



NORTHVIEW  
**STUDENTS**  
5th/6th grade

DATE(S)

**October 2-3, 2021**

SERIES AND LESSON TITLE

**God Is – Week 2 (Miraculous)**

TAKE-HOME POINT (THP)

**God is miraculous.**

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

**Mark 6:45-56  
Matthew 19:26**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Give any Campus-Specific Announcements**



THE OVERVIEW

# OPENING GAME / GROUP TIME

## LARGE-GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

### "Total Recall"

This game has a series of videos that need to be played in sequential order. The point of the game is to show a funny clip and immediately after the clip is over, a series of 3 questions come up. The questions ask something at random about the clip before (for example...What picture was on the wall? Did the person have red on? Which person spoke first?). Whoever answers the most questions correctly wins! You can play this game individually with a few volunteers or group vs. group. There are four videos total with three questions each - meaning a total possible score of 12 points.

**\*\*\*Make sure to test the technology before playing the game!!**

## OPENING SMALL GROUP

### QUESTIONS

### ACTIVITIES

Take attendance and make sure to welcome anyone who is a first-time guest!

What was the highlight of your week?

What is a miracle? How would you define that word?

When you're finished (and there's time left), pray for our time of worship.

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

STUFF TO DO SO THINGS AREN'T BORING



# LARGE-GROUP SCRIPT

## THE MESSAGE

Medine Keener is a professor at a Christian college in Kentucky and she has quite a story to tell. Before she became a professor, she grew up in the Congo (which is in western Africa) and when she was a young woman, the country was experiencing war. For nearly 18 months, she traveled all over the Congo as a war refugee, trying to avoid danger. As hard as that is, her family had some other difficult experiences.

Before Medine was born, her older sister was 2 years old and was bitten by a snake. The snake was poisonous, and her sister quit breathing. The family panicked and didn't know what to do because there was no hospital. Since they were Christians, they decided to go to a local pastor to ask for prayer for her sister. Medine's mother strapped her sister on her back and left, and by the time they reached the pastor, it had been three hours since her sister taken a breath. The pastor prayed over her sister...and I'm not kidding about this next part...her sister came back to life. She had been raised from the dead! Both the mom and the pastor were eyewitnesses of this happening.

This might sound obvious, but I think we would call this a miracle! Something truly miraculous! I would define a miracle as something extraordinary happening in the ordinary. Since Christians believe God is perfect, holy, and all-powerful, it's possible to believe in a miracle. Some people don't believe in them – they think there's no way anything like that could happen. Some people believe, "Well, that might happen other places in the world, but there's no way anything like that could happen here where I live." This is probably a good way to introduce our THP for Week 2 of our "God Is" series...

**THP: God is miraculous!**

Last week, we talked about how awesome God is and I want to do one final illustration that I think will apply to our message for today...

**(Leaders Note: Have everyone grab a half-sheet of paper and just hold it while you're sharing this example.)**

# THE MESSAGE

Several years ago, a woman named Barbara Boyd used this example to show how awesome and miraculous God is. Is everyone holding their piece of paper?! Now, let's imagine if the distance between the Earth and the Sun, 92 million miles, was reduced to the thickness of a sheet of paper. Everybody got that? That means the distance between the Earth and the nearest star would be a stack of paper 70 feet high. The diameter of our Milky Way galaxy (meaning the distance from one side to the other) would be a stack of paper 310 miles high. That's how big the galaxy is. And yet, the galaxy is nothing but a speck of dust in the whole universe. And the Bible says Jesus Christ holds this universe together with the word of his power...which might as well be like His pinky finger. And then Barbara asked this question: "Is this the kind of person you ask into your life to be your assistant?"

Here's her point with that illustration...if God actually did this, if He actually was awesome enough and could do supernatural, miraculous stuff like creating the entire universe...if that's true, is that someone we just come and talk about at church once a week or once a month? If God is that miraculous, it wouldn't even remotely be hard for him to help us with our problems, with our situations, with our pain, with our depression and anxiety, AND with our successes and the areas that give us joy! That should encourage us! Sometimes, our lives can feel overwhelming, but if we serve a God who can do the miraculous, that should cause us to worship Him!

Still skeptical that miracles can happen? Let's look at another example from the Scriptures. Check out what happens in Mark 6:45-56 – *"Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray. Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."* Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened. **(Leaders Note: Explain the "loaves" reference is about feeding the 5000).** When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went – into villages, towns or countryside – they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed."

# THE MESSAGE

As if it's not crazy enough to walk on the water in the middle of the storm to catch up with your buddies on the boat, Jesus then makes the storm stop! Then, when they got across the water the next morning, people recognized him and just started bringing sick people to him. Even if they touched his cloak, they were completely healed! Crazy!

I know miracles like the one I just mentioned can seem hard to believe. You might think, "I've never seen a storm calm down just because someone prayed" or "I've never seen someone who was really sick just miraculously get better." I can certainly understand where you're coming from. However, our entire faith, Christianity as a whole, is based off of one particular miracle...which is what we celebrate at Easter: Jesus being resurrected from the dead. If the miracle of the resurrection happened, and we believe in that, then that means we have to be open to the possibility of God doing LOTS of other miraculous things; even the ones that seem impossible.

As our Take Home Point says, **God is miraculous!** That THP isn't just wishful thinking; it's true!

A verse that helps me is one that's found in each of the first three books of the New Testament (Matthew/Mark/Luke). Let's read Matthew's version in Matthew 19:26 – *"Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."*

**(Teacher's Note: Share a personal experience where you received or witnessed the miraculous)**

Let me ask you a question: what do you need this miraculous God to do for you? I'm not talking about getting three wishes and using God like He is some sort of genie or wizard who just gives us all we want. I'm talking about the situations where if God doesn't step in, you don't know how you're going to make it through that situation in your life. Maybe someone in your family is battling a significant illness. Maybe you are really struggling in school with understanding the material and doing well in your classes. Maybe you're battling a lot of loneliness and struggling to make friends. Maybe you have grown up believing in God (or not) but you want to know if God is real. Whatever it is – I want to give you an opportunity today to know and encounter this miraculous God.

**(Teacher's Note: Transition into a time of miracle prayer. This can be done in their groups or with the whole group. Prep your leaders beforehand so they can be available with you to pray for your students. If you do worship at your campus, the team can come up and lead a song during this time or you can play some quiet music in the background.)**

# CLOSING SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

## CLOSING SMALL GROUP

### QUESTIONS

What was the THP today and why was it important during the message?

Have you or someone you know experienced a miracle? If so, what happened?

Will someone summarize the miracle we talked about during the message today regarding Jesus in the middle of a big storm?

What are some other examples of miracles that you've heard or read about in the Bible?

Would anyone who was prayed over during our miracle prayer time feel comfortable sharing what they prayed about?

How will the THP help you to live differently this week? Try to think of a specific example.

How can this group pray for you this week?

### FINAL THOUGHTS

**Prayer is absolutely essential to the life of a Christian! We serve a God who is still able to do miracles, so if you or someone you know needs a miracle, reach out to God in prayer! Even if God's will might be different than what we are praying for, that shouldn't stop us from continuing to pray.**

**Once your group discussion is finished, close your group in prayer!**

Encourage those students in your group who made first-time decisions or who made re-commitments to follow Jesus today! Tell them that this group is a support system for them and they don't have to do this life alone. If there is a student who makes a first-time commitment to Christ, have them text NVSNEXT to 85379 or fill out a response card so you can capture their information and our staff can follow up with them. Once your group discussion is over, close your group in prayer!



# PREP NEEDS

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## SMALL-GROUP SUPPLIES

- Some Bibles for students to share during group discussion
- Pen/paper for SOAP study (optional)
- Playlister material

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## LARGE-GROUP SUPPLIES

- Stupid Video of the Week
- Message script
- Message slides

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## AUDIO/VISUAL NEEDS

- Pro Presenter or Playlister

