

## The Miracle of faith

Matthew 9:22 – Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart daughter, your faith has made you well.”

### Introduction

There are many miracle stories in the Bible. To the believer, they testify to the power and authority of Jesus. To the non-believer, they are perhaps empty fables. But I think that somewhere inside all of us we want to believe in miracles, we want to experience the miraculous.

Scholars sometimes have argued over whether the miracles of Jesus are factual or not. But the real important issue is what happened in these stories, and what lesson Jesus was trying to convey.

When we read the miracle stories in the gospel (e.g., Matthew 8:5-13 and Matthew 9), we find that one simple point comes up over and over again. The basis for the miracles was not only the power and authority of Jesus, but was especially dependent on the faith of the individual. In other words, the person had a portion of responsibility. Jesus often said, “Your faith has healed you.”

### Main Point

- 1) Miracles are the powerful experience of God’s concrete actions in our lives.
- 2) The basis for God’s action in our lives is faith.
- 3) The mediator of the relationship with God is the Messiah. Thus faith in the Messiah is the concrete expression of faith in God.

What Jesus was really trying to demonstrate through his miracles is the miraculous power of faith. God already had all the power of the universe; what He doesn’t have is our faith and commitment. When we believe in the Messiah as God’s representative, trust him, love him, then we have established the base for God to work in our lives.

Jesus said that with faith like that of a mustard seed we could move mountains. The power of God becomes most clearly manifest in the world when we have faith.

In addition, miracles are not necessarily supernatural occurrences. Rather, the simplest of events can contain the element of the miraculous, when we can experience the hand of God working in our lives.

### Conclusion

Miracles are not events that happen to us or around us. Miracles are events that we participate with God in creating. When we fulfill our portion of responsibility by having faith, God can work in the most substantial way in our lives.