



Why Some Miracles Happen and Others Don't | Doug Wekenman | 01.018.2026

Weekly Study

A NOTE TO LEADERS

Leaders,

This week's study looks different—and intentionally so. Before I even started writing, I prayed, “God, what do you want to ask your people? What do you want to reveal?” The answer was simple: pray. Tell my people to pray.

That's exactly what we're going to do. No icebreakers, no study questions, no scripture discussion. Just prayer. And I need your help. I know praying aloud or for others can feel intimidating, but God delights in hearing His people cry out. This week is our chance to lead our groups in prayer like never before.

Here's what I'm asking:

- **Prepare:** Read through this study and pray about what God wants to do in your group.
- **Create Space:** Be intentional about the space you create for your group. Let them know this week will be different.
- **Set the tone:** Begin by showing the recap video. You can find it on the app and Groups web page. Follow up by reading through the Sermon Summary below as a group.
- **Lead the activity:** Use the directions below to lead your group through a time of prayer and intercession. Encourage them to pray for 5–10 people during the meeting.

Thank you for leading faithfully and for stepping into this week with boldness and expectation.

This week, we're not “doing church,” we are going to “be the church!”

- Ryan Paull

SERMON SUMMARY

Miracles are when God does what we can't.
Mindset is where we choose to set our minds.

That's the heart of this series.

His job is the miracle. Our job is the mindset.

And if we're honest, many of us quietly think that if we just believe hard enough—if our faith is strong enough, pure enough, consistent enough—then God will come through exactly the way we're hoping.

But life has taught us otherwise.

As time passes, the waiting wears us down.

Frustration builds.

Exhaustion sets in.

Hope begins to fade.

And without even realizing it, our mindset begins to drift. Not loudly. Not all at once. But subtly—into dangerous questions we never meant to ask:

Why did they get healed... but not me?

Why did their marriage get restored?

Why did they get the job?

Why did their child make it?

Where is my breakthrough?

God, do You see me?

God, do You care?

Am I doing something wrong?

Am I not worthy?

Am I not good enough?

Last week, Shawn spoke directly to that fear when he said:

“God only does miracles in broken people—because there are no other kinds of people.”

That truth should take a weight off your chest.

You cannot earn God’s favor.

You cannot perform your way into a miracle.

God doesn’t wait for strength—He moves toward brokenness.

He walks with wounded souls.

He meets us in the valleys, not after we climb out of them.

This week, Doug helped us in another way by reminding us of a hard but holy truth:

Some miracles are already. Some miracles are not yet.

Somewhere along the way, we started believing that miracles are rare, dramatic, supernatural interruptions of reality. But Scripture paints a different picture.

C.S. Lewis wrote:

“If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.”

A miracle is not God disrupting the natural order.

A miracle is God restoring it.

We’ve just lived in a fractured world for so long that sickness, pain, division, and death feel normal.

So, when Jesus heals, delivers, and restores, it feels extraordinary to us—but it’s actually what creation was always meant to be. There were no miracles needed in the Garden of Eden—because nothing was broken, and we forget that we were made for Eden.

Dane Ortland puts it this way, “Fallenness is the interruption, not the miracle. When Jesus expels demons and heals the sick, he is driving out of creation the powers of destruction, and is healing and restoring created beings who are hurt and sick. Jesus’ healings are not

supernatural miracles in a natural world. They are the only truly “natural” thing in a world that is unnatural, demonized, and wounded.”

His miracles aren’t interruptions.

They’re restorations.

Church, I don’t know why some miracles come sooner than others.

I don’t know why some prayers are answered quickly, while others are met with silence.

But I do know this:

This is not the end.

This is not your home.

And God keeps His promises.

“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away... I am making everything new.” (Rev. 21:4-5)

We have a Savior who cannot bear to stay far from our pain. He is closer to you now than He was to the sinners and sufferers He touched in His earthly ministry.

He is with you in the waiting.

He is with you in the doubt.

He is with you in the grief.

He is with us in the **already** and the not **yet**.

He is with us yesterday, today, and forever.

Your miracle is on the way—not as a fleeting glimpse of His glory, but as a pure and complete restoration of what was always meant to be.

A piece of earth redeemed forever.

A promise kept.

So while we wait,

We pray.

We fast.

And we keep believing.

Together.

Because Scripture reminds us:

- *“Where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them.” (Matthew 18:20)*
- *“The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” (James 5:16)*
- *“If my people... will humble themselves and pray... then I will hear from heaven and heal their land.” (2 Chronicles 7:14)*
- *“After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken.” (Acts 4:31)*

God is not done.

He has miraculous things in store—for you, for me, and for us.

I pray that brings you hope.

But here’s the thing—hope isn’t just something we cling to. It’s something we respond to.

Before God moves in power, He stirs His people to pray. Before He restores what’s been broken, He invites us to lift our eyes and lift our voices together.

Jonathan Edwards said it this way: ***“When God has something very great to accomplish for His church, it is His will that there should precede it the extraordinary prayers of His people.”***

Church, let’s choose to respond this week.

This is our moment to press in.

To fix our eyes on Jesus.

To lift our prayers.

Miracles are not fading.

God is not finished.

And hope is rising.

Let's pray like we believe that.

GROUP ACTIVITY

This week, there is no discussion, no icebreakers, no teaching time.

Miracles are a team sport. So, this week, **we pray**.

1. **Set the atmosphere:** Put on a worship playlist.
2. **Spread out:** Invite your family/group to find a space—alone, in pairs, or in groups of three.
3. **Submit your prayer(s):** Spend 5–10 minutes submitting one or two personal prayers in the RRC app.
 - Open the app.
 - Tap “**21-Day Fast**” at the bottom center.
 - Tap “**Prayer Request**” to share your prayer.
4. **Pray for others:** Scroll through prayers submitted by thousands of people waiting on miracles. Pick 5–10 to pray over and spend the next 45 minutes lifting them up to God.
5. **Pray boldly:** Cover the **already** and the **not yet**. Pray honestly, pray expectantly, and pray together.

As you pray, remember:

- Don't worry about what to pray; the Spirit will guide you. **Romans 8:26-27**
- Pray with an open heart; when we ask according to God's will, He answers. **1 John 5:14-15**
- Approach God confidently, knowing His mercy and grace are ready to help. **Hebrews 4:16**

