

3 Applications . . .

1. Repentance and faith are a **MIRACULOUS** work of God in every person. Let us **RECOGNIZE** that and **REJOICE**.

2. Signs and wonders should be **PRAYED** for and **CELEBRATED**, but they are not the true **BASIS** of our faith. . . Jesus Christ and His Word are!

3. Might signs and wonders become more **COMMON** if we get more **COMMITTED** to and **FOCUSED** on the Gospel mission Christ has given to us?



Signs and Wonders in the Early Church . . . and Today

Acts 5:12-21

Sunday, February 5, 2017

Signs and wonders are all over the book of Acts. What are we to make of these phenomena? How are we to understand signs and wonders? Today, let's look at this intriguing issue head on . . .

Some Observations from the Book of Acts . . .

1. Signs and wonders in the Early Church era are **DISTINCT** and **NOT DISTINCT**.

2. Signs and wonders are a **FORETASTE** of Christ's kingdom that is yet to be fully consummated.

3. Signs and wonders often express the **NATURE** of the Gospel: God's **MERCY** toward **BROKEN** people.

4. Signs and wonders serve to **MULTIPLY** the Gospel message and **VALIDATE** Gospel messengers.

5. Signs and wonders **FLARE UP** as the Gospel multiplies and spreads across **CULTURAL BARRIERS**.

6. Signs and wonders incite **OPPOSITION** and **PERSECUTION**.



Signs and Wonders in the Early Church . . . and Today

Growth Group Guide & Questions
for the week of February 5, 2017

Connecting & Caring Together (about 20 min.)

On this third week of Growth Groups, take time to “lean in” to one another by sharing joys and struggles, triumphs and trials.

Grappling with God’s Word Together (about 20 min.)

1. Read Acts 5:12-21 together as a group. This is the third “mission update” in the book of Acts (#1 is in 2:41-47, #2 is in 4:31-35). Review the flow of the book and the episodes of Luke’s “selected history.” Tell this story to one another connecting it to Acts 1:8, the “mission statement” of the book.
2. How did you “come under” God’s Word in the message this week? Are the “signs and wonders” in the book of Acts something that you’ve wondered about, been interested in, or longed for? Was the message helpful in thinking through the issue a bit?
3. What are some of the specific miraculous “signs and wonders” that have been described in the book of Acts so far? (There’s a bunch!)
4. There’s a bit of a paradox recorded for us in 5:13-14. What is it?

5. In Acts 5:12-21, who is doing these “signs and wonders” and what two things happen as a result?
6. Of the 6 observations shared about signs and wonders, which one was the most thought-provoking, meaningful or helpful? Why?
7. Which of the 3 applications was most challenging for your personally? Why?

Praying Together (about 20 min.)

Keep “leaning into” prayer as a group. Jump right into prayer and sharing our burdens/requests through prayer. (If needed, you can ask questions after your prayer time.)

And let’s pray “missionally” after the pattern of Acts 4:30-31 . . .

“And now, Lord . . . grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”