

Even Stranger Things Part One

Having A Different Faith

Introduction

Read: Luke 5:18-26 (NKJV)

1. Strange things happen around us more often than we think!
Discuss: What is the strangest thing that has ever happened to you?
2. In the story we just read, the people were amazed by the “strange thing”, or miracle, that Jesus had performed!
3. Jesus is a man, but He is also God. He can do incredible things that no one else can!
4. He wants to do unbelievable things through us to help those around us, but He can only do that when we have faith in Him.
5. Just like the four men who did something out of the ordinary for their friend’s miracle, we need a unique faith in order to see Jesus do unique things in and through our lives!
6. In today’s lesson, we will talk about how to have a different kind of faith - the kind that will see miracles happen!

I. Different Faith Sees Opportunity In Obstacles

- A. The four men were not daunted by obstacles hindering them from bringing their friend to Jesus. Instead, they saw the roof as something they could overcome (v19).
- B. Identify something we want to see Jesus do a miracle in.
E.g. a sickness we want to see healed, a relationship problem that needs to be resolved, a tough school subject we can’t figure out, a friend we want to bring to know Jesus, etc.
- C. Share, or write down, obstacles that stop us from bringing the problem to Jesus.
E.g. doubt that Jesus is real, fear that He won’t answer, etc.
- D. Think of one thing we can start doing to tear down that obstacle stopping us from believing in Jesus!

II. Different Faith Is Focused On Jesus

- A. The four men were not satisfied just being near Jesus, they were focused on getting their friend to Jesus (v19).
- B. Ask God specifically for miracles in Jesus’ name!

“I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father.

- John 14:12-13

- C. Don't rely on others' faith for a miracle, but have a personal expectation for a miracle from Jesus.
- D. Declare what you are expecting Jesus to do, even when it doesn't look like the situation is changing yet.

III. Different Faith Expects New Things

- A. The four men didn't expect their friend to meet Jesus and remain the same. They expected something new to happen, and their friend was healed (v25)!
- B. Think about the things we've already tried doing before regarding the problems we are facing.
- C. Ask God to show us what is something new we can start doing, in order to see Him do new things.

For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland.
- Isaiah 43:19

- D. Share with each other what is something new we can start doing this week, and what we are expecting God to do!
- E. Commit to pray for each other, and set a time next week to check in and share what new things Jesus has done!

Conclusion

1. Jesus is able to do impossible things for those who have a different kind of faith.
2. Our faith needs to see opportunities, be focused on Jesus and expecting new things!
3. As we start living by this different faith, we can expect even stranger things to take place - things that can help the lives of the people around us.

Prayer Points:

- Declare in Jesus' name the new things we are believing Him for.
- Ask God for faith that will expect new things from Him!
- Commit the new things we are going to do this week to Him.

**Give opportunities for visitors to receive Christ and members to re-dedicate their lives to Jesus.*