



BREAKING THE ICE

What is your favorite season and why?

If you could choose one place to live in the world, where would it be and why?

MAIN CONTENT

As we continue with our Lent series, we're talking about the seven signs that are in the book of John. These seven signs are miracles that Jesus performed.

Signs are important. A sign is a symbol that points to something greater than the sign itself.

1. What signs in your life have pointed you toward a new direction or path?

This week, Pastor Kevin talked about the second sign or miracle in the book of John. Our scripture for this sign is found in **John 4:43-54**.

There is something unique about this sign. There are multiple signs within this sign. The first one is **Death and Sickness Bow to Jesus**.

Because of the fall of man due to sin, sickness and death entered the world. But Jesus came to overcome this. When He died on the cross, He overcame death. Isaiah 25:8 says, "He will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces."

2. Do you fear death? How does knowing that Jesus overcame death make you feel?

The second sign is **Politics Bow to Jesus**. In the scripture, the man who asked for his son to be healed was a royal official. He had political clout. But Jesus doesn't care about stature. He cares about each person individually. Jesus treated this man as he would anyone else.

Jesus rules over all politics. Politics is part of our earthly world but someday when we live eternal life in heaven, we will leave it behind.

3. Do you feel like Jesus is a respecter of persons? What has led you to believe the way you do about how Jesus cares for others?

We saw how Jesus cared for the Samaritan woman earlier in John 4. She had been married five times and lived a life of shame. But Jesus gave her respect and love. He changed her life and she told everyone about it. The story of her life change spread across the town and others started to follow Him as well.

Most people didn't respect this woman because of her past, but Jesus didn't care about her past. He gave her dignity. Jesus respected the political official just as much as the Samaritan woman.

4. Who do you know that treats every person the same, no matter their status?

The third smaller sign we learn from this larger miracle is that **Healing Happens in His Timing**. Famous preacher Charles Spurgeon said, "I venture to say that the greatest earthly blessing God can give to any of us is health, with the exception of sickness. Sickness has frequently been of more use in the saints of God than health has."

Sometimes our healing is immediate, and sometimes it takes time. But it's always used for His glory. And sometimes it's in our sickness that we learn more dependance on Him and He can heal our hearts.

5. Where have you or someone you know experienced physical healing or emotional healing in your life?

Jesus healed many people when He walked the earth. But that was not His primary reason for being on the earth. His primary mission was to offer salvation for all.

The last sign within the larger sign of healing is **We Can Take Jesus at His Word**. The Samaritan woman was saved by His words, the boy was healed by His words, the man received a miracle by His words. Pastor Kevin said, "Faith isn't signs and wonders, it's taking Jesus at His word and doing what He says."

6. Where have you seen Jesus' words produce life change in you?

It takes trust in Jesus for the miracles you are looking for in your life. We can trust Him because His words never fail.

7. What do you need to trust Jesus with right now?

CLOSING PRAYER

Jesus, we trust You. We trust who You say You are. We trust that You care for us and that You care about everything going on in our lives. We trust Your words and we trust that You have a better idea for our lives than we do. Show us where we aren't fully relinquishing trust to You and where we can turn all of our trust to You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

ACTION STEP

+ Continue engaging with Lent over the next few weeks. Make note of the changes you are seeing in your life from taking time to spend with Him each day.

+ Take some time and think about the things you are holding onto and not entrusting to Jesus. Write them down. Pray over them daily and practice releasing them to Him.