbelief!" It is quite normal to have doubts. We aren't thinking hard enough about our faith if we don't have doubts from time to time. But this prayer can be central to our relationship with God. Just like in the psalms where the writer airs his grievances to God, but then comes back to praise for God, we can do the same. We should pray to God and consider the hard questions that we do not understand, but we always come back to belief. "I believe, help my unbelief!"

### **Saturday, Mar. 2 - Zephaniah**

As we turn our attention to the reading for Sunday Night, we read Zephaniah this week. The order of the prophet's work is something of great importance. There is pronouncement of destruction on Judah and the surrounding nations, but then at the end in 3:9-20, there is a message of salvation for the people. This is similar to our lives as well. The message of salvation is the end for us. It is the punctuation on your life. Whatever else happens, God's gift of salvation is the defining characteristic of your life.

### **Sunday, Mar. 3 - Psalm 103**

We've seen Jesus heal people this week who were deaf, blind, and mute. God is truly the one who heals all our diseases (Ps. 103:3)!

### **Week 4:**

### **Monday, Mar. 4 - Matthew 14:10-23 - The Feeding of the 5000**

A few weeks ago on a Sunday morning, we discussed Matthew 14:10-13 and 14:23. When the crowds gathered, Jesus was trying to be alone. He had just learned of John the Baptist's murder, and needed a moment to grieve. However, when we saw the needs of the crowd, he postponed his own needs for the needs of others. Then,

when the crowds had their fill (spiritually and physically), he went ahead with his original plan of retreat and solitude.

There are times when the needs of others will be greater than your own needs. As one who is filled with compassion, we may need to postpone our necessities for a time. However, there comes a time when all of us (including Jesus) needs self-care. Where is God leading you to be? Are you in a moment of meeting the needs of others, while sacrificing yourself? Or are you in a moment of solitude with God? Make sure both of these times are part of your regular relationship with God.

### **Tuesday, Mar. 5 - John 6:1-15 - The boy giving his food**

The Feeding of the 5000 is the only miracle found in all four gospels. However, it is only in John where we read of the boy who gave his food in order for the crowd to eat. This child is the only one willing to help. I say it this way because, it's hard to imagine that there are 5000 men (plus women and children) there, and no one else has food. This statement does not make this sign in John any more miraculous. Jesus took the gift of the boy and multiplied it to meet the needs of the crowd.

When we offer what we can to God, God can then take that gift and make it much more powerful. When we serve God by serving others, God uses that gift for his glory and the work because much more powerful than anything only you or I can do. What an amazing opportunity we have to be part of the work of God! I pray you are using that opportunity by sharing what you can do with others, just like the boy did with Jesus.

### **Wednesday, Mar. 6 - Revelation 8-9 - Last Words on Prayer**

Last week, we saw evil in Revelation 6-7 mounting up its forces and preparing for war. These two chapters today in Revelation show us how heaven prepares and engages for war. The preparation is silence in heaven and prayer from Christ-followers (8:1-5). What an important example for us in life. How should we prepare for our lives in a broken, fallen world? Silence and prayer before God. See you tonight!

### **Thursday, Mar. 7 - Matthew 15:32-38 - Feeding of 4000 now!**

The Feeding of the 5000+ was not just some one time episode. I think the power of God is shown when he acts over and over again. There is a worship song called "Do It Again" and it follows this idea. We have seen the power of God and we believe that he can/will do it again. This passage today shows us Jesus doing it again. What miracle of God are you praying for where you want to see God "do it again?"



### **Friday, Mar. 8 - Luke 7:11-17 - Have Compassion**

In the feedings we have read this week, Jesus' compassion has led him to take care of the people. In the reading today, this compassion leads Jesus to raise a woman's son from the dead. The woman had already lost her husband and now her only son was dead. She was without support with no men in her life anymore (sorry ladies, that's just how the 1st century worked). Jesus sees the need of the woman and meets the need by raising her son.

Notice also how Jesus raises the man. He touches the coffin, making himself unclean according to Jewish law. Many times in the Gospels, Jesus treats the unclean, unwanted, and undesirables as equal and treats them as regular members of society. Who would you consider these types of people in our world today? How can we be Christ to them right now?

### **Saturday, Mar. 9 - Habakkuk**

"It's just not fair! It's not right!" We utter this phrase consistently when we look at the world and see the morally corrupt prosper and the morally upright struggle. Habakkuk brings these concerns and frustrations to God. How does God respond? How does Habakkuk respond to God? Read through these three chapter book and let's talk about these concerns Sunday Night.

### **Sunday, Mar. 10 - Psalm 23**

Read Psalm 23 and try to see if you find any similarities to the Feeding of the 5000. See you at church!

### **Week 5:**

### **Monday, Mar. 11 - Matthew 8:5-13 - Centurion Servant is healed**

This week, we look at two stories recognizing Jesus came for all people. The miracle we will look at on Sunday is our passage today. A Roman officer's servant is healed because of the officer's faith. Jesus even states that he hasn't seen such faith in all of Israel. Jesus then explains that this man will be in heaven one day while some Jews will not be there. It is apparent throughout the New Testament that Christ came for all people, and the family you are born into will not matter for your salvation. Are you relying on birthright or Christ's sacrifice for your salvation.

## **Tuesday, Mar. 12 - Acts 10:9-16 - Peter's vision**

Even after Jesus showed the disciples who he came to serve and how to do it, Peter still needed some convincing who was able to follow Christ. Peter's vision comes to him to show him that you do not have to be Jewish in order to be a Christian. God gives everyone the same opportunity for salvation and forgiveness. Who do you need to share the gospel with today?

## **Wednesday, Mar. 13 - Revelation 10-11 - Last Words on Witness**

Look closely at Revelation 10:9-10. Let this be a warning to all of us. Being a witness for the cause of Christ can cause consternation sometimes. We see these witnesses being martyred. We see the prophets of the Old Testament being ridiculed. Those who are outside of the will of God do not like to hear the fact that they are outside the will of God. Despite the consequences, we stand strong to proclaim the love and sacrifice of Christ to the world.

## **Thursday, Mar. 14 - Acts 10:22-24, 34-43 - Peter proclaims Christ to Cornelius and the other Gentiles there.**

After Peter received the vision earlier in Acts 10, he is able to put the message of God into action. Peter travels to Cornelius' house to speak with him about Jesus. Read Acts 10:34-43 several times today. What a great summary of what God was done for us. Share that message with someone today.

## **Friday, Mar. 15 - Acts 10:44-48 - The Holy Spirit comes upon the house**

The Holy Spirit came for the Jews at Pentecost in Acts 2. The Holy Spirit came to the Samaritans in Acts 8. Now, the Holy Spirit comes for the Gentiles in Acts 10. Was the Holy Spirit actually withheld from the Gentiles until this moment? Of course not. However, it is the first moment we see in Acts of Gentiles becoming Christians. Acts 1:8 is being fulfilled. Jesus is going "to the ends of the earth." Who would be your "ends of the earth?" Who are people so unlike you that you'd be uncomfortable sharing the gospel with them? I pray that you can receive the opportunity to share Christ's love with those people and that you can tell them about Jesus' salvation.

## **Saturday, Mar. 16 - Jeremiah 7:1-15**

## **Sunday, Mar. 17 - Psalm 48:9-14**