

Sermon Notes

Miracle Message - Luke 2:17

December 7, 2025

I. Introduction

Our miracle moment happened over Thanksgiving. The furnace went out in bitterly cold weather... but 35 years ago my husband installed block heaters inside our kitchen. We have basically never used or needed them... until the exact moment God knew we would need them. More than enough heat was provided and we actually had to take off sweatshirts because it was so warm. **AL Member**

- a. does anyone know sign language... beautiful, isn't it... releases an emotion that just can't always be expressed with words... if someone you loved was deaf... you'd do everything possible to communicate with them... share message they are loved...
- b. busyness drowns out God's voice... wants us to listen... but never shouts...
Exo 19:5... "if you'll carefully listen... you'll be My special treasure above all people..."
Deut 5:27... "go yourself... listen to everything our God says... then tell us..."
1Kings 19:11-13... "after wind, earthquake, fire... there was a voice, a gentle whisper..."
2Kings 17:14... "they would not listen... instead became stubborn, refused to believe..."
- c. hard to trust someone if we don't know them... tough to know God without knowing His word... can't receive promises without believing... can't believe without hearing... often miss miracle moments because we're too busy to hear the miracle message... pray...
Rom 10:14-17... "how can they believe without hearing... comes thru message about Christ..."
Gal 3:5... "God works miracles... because you believe message heard about Christ..."
1Thess 2:13... "received Word... welcomed it... works effectively in you who believe..."

18 days till Christmas. 432 hours. 25,920 minutes. 1,555,200 seconds.

II. Miracle Message

- a. many struggle with knowing and believing who God really is... not for a lack of His voice... mostly a lack of us listening... tells us exactly who He is in a variety of ways...
Exo 3... "fire of flame within a bush... God called to Moses from the bush... I AM..."
Num 22:22-41... "Lord opened donkey's mouth... *what have I done that you beat me*..."
Job 12:7-10... "ask animals, birds, earth, fish... they'll instruct you... they'll tell you..."
Psa 8:1-4... "when I observe Your heavens... work of Your fingers... moon and stars..."
Eze 12:2... "they have eyes to see, but do not see... ears to hear, but do not hear..."
Amos 8... "basket of ripe fruit... the Lord said, *the end has come for My people*..."
Rom 1:18-32... "what can be known about God is evident... clearly seen, no excuse..."
Rev 2:7-17 (x8)... "let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says..."
- b. God had a miracle message for the world... but people weren't getting it... so He did the unthinkable... humbled Himself and came as a baby to reveal His love for us...
Isa 53:5... "He Himself bore our sicknesses... He carried our pains... He was stricken..."
Luke 24:36... "He Himself stood in their midst... *peace be with you*..."
John 3:16... "God so loved the world that He sent His only Son..."
Acts 17:25... "He Himself gives everyone life and breath and all things..."
Heb 2:18... "since He Himself suffered... He is able to help those who are tempted..."
1Pet 2:24... "He Himself bore our sins... so we, having died, might live for righteousness..."
1John 2... "He Himself is the sacrifice for our sins... He Himself gave us eternal life..."

- c. since time began... people have wondered who God is... that answer was impossible to know until Jesus came to earth... only He can reveal the Father in all His goodness and love...
Matt 11:27... "no one knows the Father... except those the Son reveals Him to..."
John 5:19-26... "whatever the Father does... the Son does also..."
John 10:22-30... "tell us plainly... I did, you don't believe me, I and the Father are one..."
Heb 1:1-3... "long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors... now, He has spoken to us thru His Son... the Son reflects God's goodness... exact expression of His nature..."
- d. sometimes when we don't understand something... a sign or picture is necessary...
Deut 11:18... "imprint these words on your heart as a sign... teach them to your kids..."
Isa 7:14... "the Lord Himself will give you a sign... the virgin will give birth to a Son..."
Isa 19:20... "altar will be a sign to the Lord... He will send a savior... He will rescue..."
Luke 2:12... "this will be the sign... find baby wrapped tightly in cloth lying in manger..."
Rom 5:6-7... "when we were helpless... Christ came at just the right time..."
Rom 15:4... "whatever was written before was to teach us... to give hope and encouragement..."
1Cor 10:11... "these things happened as examples... for our instruction..."
Col 2:17... "these are a shadow of what was to come... the substance is Christ..."
- e. miracle moments are tied to seasons... miracle messages can be tied to multiple things...
Dreams - get too busy, so God has to wait until we're quiet enough to listen...
Job 33:14-17... "God speaks time and again... may not notice... in a dream He uncovers their ears..."
Job 16:7-9... "bless the Lord who guides me... even at night when my thoughts trouble me..."
Visions - awake, not asleep... confirmation of what God is doing...
Acts 9:10-12... "the Lord spoke to Ananias in a vision... in a vision Paul has seen a man..."
Angels - don't dismiss, still real, be careful... easy to get off track... always will glorify Jesus...
2Cor 11:13-15... "false apostles, deceitful workers... satan disguises himself as an angel of light..."
Col 2:18... "don't let anyone insist on the worship of angels... saying they have had a vision..."
Heb 13:2... "some have welcomed angels as guests without knowing it..."
Nature - God can speak thru storms, rainbows, flowers, animals, creation...
Job 12:7-10... "ask the animals... the birds... the earth... the fish... they will tell you..."
Psa 19:1... "the heavens declare the goodness of God... proclaim the work of His hands..."
Rhema - audible voice of God... always build up and encourage... never contradict scripture...
Matt 4:4... "man does not live on bread alone... but every word that comes from mouth of God..."
Luke 2:17... "they reported the message they were told about this Child..."
- f. listen, don't just hear... must listen to understand... requires time and attention...
Deut 31:12-23... "gather the people so they may listen and learn... follow My words..."
Josh 3:9... "come closer and listen to the words of the Lord..."
Prov 4... "listen... pay attention to my words... protect them... so you may gain understanding..."
Isa 55:2-3... "listen carefully... pay attention... let your soul delight in abundance..."
Matt 13:9-13... "let anyone who has ears listen... hearing they do not listen and understand..."
John 8:43... "why don't you understand... because you do not listen to My word..."
- g. how do we best listen and understand the miracle message God has for us...
Time - no shortcuts... impossible to get to know someone without spending time with them...
Josh 1:7-9... "study Word continually... meditate on it (Him) day and night..."
Matt 6:25-34... "seek first His righteousness... all these other things will be added..."
Quiet - can't really listen to anyone or anything when it's noisy or busy...
Lam 3:25-28... "good to wait quietly for salvation... to sit alone in silence..."
Mark 1:35-36... "rising early... Jesus departed and went to an isolated place to pray..."
Trust - increases when you know someone's character... trust in God's character... not yours...
Num 14:11... "how long will they not trust Me despite all the signs I have performed among them..."
Psa 9:10... "those who know your Name trust in You... You do not abandon those who seek You..."
Journal - important to write down what God is telling you... too easy to forget...
Jer 30:2... "this is what the Lord says... write down all the words I have spoken..."
Hab 2:1-3... "wait to see what He says... write down plainly... share with others..."
- h. takes time and practice to master... never understand miracle message that God is good and loves you completely... if busyness continues to steal your miracle moments... start today... pray...
Phil 4:4-9... "keep putting into practice all you have learned, received, heard, seen from me..."