

# MIRACLES, SIGNS & WONDERS

How we use our power reveals our character. We can use it to make a way for others or to hold them down and promote ourselves. In Jesus' miracles, he reveals the force of his power and his heart for humanity. He changes water to wine, revealing himself to be the long-awaited Messiah. He can command creation, calming the waves to show his disciples peace. In giving sight to the blind man, he reveals himself as a merciful Redeemer. In all his miracles we are awed by his power, while encouraged to trust his goodness.



## JOHN 2:1-11 JESUS CHANGED WATER INTO WINE

**What did this miracle reveal?** The Messiah is present and ready to fulfill his promise.

At a wedding, after his mother Mary's encouragement, Jesus turns six jugs of water into wine. The jugs Jesus used were intended for ceremonial washing of hands and feet, in deference to religious customs taken from Levitical law. The water from the jars was usually for cleaning the outside of the body and Jesus replaced it for something on the inside. Perhaps it is more than coincidence that Jesus used these containers to reveal his ministry and identity as Messiah. The one who would cleanse us and purify us from within, by pouring out his lifeblood on our behalf.



## MARK 4:35-41 JESUS STILLED THE STORM

**What did this miracle reveal?** Our Savior responds to our cries for help, bringing peace in any circumstance.

After a long day of preaching to a crowd in Galilee, Jesus needs a break. He and his disciples take a boat to the opposite shore. Not long after they depart, Jesus falls asleep, and a storm begins to approach - a storm so great that the disciples are scared to the point they are afraid they will die. Frightened, they wake Jesus, who calms the storm and rebukes the wind and waves by saying, "Quiet! Be still!" These verses reveal Jesus' humanity in his need for rest, and his deity with his ability to control the storm. We have a Savior who knows our every struggle and has the power to work everything for our good.



## MARK 8:22-26 JESUS OPENED THE EYES OF A BLIND MAN

**What did this miracle reveal?** Jesus, our Redeemer, cares about our suffering. He shows mercy and compassionately heals us.

While in Bethsaida, some people bring a blind man to Jesus, begging for him to be healed. In an intimate act of love, Jesus takes the blind man out of the village and privately places his hands on him to heal him. The man's sight improves, and then Jesus touches his eyes again and the man sees clearly. Jesus, in his compassion, adapted the miracle to meet the needs of the man, privately and progressively healing him. We, too, experience compassion and growth in our faith when we seek solitude and rest with Jesus.

