



Week Seven: Believing For a Miracle - Study Guide

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There are many different ways we can choose to live life. One way is to think that life is all about us, and to be blind to the needs of others. But there's a better and more powerful way to live, a way that sees the needs of others as opportunities to show them the same love and compassion Jesus shows us. In this study we'll discover how our faith changes the way we see people, and how God calls us to step in and be the miracle in someone's life.

Where Am I Today

- 1) There have been times when we've needed the help of others. Take a moment and think of a time when you needed someone's help. How did you respond, and what difference did it make in your life?

Into the Bible

- 2) Jesus gives us a good picture of compassion in **Luke 9:10-17**. Take a look at these verses and then answer the following questions: What is Jesus teaching the disciples about having compassion for the people around them? What do you think your reaction would have been to this miracle if you were one of the disciples?



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- 3) God calls us to put our faith into action. He hasn't called us to sit on the sidelines without a purpose. Check out **James 2:14-26**. What does James say is dead faith? What's the opposite of dead faith?

How Does This Apply?

- 4) Sometimes we think that we can't meet people's needs because our resources are limited. We come up with all sorts of reasons why we can't do something. However, when we step out in faith, God stretches what we have in ways that go beyond our imagination. Think about your own life. In what way(s) has God asked you to use your resources to bless others? How has He used your resources beyond what you thought was possible?
- 5) Instead of being bystanders, there are situations when God calls us to be the miracle in someone's life. When our heart is compassionate toward others, it gives us a great opportunity to be the hands and feet Jesus has called us to be. What would it look like for you to be the miracle in someone's life? In what way(s) would it grow your faith?
- 6) Our faith changes how we see people. It causes us to be aware of people's needs instead of ignoring them. Living faith meets needs and shows others that the Holy Spirit is alive in our lives. How aware are you of the needs of the people around you? What's one thing you can do this next week to meet someone's need and show God's love to them?

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Continue Learning on Your Own

- 7) When it comes to works and faith, there seems to be a contradiction between what the Apostle Paul says and what we just read in James. Take a look at **Romans 3:21-28** and **James 2:24**. How do these verses seem to contradict each other? Why do they end up not being a contradiction?