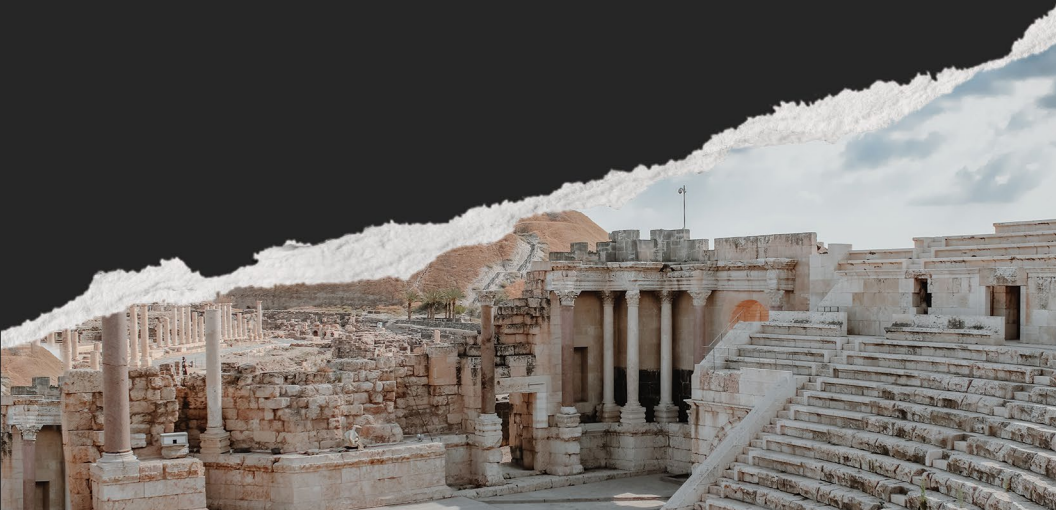




THE GOD OF MIRACLES

A 30 DAY DEVOTIONAL

BY PASTOR DALE O'SHIELDS



MIRACLES THAT TRANSFORM US

DAY 1

Bethlehem

Luke 2:4-5 (NIV) *So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.*

God uses divine appointments to work miraculously in our lives, just as He did with Mary and Joseph, bringing them to Bethlehem at just the right time for Jesus to be born.

How does it encourage your faith in God to know that He works miraculously through divine appointments in your life?

DAY 2

Bethlehem

Luke 2:9-10 (NIV) *An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people."*

God turns our fears into joy through the miraculous good news of Jesus.

How can the gospel message of God's forgiveness and grace in Christ help turn your fear to joy today?

DAY 3

Sea of Galilee

Mark 4:38 (NIV) *Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"*

Sometimes we think Jesus doesn't care when He doesn't seem to respond, but He always cares and will respond to our cry.

| In what ways has Jesus demonstrated His care for you in a difficult season?

DAY 4

Sea of Galilee

Mark 4:39 (NIV) *He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.*

Jesus has all authority and the power to calm every storm.

| How does Jesus' ability to calm the wind and waves strengthen your faith in what He can do in your life?

DAY 5

Garden of Gethsemane

Matthew 26:39 (NIV) *Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”*

Full submission to God’s will paves the way for His miraculous work in our lives.

What’s the most challenging part of fully submitting your will to God’s will, and how can you overcome this challenge?

DAY 6

Garden of Gethsemane

Matthew 26:41 (NIV) *Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.*

It’s important to be spiritually awake, watchful and prayerful in order to win your battles against temptation and experience the best God has for you.

How can you stay strong in prayer in times of temptation?

**GOD IS BIGGER
THAN OUR
PROBLEMS**

DAY 7

Mount Carmel

1 Kings 18:21 (NIV) Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him."

Making the big decision to follow the Lord and only serve Him is a key to experiencing His miraculous power.

In what ways can you make sure there's nothing in your life that might distract you from a wholehearted commitment to the Lord?

DAY 8

Mount Carmel

1 Kings 18:37-38 (NIV) Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again. Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

The Lord answers our prayers in miraculous ways to show that He alone is God.

How should this impact the way you pray in the face of difficult circumstances in your life?

DAY 9

Capernaum

Mark 1:25-27 (NIV) *“Be quiet!” said Jesus sternly. “Come out of him!” The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.”*

Jesus has authority to drive out whatever is impure in your life.

How can you welcome Jesus’ power to keep you pure into your daily walk with Him?

DAY 10

Capernaum

Mark 2:4-5 (NIV) *Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”*

God uses the faith of believers around us to do miracles in our lives.

In what ways can God use other believers to be part of His work in your life?

DAY 11

Pool of Bethesda

John 5:6 (NIV) *When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”*

God’s miraculous provision is often linked to our faith-filled desire to receive it.

What’s one miraculous work you deeply desire God to do that you can take to Him in prayer today?

DAY 12

Pool of Bethesda

John 5:8-9 (NIV) *Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked... .*

Our obedience to God’s Word is a key to walking in His miraculous power.

What are some ways you struggle to obey God’s Word that you can ask Him to help you overcome?

PUT GOD FIRST

DAY 13

Tel Dan

1 Kings 12:26-27 (NIV) Jeroboam thought to himself, "The kingdom will now likely revert to the house of David. If these people go up to offer sacrifices at the temple of the Lord in Jerusalem, they will again give their allegiance to their lord, Rehoboam king of Judah. They will kill me and return to King Rehoboam."

Selfish ambition can lead us to make sinful decisions that dishonor God.

What selfish tendencies do you need to confront so they don't lead you into ungodly decisions?

DAY 14

Tel Dan

1 Kings 12:28-30 (NIV) After seeking advice, the king made two golden calves. He said to the people, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt." One he set up in Bethel, and the other in Dan. And this thing became a sin; the people came to worship the one at Bethel and went as far as Dan to worship the other.

Anything we allow to draw us away from our worship of the Lord is sinful and destructive.

What are some "idols" you may need to remove or avoid to make sure they don't draw you away from the Lord?

DAY 15

Beatitudes

Matthew 5:43-44 (NLT) *You have heard the law that says, “Love your neighbor” and hate your enemy. But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!*

As followers of Jesus, we must love others—without exception—in our attitudes and actions toward them.

How does Jesus’ command to “love your enemies” challenge your natural response to those you find hard to love?

DAY 16

Beatitudes

Matthew 7:1, 3 (NIV) *Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ... Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?*

Judgmentalism and prejudice toward others are sinful expressions of our pride.

What are some practical ways you can recognize and reject judgmental thoughts and attitudes toward others?

DAY 17

Upper Room

Acts 2:1, 4 (NIV) *When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ... All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit... .*

A spirit of unity with other believers and hunger for God prepares us to receive what He wants to pour out on His people.

How can you contribute to a spirit of unity and hunger for God in your church?

DAY 18

Upper Room

Acts 2:32-33 (NIV) *God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.*

God's pours out His Spirit on us so that we can be effective witnesses of the good news about Jesus.

In what ways can you share your faith in Christ, with the help of the Holy Spirit, right where God has you in this season?

**OUR PART IN
THE MIRACLE**

DAY 19

Fish and Loaves

Matthew 14:14 (NIV) *When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.*

Jesus' miracles are an expression of His compassion for people.

How does Jesus' compassion for hurting people motivate you to reach out to those you know who are hurting?

DAY 20

Fish and Loaves

Matthew 14:16-17 (NIV) *Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat." "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.*

Jesus calls us to give what we have to Him—no matter how small it may seem to be—so He can multiply it and use it for His purposes.

What do you need to give to the Lord so He can use it to bless others?

DAY 21

Fish and Loaves

Matthew 14:19b-20 (NIV) *Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.*

Jesus' miracles prove that He is able to provide abundantly for all our needs.

What needs do you have in your life that you can ask God in faith to miraculously supply?

DAY 22

Caesarea

Acts 10:1-2 (NIV) *At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly.*

God is working to draw people from every nation to Himself so they have an opportunity to respond to the good news about Jesus.

Who are some people you can pray for so that they are open to receiving Christ in their lives?

DAY 23

Caesarea

Acts 10:28 (NIV) *He said to them: “You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with or visit a Gentile. But God has shown me that I should not call anyone impure or unclean.”*

God calls us to respect, love and reach out to people who may be different from us because of great His love for them.

What is God teaching you about respecting and loving people who are very different than you?

DAY 24

Caesarea

Acts 10:44-45 (CEV) *While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit took control of everyone who was listening. Some Jewish followers of the Lord had come with Peter, and they were surprised that the Holy Spirit had been given to Gentiles.*

God works miraculously by His Spirit when and where the good news about Jesus is declared.

How can you be more involved in getting the gospel message out so more people can come to faith in Christ?

**GOD HAS A
PURPOSE
FOR YOU**

DAY 25

Caesarea Philippi

Matthew 16:16-17 (NIV) *Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven."*

The revelation that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, is a miracle we receive from our heavenly Father.

How has this revelation of Jesus as the Messiah and the Son of God changed your life?

DAY 26

Caesarea Philippi

Matthew 16:18 (NIV) *And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.*

Jesus is building His victorious church on the revelation of who He is.

In what practical ways can you be a vital part of helping your local church grow?

DAY 27

Caesarea Philippi

Matthew 16:19 (ERV) *I will give you the keys to God's kingdom. When you speak judgment here on earth, that judgment will be God's judgment. When you promise forgiveness here on earth, that forgiveness will be God's forgiveness.*

We have authority from God to declare His forgiveness to those who put their faith in His Son.

How does God's forgiveness in Christ release us from bondage to live in freedom?

DAY 28

Sea of Galilee

John 21:15 (NIV) *When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."*

When we fail, Jesus never gives up on us and always reaches out with His love to restore us.

How does the truth that Jesus will never give up on you encourage and strengthen you to live for Him?

DAY 29

Gideon Springs

Judges 6:34 (NIV) *Then the Spirit of the Lord came on Gideon, and he blew a trumpet, summoning the Abiezrites to follow him.*

Even when we feel inadequate, God gives us supernatural power and courage to overcome the adversaries that threaten us.

| In what areas of your life do you feel inadequate and need to ask for God's power and courage?

DAY 30

Gideon Springs

Judges 7:2 (NIV) *The Lord said to Gideon, "You have too many men. I cannot deliver Midian into their hands, or Israel would boast against me, 'My own strength has saved me.'"*

The Lord wants us to depend on His strength to defeat our enemies so that He gets the glory for the victory.

| How can you learn to depend more on God's strength than your own in your spiritual battles?



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