



## Miraculous God

### Mike Guzzardo

- Focus** We serve a God who is able to make all things possible. He is able to bring the miraculous into any situation. How we view God and how we view ourselves in relationship to God shapes our perspective; our perspective determines our response; our response determines our outcome. We simply have to believe God.
- Fun** During this time of celebration surrounding Independence Day, share what freedom means to you. If you have served in the military or have family members who have, share what it's like to give so sacrificially for your country.
- Review** Key Scripture: John 6:5–12
- *Look beyond the natural.*  
God is a God of the impossible. We must view our situations from the perspective that God is with us and He can do anything. How we perceive our situation will directly affect the outcome. God wants us to view all things through the perspective that He is for us. If God is for us, nothing can be against us.
  - *Bring what you have.*  
God doesn't need anything and yet, in His greatness, He chose to need us. God desires for us to bring all of our inadequacies to Him. He has done some of His greatest work through underqualified men and women who simply brought what they had. He asks us to give Him what we have so we can participate in what He is doing. God's grace is sufficient for all of our insufficiencies. Trust Him, and bring what you have.

- *Choose to obey.*

Obedience is simply acting in faith based on what God has said. When we obey God, we are putting action behind our trust in Him. Without faith, it is impossible to please God. And without obedience, it is impossible to experience the fullness of God's miraculous power in our lives. Acting on what God has said takes obedience.

### **\*Group Dynamics Idea\***

Encourage group discussion. Giving positive feedback to answers and comments will help foster a safe atmosphere where others will feel more freedom to speak up. When you ask questions to the group, give several seconds for people to answer. It usually takes a person eight seconds on average to think of a response. Sometimes calling on someone or directing a question to a person can be a good way to spread around the discussion. Always make sure to give them affirmation when they are finished sharing.

### **Discuss**

1. What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think about the "impossible"? Does thinking about the impossible make you feel excitement or dread? Why or why not?
2. Read John 6:5–6. Why do you think Jesus asked Philip where they could buy food? What do you think Jesus was looking for in Philip's perspective? In this story, do you think you are more like Philip or Andrew? Explain.
3. If God is a God of the impossible, Who has everything and needs nothing, why does He ask us to bring what we have to Him? What can be gained by participating with God in His miraculous work? Share.
4. Have you experienced God's miraculous work in your own life? Can you think of a story where God came through for you in a seemingly impossible way? What steps of obedience did God ask you to make? Were you nervous or intimidated to act in obedience? Why or why not?
5. How has this experience shaped your perspective of the problems you face? Explain.

### **Take Home**

As we conclude, remember the following:

- God is a miraculous God. Always look beyond the natural.

- Bring what you have to God and trust Him with all your inadequacies.
- Choose to obey God and to act in faith regarding what He has asked you to do.

### **Prayer**

Heavenly Father, we believe You are a God of miracles. We believe Your miraculous power is available to us today. Right now we hold the problems in our lives before You. We ask You come do a miracle in the midst of the problems we are facing today. We trust that you are able to do exceedingly, abundantly above and beyond all that we could ask or imagine. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### **\*New Leader Tip\***

Sharing the burden of group responsibilities is essential for any healthy group. Have a snack sign-up sheet, and ask individuals in your group to bring a snack for one of the group meetings.