



WHEN KIDS ASK...



“Why hasn’t a miracle happened for us?”

Why kids might ask:

Kids can sometimes feel confused when they hear stories about God healing people or bringing the dead to life—especially if those stories don’t align with their own experiences. It is natural for questions to arise about why God hasn’t done a miracle in a particular situation. It could appear as if God treats people differently by favoring some and neglecting others. Kids may wonder if God has stopped performing miracles or is choosing to remain silent and inactive or refuses to help certain types of people. These questions might also reveal deeper feelings of anger, pain, or neglect underneath them. Kids may feel disappointed when what they want from God—or think God should be doing—isn’t happening. Some might even question if they’ve done something wrong; they might think that they’re the reason miracles aren’t occurring in their lives.



...➤ What the Bible says:



The Bible does have stories of miracles, but it also has stories where no miracles occurred. There are many in the Bible who never received miracles during their lives. Many of these asked God for a miracle but they did not get one. Whether a miracle occurs or not is not connected to whether a person is good or bad. Some people who followed God faithfully never got a miracle, while others who did wrong still received them. For example, Paul asked God to take away a struggle he had, but God told him that His grace was enough. Job, a man who lived rightly, lost his family and became very sick, and God didn't stop it. Even Jesus, God's Son, was not rescued from death. So miracles do not depend on whether people are praying or acting or thinking correctly.

There are lots of reasons why a miracle may not occur. The Bible gives different reasons why miracles don't always happen. Sometimes, challenges help people grow in perseverance, character, and hope. Other times, suffering can lead others to seek God or bring about something new. In some parts of the Bible, God does not respond because God has already communicated about what would happen. In one story, a king is asking God for a miracle in battle, but a prophet reminds the king that God had already said there would not be a miracle. In another story, a prophet seeks God for a miracle for his city but is reminded that God wants to remove an entire city to start over. Sometimes, God explains why a miracle doesn't happen, but other times, He doesn't give an answer. Job is someone who was never told why his family died or why he suffered a severe sickness. Still God did respond to Job in a way that Job found very comforting and meaningful. Even when we don't understand, the Bible says God invites us to bring our questions, pain, and frustrations to Him.

Even without miracles, God cares deeply. God shows that care through countless ways that many of us may not label as miracles. God frequently shows love to everyone, whether they are grieving or not. For those who are grieving, the Bible mentions that God is the God of all comfort. God grieves with and for those who are suffering. The Bible reminds us that God does not want any to perish, and it pains God that injuries, sickness, and death occur. However God has also promised something greater—eternal life and resurrection, where

sickness, pain, and death will be gone forever. Those who don't experience miracles now will still receive the greatest miracle of resurrection in the future. So even those who have never seen or experienced a miracle will experience one when God resurrects us at the end of time, which will be the greatest miracle of all.

...➤ What you could discuss:



With preschool ages: "God cares about you, whether you see a miracle or not. Sometimes, God helps in ways we don't see, and He promises to always love and be with us, no matter what happens. We can experience God's love in many ways and don't need miracles to feel how God cares for us. Like Jesus taught us, there is a miracle of eternal life coming even for those who died."

With school ages: "God has done miracles in the past, but there are many times God didn't do a miracle. The Bible shows that even good people sometimes don't get miracles, but that doesn't mean God doesn't care. God shows care through countless ways, and we don't need a miracle to know that God loves us. Even when we want a miracle and don't get one, God has a plan that one day, He will bring the greatest miracle—eternal life where there will be no more sickness or sadness."

...➤ What you could do:



Pray for those in need: While miracles may be beyond your abilities, you can pray with your kid for those who are sick, struggling, or in need of hope. Prayer invites God to work in ways you may not always understand, whether through healing, comfort, or strength.

Express the confusion: For your kid, it could be comforting to express frustrations to you or to God directly. Encourage your kid to communicate confusion regarding why God is not fixing the situation. Your kid can express this confusion verbally or through artwork.

...➤ Where you could look for more information:

- ✦ **Stories of people who didn't get miracles:** Genesis 18 • Numbers 22 • Deuteronomy 3 • Judges 10 • 1 Samuel 28 • 2 Samuel 12 • 1 Kings 14 • 2 Kings 4 • Jeremiah 7 and 11 • Jonah 4 • Habakkuk 1 • Zechariah 7 • Job 30 • Psalm 18 • Matthew 12 • Luke 16 • John 2 • Acts 12 • 2 Corinthians 12 • Hebrews 11-12 • James 4 • Revelation 6
- ✦ **Stories of miracles offered to the rebellious:** Exodus 7 and 19 • Numbers 17 • Judges 6 • Isaiah 7 • Mark 6 • John 12
- ✦ **Passages where no reasons are given for why miracles weren't happening:** 2 Samuel 6 • Habakkuk 1 • Job 1-40 • Psalms 10, 13, 22 • Luke 23 • Revelation 16
- ✦ **God's ways sometimes being unknowable by us:** Deuteronomy 29 • Isaiah 40 and 55 • Jeremiah 16 • Job 42 • Ecclesiastes 8 • Proverbs 19 • Romans 11 • 1 Corinthians 2
- ✦ **Comments about the miracle of resurrection:** Job 19 • Psalm 16 • Daniel 12 • Matthew 28 • Luke 24 • John 11, 20 • 1 Corinthians 6, 15 • 1 Thessalonians 4 • Revelation 20-21