

## Evangelism Tip

Nothing organic continues to grow forever. God continues growth by planting new seeds. As leaders we must figure out ways to plant new seeds. *Dan Reiland*

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Connect Group Notes

7 Feb 2010

Ps John Bishop

Do You Want a Miracle?

### John 11 (NIV)

What is a miracle? Position ourselves and expect miracles, they happen most when you don't expect them. Divine interaction will bring divine interruptions that will transform our lives! The power of God called Lazarus out (miracle could have been performed from anywhere) but Jesus stayed 2 more days before returning to Judea where He had recently almost been stoned - the disciples were concerned. Thomas even stated in verse 16 "let us all go, that we may die with Him".

This story shows us so much about God and miracles:

- \* God often doesn't work on our time schedule, **John 11:6**
- \* Gods miracles are often in the mess
- \* At times when God seems absent He is actually the strongest, **John 11:14**
- \* At the point when God steps in His glory is revealed, **John 11 :4, 41, 42**
- \* He resurrects for you when you stop trying to resurrect, verse 25
- \* Jesus (God) paused long enough to truly show love and care
- \* Wants to change your life so that He can change your world

How we can get in the way of the miracle:

- \* Try to help God, take over, come in too early
- \* Can step in before the breakthrough miracle - don't wait long enough
- \* Hinder faith - can ebb and flow when God does what we think He should - we put him in a box and think it is up to us to keep Him in or let Him out!
- \* We can miss the Glory of God - the supernatural because we are not believing.
- \* Can be concerned about the 'smell or stink (KJV)' of our or others 'mess', verse 39

Supporting God for the miracle:

- \* When your faith interacts with Gods faithfulness miracles happen
- \* Stop seeing naturally and see things supernaturally
- \* Believe that he is never late and always in control - verse 27
- \* Stop looking at the mess and you will see Jesus
- \* If you believe you will see the Glory of God - verse 40

Churches usually either live superficially or supernaturally - we need Jesus but we also need each other. We think we can do it alone, like to be independent, don't like others to see our stuff. When in community there are always going to be 'smells/stinks' - when we love each other transformation takes place from within the Community and the city will see our love, verse 35, 36.

Verse 43 Jesus says "take off the grave clothes and let him go".

We all have grave clothes such as:

- \* Fear
- \* Guilt
- \* Pride
- \* Image issues
- \* Insecurity
- \* Loneliness

Don't hide and pretend with each other but show care & love. Verse 35 Jesus wept and was deeply moved and troubled. Likely troubled by the burden of the sin in the world – stirring in His spirit that things were not the way it was meant to work but soon He would put it right by His death and resurrection. He knew that He was going to heal Lazarath but paused long enough to weep and show care.

As we do this in Community bondages are broken and freedom happens leading to a Community transformed – Supernatural Community transformed by the power of God!

To the extent you can reveal God will heal!

#### **TALK ABOUT**

- Do you stop/pause long enough to truly care/feel with each other?
- How can you believe God for your eternity but not trust Him for miracles in your day to day life?
- Is there something that you need a miracle for? You may have experienced a miracle on Sunday by surrendering something at the altar – share if comfortable??

**REPORTING** <http://myc3church.net/cgi-bin/exform.pl>

#### **Connect Leaders,**

You are the best people to identify those people who would benefit from a year at **C3 College**. Please let them know that 2010 is going to be an amazing year, we have planned incredible updated courses with full time and part time options in Leadership and Ministry (Previously SOM), Creative Ministry (Previously SCA) and a new Friday major in Pastoral Care.

Contact [Lauren.Taylor@myc3church](mailto:Lauren.Taylor@myc3church) for more information – or see the training channel on [www.myc3church.net](http://www.myc3church.net) web site.

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