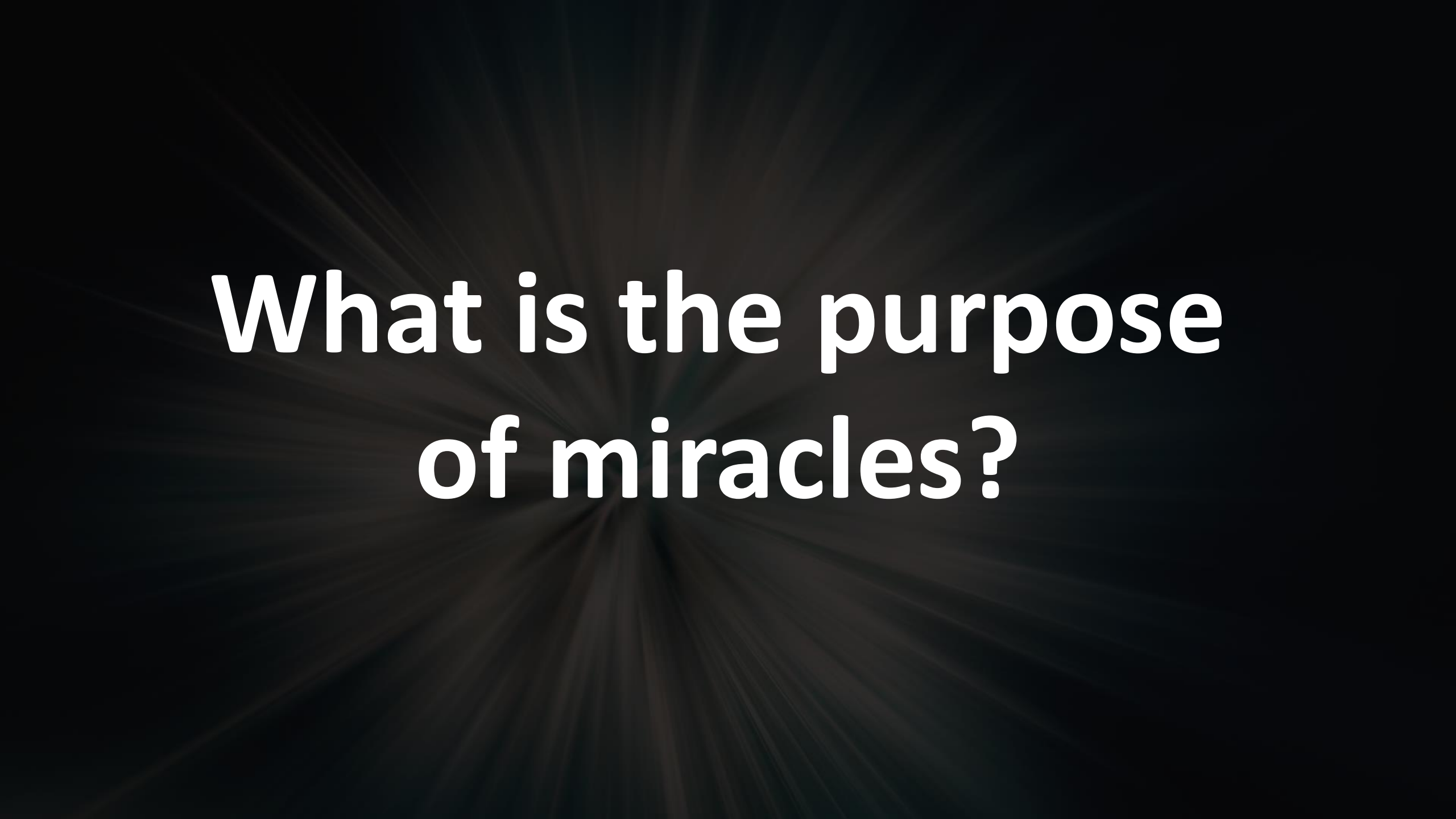


I NEED A

MIRACLE



Who needs a miracle?



**What is the purpose
of miracles?**

**The purpose of miracles is not to
impress or entertain us**

**The purpose of miracles is to
demonstrate the character and
power of God**



The Miracle of a New Life

“Moreover, I will give you a **new heart** and put a **new spirit** within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.”

Ezekiel 36:26-28

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, **he is a new creature**; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:17-19

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:20-21

Behold, how good and how
pleasant it is for brothers to
dwell together in unity!

Psalm 133:1

I carried fear and worry. God is teaching me to walk in faith and peace.

From not connected or serving at First Melissa. To having new friends, community and desire to serve.

I felt unworthy and distant. Now I am deeply connected in Christ.

Thought I was alone in trials. Now I know I'm not alone.

From searching for belonging. To finding our forever church.

Never led a group. Blessed to lead a Rooted group.

10 weeks ago I felt anxious, guilty and disconnect in church. Now I feel hopeful, peaceful and connected in my church.

10 weeks ago I felt unneeded and discarded. Today I feel energized and ready for his call.

10 weeks ago I felt undisciplined. Today I feel renewed in focus.

I once felt alone in a room full of people. But now have friendships rooted in Christ.

10 weeks ago I felt alone in my struggles. Now I have fellow believers I can ask for help.

Filled with doubt and fear to lead. Through the power of the Holy Spirit the Lord cast down that doubt and fear.

10 weeks ago, my fear crippled me. Today, my fear is in the grave.

Sin had given Satan a stronghold in my life. I have confessed, repented, and surrendered. I've been forgiven.

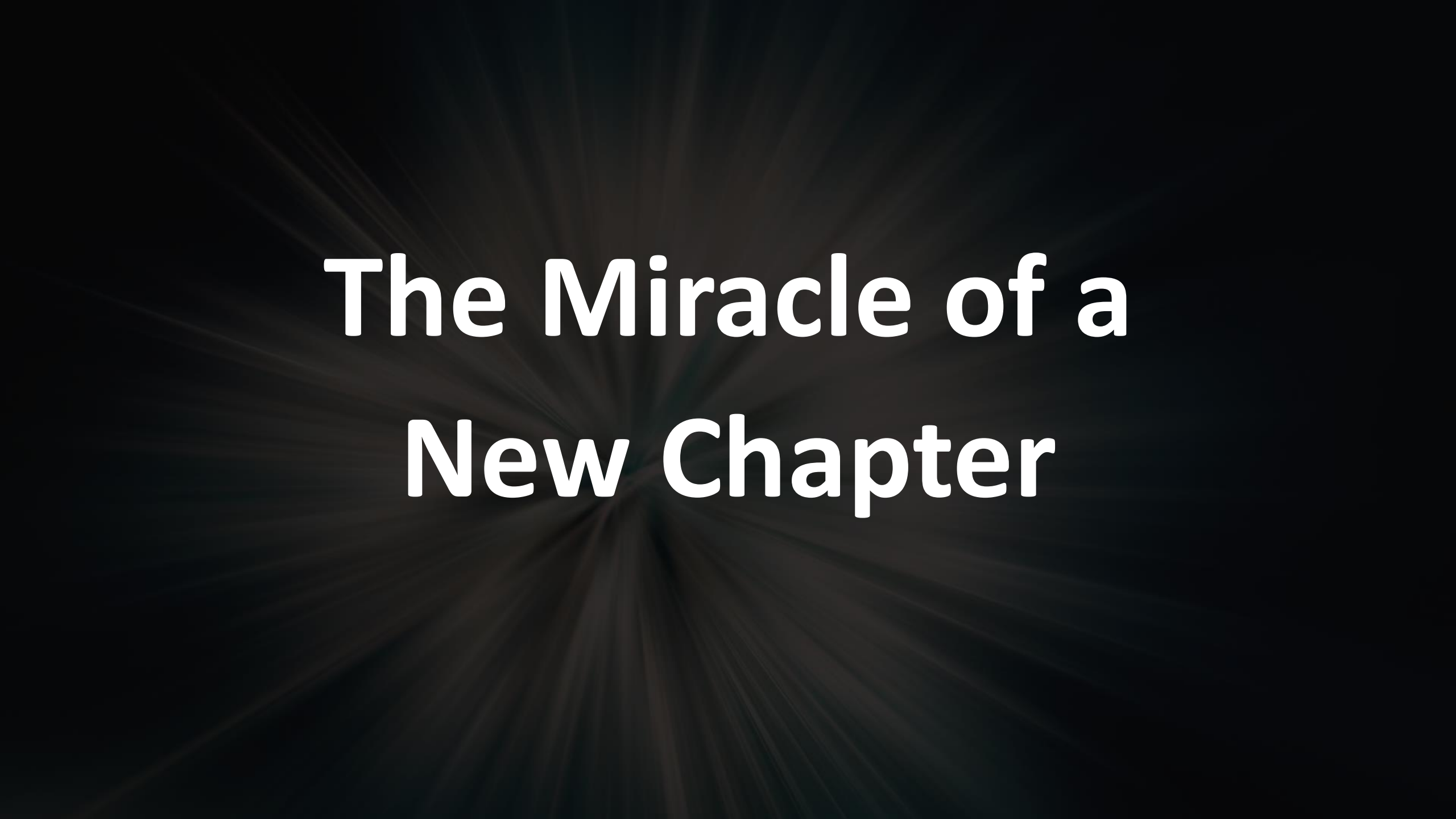
Shame and guilt hiding in my heart. A trusted group of friends accepted my true self.

10 weeks ago I wasn't connected to First Melissa Church. Today I'm connected and rooted here.

10 weeks ago we were struggling separately. Now we are praying together every day.

10 weeks ago I was more concerned with my purpose. Today I am more concerned about Him accomplishing His purposes through me.

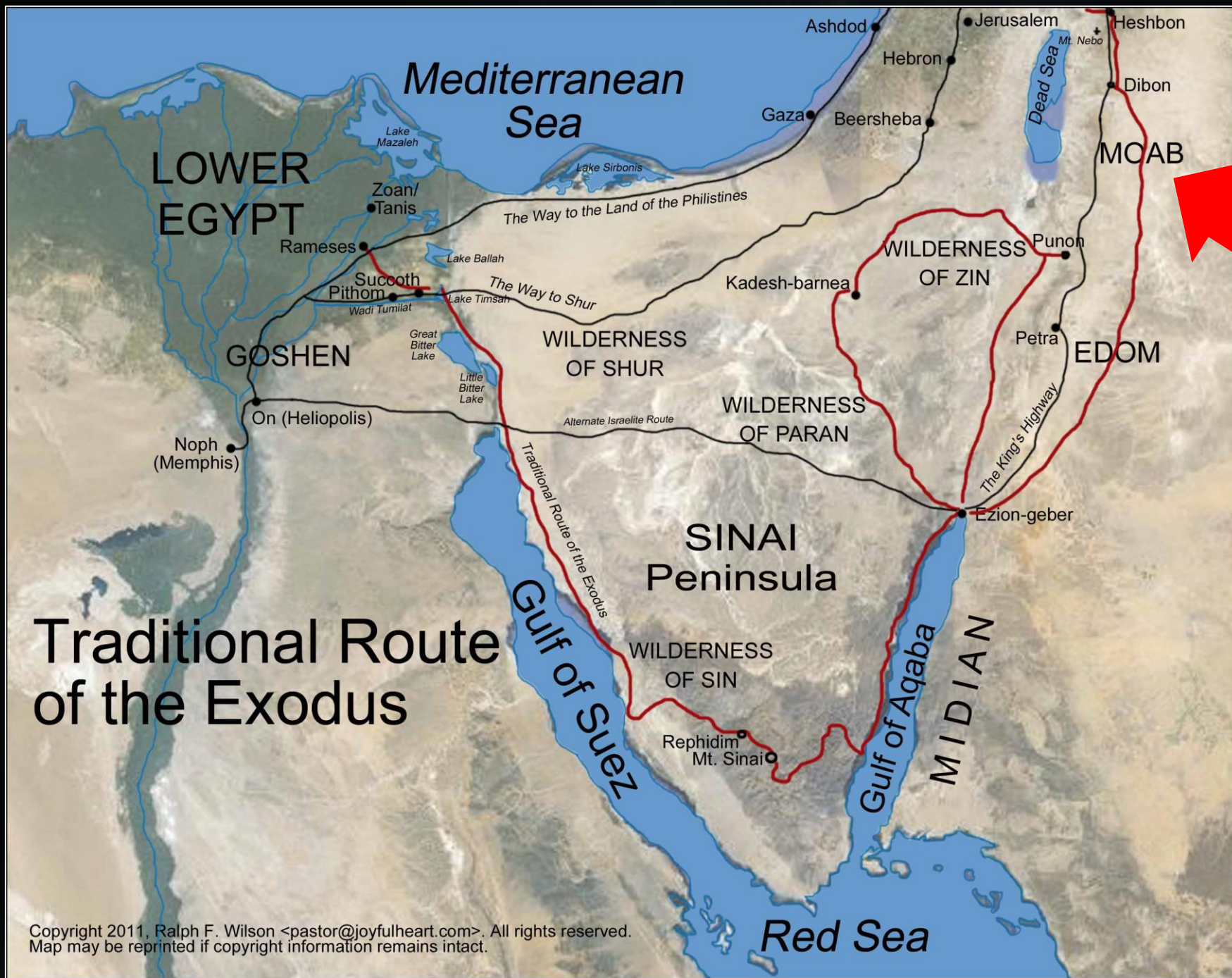
From fear. To boldly say yes, stepping out in faith and becoming more rooted in Jesus.



The Miracle of a New Chapter

Deuteronomy 31

- [After wandering for almost 40 years in the desert...] Then Moses called to Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, “**Be strong and courageous**, for you shall go with this people into the land which the Lord has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall give it to them as an inheritance. The Lord is the one who goes ahead of you; He will be with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.” Deuteronomy 31:7-8
- Then He [Yahweh] commissioned **Joshua** the son of Nun, and said, “**Be strong and courageous**, for you shall bring the sons of Israel into the land which I swore to them, and I will be with you.” Deuteronomy 31:23
- God and Moses were preparing Joshua for his next chapter.



The people of Israel were camped out in Moab at the time of Moses' death

Joshua 1

Now it came about after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, that the Lord [יְהוָה Yahweh] spoke to Joshua [יְהוֹשֻׁעַ Y'hoshua] the son of Nun, Moses' servant, saying... Joshua 1:1

- Has there been a major event or change in your life?
- When Moses died, the plan and purpose of God carried on.
- Like Joshua, have you been waiting for the Lord to speak?
- Are you listening FOR and TO the voice of the Lord?

The Lord [יְהוָה Yahweh] spoke to Joshua... “Moses My servant is dead; now therefore **arise, cross this Jordan,** you and all this people, **to the land which I am giving** to them, to the sons of Israel.” Joshua 1:2

*Joshua was 70-80 years old at this time

The Lord spoke to Joshua... “Moses My servant is dead; now therefore arise, cross this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them, to the sons of Israel.” Joshua 1:2

- Can you hear God’s specific calling on your life?
- Are you ready to move forward despite your past struggles?
- Will you move past the obstacles in front of you?
- Are you ready to join by faith with other believers?
- Have you heard and received God’s promises?
- Do you trust God for the new chapter of life?

ISRAEL'S EXODUS FROM EGYPT AND ENTRY INTO CANAAN

MAP 2



*takes place in early Spring ca. 1406 BC

[Later...] So when the people set out from their tents to cross the Jordan with the priests carrying the ark of the covenant before the people, and when those who carried the ark came into the Jordan, and the feet of the priests carrying the ark were dipped in the edge of the water (**for the Jordan overflows all its banks all the days of harvest**)... Joshua 3:14-15

- Normally the Jordan River was pretty easy to cross but during flood season it was treacherous. In some sections the distance across would swell to over two miles. It's important to note that God calls his people to cross the Jordan when it is precisely at its most dangerous and when it seems the most impossible. – Brian Bill

The Lord [יְהוָה Yahweh] spoke to Joshua... “Every place on which the sole of your **foot** treads, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses.” Joshua 1:3

- God has a plan for your next chapter
- God has a purpose for your next chapter
- To us the next chapter might be frightening

Source: Aaron Lipkin

“Every place on which the sole of your **foot** treads, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses.” Joshua 1:3



Source: Aaron Lipkin



Argaman

“Every place on which the sole of your **foot** treads, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses.” Joshua 1:3

Source: Aaron Lipkin

Rimmonim

“Every place on which the sole of your **foot** treads, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses.” Joshua 1:3

Source: Aaron Lipkin

“Every place on which
the sole of your **foot**
treads, I have given it to
you, just as I spoke to
Moses.” Joshua 1:3

Mt. Ebal



Source: Aaron Lipkin

Oonook – Tirza Vally

“Every place on which the sole of your **foot** treads, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses.” Joshua 1:3

Source: Aaron Lipkin

“Every place on which the sole of your **foot** treads, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses.” Joshua 1:3

Yafit



Why a “footprint” shape?

4 Biblical ideas:

1. Demonstrates ownership of territory

- Deuteronomy 11:24, Joshua 1:3

2. Existence of the Jewish people in the land (permanent presence)

2 Kings 21:8, Psalm 121:3 (a psalm of ascent)

3. Victory over enemies

1 Kings 5:3, Psalm 47:3

4. Symbol of God

Isaiah 60:13 “I shall make the place of My feet glorious”

The Lord spoke to Joshua, “Every place on which the sole of your foot treads, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses.” Joshua 1:3

- Has God made promises to you in the past?
- Did you believe Him the first time?
- Do you still believe Him?
- Has time weakened or strengthened your faith?
- Do you need to march forward to receive blessing?
- After God makes a promise, we are called to move forward
- Notice the power of spiritual role models



The Lord spoke to Joshua, “From the wilderness and this Lebanon, even as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and as far as the Great Sea toward the setting of the sun will be your territory.”
Joshua 1:4

“Thirty-eight years earlier Joshua had explored this good and fruitful land as one of the 12 Israelite spies (Numbers 13:1–16). The memory of its beauty and fertility had not dimmed. Now he was to lead the armies of Israel to conquer that territory.”

– Bible Knowledge Commentary

- God does not change.
- God’s promises do not change.
- God’s people need to change... from fearful to faithful.



The Miracle of God's Presence

The Lord spoke to Joshua, “No man will be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I have been with Moses, **I will be with you**; I will not fail you or forsake you.” Joshua 1:5 (NAS)

- Have you seen the challenges before you?
- Do you need a fresh encouragement from God?
- Do you trust the Lord’s promise of presence?

“No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. **I will not leave you** or forsake you.”

Joshua 1:5 (ESV)

The words **I will never leave you** (Joshua 1:5) may be rendered, “I will not drop or abandon you.”

God never walks out on His promises.

The Lord spoke to Joshua, “**Be strong and courageous**, for you shall give this people possession of the land which I swore to their fathers to give them.” Joshua 1:6

- What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? Romans 8:31-32

Three Calls to Courage

The Lord spoke to Joshua, “Be strong [חֲזַק *chazaq*] and courageous [אַמַּץ *'amats*], for you shall give this people possession of the land which I swore to their fathers to give them.”

Joshua 1:6

- The **first** call to courage was based on God's promises

The Lord spoke to Joshua, “Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law [תּוֹרָה *torah*] which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go.” Joshua 1:7

Three Calls to Courage

“This book of the law [תּוֹרָה *torah*] shall not depart from your **mouth [lips]**, but you shall **meditate** on it day and night, so that you may be careful to **do** according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.” Joshua 1:8

- The **second** call to courage was based on the power of God's Word

Three Calls to Courage

The Lord spoke to Joshua, “Have I not commanded you? Be strong [חֲזָקָה *chazaq*] and courageous [אַמַּץ *'amats*]! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

- The **third** call to courage was based on God's presence
- Are there struggles ahead on your path?
- Do your enemies know your weaknesses?
- Has God promised to be with you the entire journey?
- “Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.” Ephesians 6:10

“Be strong and courageous”

- Why did God tell Joshua the same thing FOUR times (Deuteronomy 31:23, Joshua chapter 1 verses 6, 7, 9)?
- Because fear is real
- Joshua faced the struggle of living by faith while experiencing fear
- Later, in Joshua 1:18, the people of Israel repeat the same encouragement to Joshua

Trust in the Promise of His Presence

The Lord spoke to Joshua, “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

Praying for Miracles at First Melissa

- Salvations of family members and friends
- Healing of marriages and broken relationships
- Healing of illness and sickness
- Creating and deepening connections among the Body of Christ
- Raising up the next generation of faithful followers of Jesus
- Church construction loan paid off
- Expansion of our church property
- Upgrades to our existing church facilities and campus
- Construction of new church facilities
- Expansion of ministry opportunities

Steps in a “Trust in His Presence” Miracle

- *By faith, commit my life to God completely
- *Recognize the beautiful gift of new life
- *Hear the voice of God
- *Be open to new chapters in my spiritual journey
- *Find and learn from godly role models
- *Learn to love and obey God’s Word
- *Realize the gift of God’s promised presence
- *Be willing to move forward in faith
- *If I will trust God for eternity, trust Him for today

Be Strong and Courageous

For God has not given us a spirit of timidity [fear], but of power and love and discipline. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher. For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day. 2 Timothy 1:7-12