

Week Four reading: Matthew 12 – 14 | Mark 4 – 6 | Luke 8 – 9 | John 6

FOLLOWING JESUS SO FAR

Since we started this study 4 weeks ago, we have followed Jesus from the prophecies in the Old Testament, through His arrival as an infant in a politically hostile time, and His impact on the different groups with which He interacted.

In each week's lesson, our goal is to learn Jesus. Knowing Jesus is critical to our Christian walk. All of our faith should revolve around the person and work of Jesus Christ. It is through knowing Jesus that we have a foundation to our faith, we have a defense for our faith and we know our purpose because of our faith.

What have you learned so far (in the lessons or in our Bible reading) that has drawn you closer in your faith in Jesus?

JESUS' MIRACLES

MIRACLE	GOSPEL REFERENCE(S)	WHAT DOES THIS REVEAL ABOUT THE PERSON AND/OR AUTHORITY OF JESUS	PRIMARY RECIPIENT OR WITNESS OF THE MIRACLE
<i>Water into wine</i>	<i>John 2:1-12</i>	<i>Power over the natural</i>	<i>The wedding party</i>
<i>Official's son healed</i>	<i>John 4:46-54</i>	<i>Power over sickness</i>	<i>A royal official and his household</i>
<i>Healing of the demoniac</i>	<i>Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:38-39</i>	<i>Power over spiritual forces</i>	<i>The demon-possessed man and the people in the synagogue</i>
<i>Peter's mother-in-law</i>	<i>Matthew 8:14-17; Mark 1:29-31; Luke 4:38-39</i>	<i>Power over sickness</i>	<i>Peter's mother-in-law and her household; the disciples</i>
<i>Healing of many sick demon-possessed</i>	<i>Mark 1:32-34; Luke 4:40-41</i>	<i>Power over sickness and spiritual forces</i>	<i>The crowds</i>
Healing of the woman with the blood disease	Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:24-34; Luke 8:42-48	Power over uncleanness	The woman
Jairus' daughter	Matthew 9:23-26; Mark 5:37-43; Luke 8:51-56	Power over death	Jairus' household
Two blind men	Matthew 9:27-31	Power over sickness	The once blind men
Feeding of 5,000+	Matthew 14:15-21; Mark 6:35-44; Luke 9:12-17; John 6:3-14	Power over nature	The disciples and a crowd of 5,000+
Jesus walks on the water; calms the storm	Matthew 14:24-33; Mark 6:48-52	Power over nature	The disciples

We study Him to know Him, and by knowing Him, learn how to better live for Him.

What we can learn from Jesus' miracles

Some of the miracles of Christ teach us that He has great power to **HELP**

We find some that were performed in order to teach us His power to **COMFORT**

We see Jesus performing miracles to teach us what power He has to **ENCOURAGE** His people

We see some that were intended to teach us His power to **PROTECT** His people

We see that Jesus performed some of His miracles for the purpose of teaching us that He has power to **PARDON**

MIRACLE	JESUS' DEMONSTRATED POWER TO DO WHAT? (help/comfort/encourage/protect/pardon)	WHAT CAN WE LEARN ABOUT JESUS?
Water into wine - <i>John 2:1-12</i>	To help His mother, the wedding party	
Official's son healed - <i>John 4:46-54</i>	Comfort for the royal official	
Healing of the demoniac - <i>Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:38-39</i>	Help; protect	
Peter's mother-in-law - <i>Matthew 8:14-17; Mark 1:29-31; Luke 4:38-39</i>	Comfort	
Healing of many sick demon-possessed - <i>Mark 1:32-34; Luke 4:40-41</i>	Help; comfort	
Healing of the woman with the blood disease - <i>Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:24-34; Luke 8:42-48</i>	Help; comfort; pardon	
Jairus' daughter - <i>Matthew 9:23-26; Mark 5:37-43; Luke 8:51-56</i>	Help; comfort	
Two blind men - <i>Matthew 9:27-31</i>	Comfort; pardon	
Feeding of 5,000+ - <i>Matthew 14:15-21; Mark 6:35-44; Luke 9:12-17; John 6:3-14</i>	Comfort; encourage	
Jesus walks on the water; calms the storm - <i>Matthew 14:24-33; Mark 6:48-52</i>	Encourage; protect	

APPLICATION FROM WEEK FOUR

John 6:26-30 is an example of how the witness of His miracles did not always result in faith. Verse 66 mentions how several disciples turned from following Jesus because His teachings did not match their expectations. Can you recall a time in your life when His plan for your life did not match your expectations? _____

What kept you from turning away from His teachings? _____

Can you say with the faith of Peter, “Lord, who will we go to? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that You are the Holy One of God!” John 6:68-69

Jesus desires to help, comfort, encourage, protect and pardon each of us. What signs/miracles/wonders has Jesus displayed in your life that has helped, comforted, encouraged, protected and/or pardoned you? _____

What signs/miracles/wonders has Jesus displayed in your life that has taught you something about Him? _____

Give thanks to God this week for the ways He has strengthened your faith through His teachings. Spend time searching events in your life for the signs of how He has helped, comforted, encouraged, protected and/or pardoned you. Pray for a growing faith because you have seen the evidence of His activity in your life.

Memory/meditation verse: And they told the woman, “We no longer believe because of what you said, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this really is the Savior of the world.” John 4:42

Week Five reading: Matthew 15 – 18 | Mark 7 – 9 | Luke 9 | John 7