



# Reasons

## SESSION 4 - HOW CAN A RATIONAL PERSON BELIEVE MIRACLES ARE TRUE?

### SERIES BIG IDEA

Even when facing big questions that don't have easy answers, we can find solid reasons to move forward in faith, believing that the message of Christianity is true.

### MESSAGE BIG IDEA

A Christ-follower does not need to abandon rational thought to believe in the miracles described in the Bible or that miracles still happen today.

### SCRIPTURE

Luke 5:17-26 and Matthew 10:5-8

### ICEBREAKER

This is designed to help your group ease into the discussion and have fun with each other.

### OPENING THOUGHT

Miracles remain some of the hardest to understand and explain phenomena in the Christian faith. Your group members could be ardent believers in miracles or strong skeptics, or somewhere in between. The point of this discussion is to generate good conversations around a topic that can be uncomfortable for people. Try to emphasize that it's okay to disagree and to have differing points of view.

### BIBLE DISCUSSION

Take your time through the scriptures and allow people to talk about what they notice or what strikes them. This gives us a couple of examples of how miracles have worked in the Bible, ways that Jesus worked in supernatural ways to emphasize the coming of the Kingdom of God and the forgiveness of sins.

### LIFE APPLICATION

This could be a time for people to share what their view on miracles has been and how they were challenged by the message. It might be that your group is in agreement or that you have significant disparities, that's fine. It's important that your group is willing to listen to each other and help tease out the implications of their beliefs.

Regarding question 6: "The belief that miracles cannot happen is not a scientific statement; it's a philosophical statement"? This question deals with categories of scientific and philosophical knowledge. It's saying that believing miracles could never happen is a function of a philosophical (or some would say religious) belief system than a provable scientific fact. Allow your group to puzzle over it and give clarity if necessary, but help them see that the presence or absence of miracles isn't about the science, but the worldview.

For questions 7 & 8, make sure the group doesn't dissolve into telling stories about other people's miracles, try to focus it on personal stories and keep it constructive. It might be that no one has experienced something they'd consider a miracle, and that's okay. Keep that emphasis throughout.

Finally, end with prayer and a challenge to pray for God to make God's self to you and your group.

Here is a sample prayer if someone in your group is struggling with this:

*God, there is so much about this life and this world that is unexplainable. Thank you for the promise of your presence and your love in my life. I ask that you make yourself real to me. Help me to see the ways you interact with my daily world. Give me eyes to see your work. Thank you for your love. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.*