



LORD, I NEED A MIRACLE BUT I NEED YOU SO MUCH MORE!

Lesson 8 • John 1-12

The Gospel of John can be divided into two main parts: **SIGNS** and **GLORY!**

BIG IDEA	BELIEVE IN MIRACLES BUT TRUST IN JESUS!		
	<i>"Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written..." (20:30-31)</i>		
OVERVIEW	THE SIGNS BY THE SON OF GOD: LORD, I NEED A MIRACLE! <i>The Signs Performed and Significance Explained - Chapters 1-12</i> "...that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God..."	THE GLORY OF THE SON OF GOD: BUT I NEED YOU SO MUCH MORE! <i>The Significance of the Signs Accomplished - Chapters 13-21</i> "...and that believing you may have life in His name."	
MINISTRY	Public Ministry to the Crowds <i>Chapters 1-12</i>	Private Ministry to the Disciples <i>Chapters 13-17</i>	Passion Ministry for the World <i>Chapters 18-21</i>
PLACE	Galilee & Judea	Jerusalem	
TIME	About 3 ½ Years	Only a Few Hours	A Few Days
APPLY	The Prologue of John 1:1-18 Sets Up This Section <i>See the Glory of God in the Son of God and Believe!</i>		The Epilogue of John 21 Wraps Up This Section <i>Love the Son of God and Follow Him until You Die or He Comes Again!</i>

WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SEVEN SIGNS IN JOHN 1-12?

1. JOHN IS **STICKING** TO HIS PURPOSE FOR WRITING: "BELIEVE IN MIRACLES BUT TRUST IN JESUS!" (1:11-14; 20:30-31)

THREE TYPES OF PEOPLE WHO SEE THE SIGNS

- **FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS** with *saving faith* in the Sovereign Savior.
- **FICKLE FANS** with only *sign faith* in the sensational and the sensual.
- **FIERCE FOES** with *no faith* in either the signs or the Sovereign Savior.

FAITH RESPONSES BY PEOPLE WHO SEE THE SIGNS

Sign #1 The *disappointed Disciples* who have *no more joy* in life believe with *saving faith*. (2:11)

Sign #2 The *desperate Royal Official* who sees *no more possibility of life* goes from *sign faith* to *saving faith*. (4:50-54)

Sign #3 The *disabled Man* who had *no more ability in life* appears to *only have the sign faith or no faith at all*, because it is never recorded that he believed at all and after being warned by Jesus of God's wrath on his sin reports Jesus to the Jewish leaders with *no faith* and are determined to kill Him. (5:8-16)

Sign #4 The *dissatisfied Crowds* who have *no more provision for life* are *fickle fans* who are persistent in their *pursuit of sign faith* and the Jewish leaders with *no faith* are *fierce foes* who are determined to kill him. Even so-called "disciples" choose to stop following when the handouts and healings come to an end. (6:35-40)

Jesus knows who are His *faithful followers* with *saving faith* and who are merely *fickle fans* with mere *sign faith*. He even knows Judas has *no faith* and will betray Him as a *fierce foe!* (6:60-70)

Sign #5 The *distressed Disciples* who have *no more stability in life* are *strengthened in their saving faith* to be *faithful followers* even when the handouts end and the storm still rages. (6:20-21)

Sign #6 The *darkness of the blind man*, who has *no more insight into life*, sees the light with a *saving faith* that is willing to risk it all to worship and *faithfully follow* Jesus at all costs. All the while those with *no faith* remains in their sin of unbelief and *fierce opposition* to Jesus. (9:35-41; 10:19-21, 39-42)

Sign #7 The *death of Lazarus*, who has *no more life at all*, is restored to life and the *saving faith* of him and his sisters is strengthened to *faithfully follows* Jesus who Himself is about to be crucified and resurrected as the Lord over Life and Death! The response to the seventh sign is filled with *saving faith* of *faithful followers*, *sign faith* of *fickle fans*, and *no faith* by the *fiercest of foes!* (11:45-48, 53-57; 12:9-11)

In each case the *minor thing* is the **MIRACLE** and the *main thing* is **JESUS—His glory for our good and the good of others!**
See the glory of the Sovereign Savior and savor Him in all of life's circumstances!

2. JOHN IS **SHARING** LIFE-GIVING LESSONS ON SAVING FAITH.

EIGHT LIFE-GIVING LESSONS ON SAVING FAITH

- #1 Sign faith **FALLS SHORT** of saving faith, but it can **GROW** into saving faith.
- #2 Saving faith is a **SOVEREIGN** gift of God's grace, but it still requires **COMING** to Jesus by faith.
- #3 Saving faith should grow into **STRONGER** faith.
- #4 Saving faith **PERSEVERES** through times of testing, but sign faith falls away.
- #5 Saving faith will eventually be **PERSECUTED**—*often fiercely*—by those with sign faith or no faith.
- #6 Saving faith can be **FAKED** by those with sign faith or no faith and even **FOOL** those with saving faith.
- #7 Saving faith **OBEYS** by receiving Jesus Christ as the Son of God and **RESTS** in Him as the seal of God's salvation.
- #8 Saving faith is both a **POINT** in time and an ongoing **PROCESS**.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who *is believing (present tense)* in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who *is living (present tense)* and *is believing (present tense)* in Me will never die. *Are you believing (present tense)* this?" She said to Him, "Yes, Lord; *I have believed and still do believe (perfect tense)* that You are the Christ, the Son of God, *even He who comes into the world.*" (11:25-27)

*If you **short change** the process, you may **settle for sign faith** rather than saving faith!*

*If you **never decisively arrive** at the point or **never urgently appeal** others to do so, you or they may never receive the **security and satisfaction of saving faith!***

3. JOHN IS **SHOWING** US THE GLORY OF JESUS AS THE SON OF GOD, SO WE WILL **TRUST HIM AND TREASURE HIM AS OUR SOVEREIGN SAVIOR AT ALL TIMES!**

Believe in miracles but trust in Jesus and treasure Him at all times even when the miracles are delayed or don't come at all!

WE NEED THE SON OF GOD IN ALL HIS GLORY SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST HIS SIGNS!

- Trust Jesus for **WHO** He is and **WHAT** He has done, is doing, and has yet to do for His glory and the good of others through His gospel!

INSTEAD OF BEING A FICKLE FAN WITH SIGN FAITH, BE A FAITHFUL FOLLOWER WITH SAVING FAITH!

- Treasure Jesus even when the miracles are delayed or do not come at all until the He comes again!