



Empowering People to Change the World

The Mary Miracle Part II

Steve Holt

Christmas 2017: “The Mary Miracle” part 2

Introduction:

- Turn to Luke 1
 - Last week we looked at one of the greatest stories ever told... the story of God coming and choosing a young virgin girl for his miraculous purposes.
 - God loves to take ordinary people,
 - From ordinary places.
 - With ordinary gifts.
- ♣ And birth the miraculous!

What God did in Mary in the physiological/biological, God wants to do within us in the spiritual.

- God really does want to open your heart up to new possibilities.
- God really does want to make each of us into “miracle workers.”
- God really does speak today and we can really hear His voice.
- The “Mary Miracle” is for all of us in this room.
- As I said last week, Mary represents all of us:
 - In the same way that God spoke to Mary and planted His seed in her womb, God wants to conceive His vision, His plan in our spiritual womb.
 - God wants to plant His embryonic plan for how you can change your world.
 - God wants to plant a fresh vision for breakthrough.

- God wants you pregnant with a vision for change.
 - If you become pregnant with God's vision, there will be changes, you will be stretched, you will have new appetites in your life.
 - For example, a pregnant woman goes through changes: morning sickness, Braxton hicks contractions and false labor. You get uncomfortable, but you are also getting excited. Women start craving the most unlikely, unhealthy foods!
- But you must believe.
 - You can't believe who you do not know! Knowing is the issue. We must know the Fountainhead of the Miraculous, Jesus Christ. We must know him intimately and deeply. You can recognize the voice of someone you know!
 - Hearing God's voice and walking in the miraculous begins with knowing the Fountainhead of the Joy, the Fountainhead of the Miraculous, Jesus Christ.

Faith Precursor to the Mary Miracle is found in Luke 1:28 (last week)

- **Rejoice because you are God the Father's favorite.**
- **Rejoice because the Lord is with you by the Holy Spirit.**
- **Rejoice because you are blessed for something to do.**

Today I want to look at **5 Lessons for Experiencing the Miraculous in your life.**

5 Lessons that WORK. This is very practical. I have field tested all of these lessons.

Luke 1:34

Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?”

- **Miracles are not Rational.**
- Mary sees the irrational nature of the promise. I have not been with a man!
- God’s miraculous signs and wonders are not rational, they often do not make sense logically.
- This is difficult for the Western mindset. This is probably why we see few miracles in comparison to many 3rd world nations.
- For example, many of us look at our schedule and we are all so busy. God begins to speak to us of something He wants to change in our lives and we cannot see how we could do that, where would we find the time. God does not work in our schedule.

Luke 1:35

And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

- **The Holy Spirit will do it**
- Mary is not going to do it. She’s just the vessel God is going to work through. But the miracle will be a work of the Holy Spirit.
- The MO of the Holy Spirit is miracles! God supersedes our resources.
- The Holy Spirit will conceive a miracle in Mary’s womb.
- This is the pattern of the “Mary Miracle.” God wants to conceive a miracle in your spiritual womb.

- The early disciples were full of fear and doubt. The Holy Spirit will “come upon you” is the same wording used in description of what the Holy Spirit would do with the fearful, doubtful disciples, Acts 1:8.

“you shall receive power (dunamis) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you shall be witnesses”

- The Holy Spirit turned these men and women from scared, fearful people into a mighty army of possessed freedom fighters.

**Lesson 1 to get the Mary Miracle:
You must be Filled with the Holy Spirit.**

Ephesians 5:18 *And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit*

- All of us have been given unique gifts and unique roles to play in God’s kingdom, but we cannot discover those gifts and talents without the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Get prayer today to be filled with the Holy Spirit—to surrender to God’s plans.
- Now listen closely:
 - **There are miracles God wants to bring to you .**

(concerning areas of need, hope or longing where God’s power and grace are needed)
 - **These are miracles He want to grow in you**

(as you receive His Word and entertain the possibility that there is nothing to difficult for God)

- **That He may work His promised miracles through you**

(as a humble vessel, submitted to His grace and dependent upon His sufficiency.)

- **In order to change the world around you**

(be it your family, your relationships, your colleagues at work, our city or our nation or your circumstances.)

Luke 1:36

Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren.

- Mary is incredulous! How can this be?
- At the same time, Mary has not heard that Elizabeth was pregnant. She might have heard that Zachariah her husband had been visited by an angel while in the temple.
- But she knows that Elizabeth is 60 years old!

Lesson 2:

We all need a Trustworthy Testimony of someone else's miracle.

- God knows that we need the witness of others. This is why the church is so important in our lives. We need to hear the stories from others.
- We need a "live" person to trust...Mary needs that.
- God does not write His miracles on the sky. No! He gives us faith by showing what He is doing with others around us.

- This is the first step in hearing God's voice. Just seeing what He is doing in others and learning to rejoice!
- **You will not experience all that God has for you until you learn to rejoice in the miraculous in others' lives!**
- **For example, 3 weeks ago we had a testimony and praise Sunday. Did you hear those stories of miraculous healings? Unbelievable to Believable!!**

Luke 1:37

For with God nothing will be impossible.

- Mary must understand that she is serving a God of the impossible.
- She does believe it and God does the impossible in her.
- Same with us. Do you believe God can do the impossible in your life? Not you making it happen, but God doing it through and in you?

Lesson 3:

You must Develop a Faith in the God of the Impossible

- Here is the question: how big is your God? Is he just a God of the natural or a God of the supernatural?
 - With Holy Spirit power your painful relationship can be healed.
 - With Holy Spirit power you can say no.
 - With Holy Spirit power you can start that job.
 - With Holy Spirit power you can take that next step.
- What about a God of Impossibilities.
- For example, Isaac's torn labrum.

Luke 1:38

Then Mary said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

- Contrary to popular belief, miracles do not happen instantaneously.
- They may ignite in a moment; excite at their inception, but let’s get it right...miracles take a long time!
- It will take 9 months for Mary to birth a baby! Miracles take time!
- Mary is a willing servant!
- For example, when God called us to come to Colorado Springs to plant a church, it would take 3 years before we moved here.
- For example, when I resigned from MSC I had no idea what I was going to do. So a group of us prayed for 40 nights.

Now look at Mary on this one...

Read Luke 1:38a

Lesson 4:

We must be Fully Surrendered to God’s Will

- Read vs. 38a ***“Behold the maidservant of the Lord”***
- Mary is fully surrendered to doing whatever God wants!
- The word she uses, “maidservant” has the meaning of “female slave.”
- The “Mary Miracle” is only for the surrendered!
 - A slave has a Master that rules over their lives.
 - A slave only has freedom from the Master.

- A slave does not have his/her own life, he is totally available to the Master.
- A slave has to take every desire to the Master for approval
- The Apostles Paul, James, Peter and Jude called themselves “bondservants of the Lord.”

Read Luke 1:38b “Let it be to me according to your Word”

**Lesson 5:
Develop a Faith in God’s Word**

Psalms 119:105

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet

And a light to my path.

NKJV

- Just learning to develop the habit of reading the Scriptures everyday, is the single most important starting point in hearing God’s voice and seeing the miraculous happen in your life.
- God will give you promises from His Word that are just for you!
- **2 Peter 1:2-4**
² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³ as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. NKJV
- Listen, you cannot hear God’s voice unless you are spending time in God’s Word, receiving God’s promises.

- **There are miracles God wants to bring to you.**

(concerning areas of need, hope or longing)

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Next week is Christmas Eve: Breakthrough into Joy!

- **9 and 11am invite your friends, colleagues at work**
- **Baptisms**