

2) Second, you will WANT to give once you're convinced that your seeds WILL produce a good future harvest. What an amazing thought! God has given you a "tool" to determine your future harvest. **There are times when I need a miracle in my own life that I specifically and intentionally plant a faith-seed in association with my prayer request.** I "purpose in my heart" to plant a faith-seed, expecting a harvest. The solid Biblical basis for this idea can be found in 2 Corinthians 9:6-11 -- "According as every man purposes in his heart, so let him give ... and God is able to make all grace abound towards you, that you having all sufficiency in all things may abound to every good work." Paul understood that faith-seeds activate the grace and provision of God (Phil 4:15-19). This passage is specifically referring to offerings, but it applies to any type seed. Everything can be a "seed" – your smile, your words, your good deeds, and your money. **Thus, use the "seed principle" to your advantage to determine your future harvest.** Doing so will position you for miracles.

7. SEE OPPORTUNITIES THAT COME YOUR WAY AS "MIRACLE POSSIBILITIES." I have a broad view of miracles because I believe that God works in our everyday lives. To me, coincidences, business opportunities, and meeting the right people at the right time are the wings of miracles. Why? Because God normally works through people. Luke 6:38 talks about giving (as described in #6 above) – but it also gives us an insight on "how" the harvest will normally come: "Give and it shall be given unto you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, shall men give unto you." Notice that it says "shall MEN give unto you." We don't look to others as our source of supply, for God is the one who blesses us. Yet, God generally sends His supply through people. Thus, it will help you to start seeing opportunities that come your way as miracle possibilities. Be alert to things that you need to get involved in, and conversely, things that you should avoid. Doing this will position you for miracles.

8. LET GOD SPEAK TO YOU THROUGH THE EXPERIENCE OF OTHER PEOPLE. Proverbs 13:20 says, "He that walks with wise men shall be wise, but a companion of fools shall be destroyed." Can it be any clearer? God can speak to you through the experience and wisdom of others. If you are in business, then find people who are successful in the same field. Draw from their

experience. If you are in the ministry, then find those who have had a similar calling and start taking notes! Study their materials and strategy. When you associate with wise people, you position yourself for miracles.

9. GET RID OF NEGATIVE FORCES THAT HINDER MIRACLES – STRIFE, SIN, AND UNFORGIVENESS. The Bible is crystal clear that if we harbor strife and unforgiveness in our hearts, it will hinder our prayers (Mt 6:14,15 / Jm 3:14). Why? Well, I think it's because God feels that if he has forgiven YOU of all your sins, then why wouldn't you forgive those who sin against you? Read the story of the wicked servant who did not forgive. In the end, he lost everything and was turned over to the tormentors (Mt 18:21-35). If you feel that your success is being hindered, then it's a good idea to take a personal inventory. Are there people that you need to forgive? Or, perhaps you need to ask them to forgive you? Doing this positions you for miracles.

10. DO WHAT'S NECESSARY TO GET THE "FISH" IN THE BOAT! My father loved to fish. I can recall several times that we had the fish right to the edge of the boat, but then lost it! The same thing can happen with miracles. Opportunities lost can be miracles lost. Once you determine a miracle is at hand, do what's necessary to see it through to success. Fill out the papers, make the call, be on time to the appointment, or whatever the case may be. Make it a priority to "get the fish in the boat!" Doing this will help you stay in a regular flow of miracles.

Dear friend, I pray that you will open your mind to God's miracle possibilities. Expect miracles every day! ■ -- **Jason Peebles**



Key Memory Verse:

"Now unto Him who is able to do exceedingly, abundantly, above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us."

Ephesians 3:20

Prayer for Miracle Living

"Father, thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross for my sins. I accept His sacrifice and commit my life to Him. I want to experience your miracle flow. Lead me, guide me, and teach me how to get in position for miracles. Thank you for your great love. In Jesus Name – Amen."

We hope this Study Guide helps you. Sign up online to receive our FREE studies each month. *World Outreach Ministries* is the home office for interdenominational missionaries around the world. It was founded in 1979 by Jason Peebles. Our missionaries are from all types of church backgrounds and are involved in a variety of outreaches – evangelism, schools, medical clinics, children's shelters, aviation, church planting, translation work, broadcasting, leadership training, and support roles. God's kingdom has all kinds of workers!

We are a faith ministry – that is, we look to God to impress friends like you to help. If this Study Guide encourages you, then please consider supporting our *Missionary Agency*. You can set up one-time or automatic recurring monthly gifts with your credit or debit card via our website. Thank you for your support . . .

Online Donations & Info:

www.WorldOutreach.org

Mail Support to:

World Outreach Ministries
P.O. Box B
Marietta, GA 30061

These Study Guides are available in packs of 20.
Call to order by Credit Card: 1 (800) 832-WORD

Getting in Position for Miracles



by Jason Peebles

Most people have never considered the importance of getting in position for miracles. The typical attitude is, "Well, if God wants me have a miracle, then it will happen." **Yet, all through the Bible we see people using their faith and "pressing in" for miracles.** Consider the woman with the issue of blood and how she pressed through the crowd to touch Jesus (Mk 5:25-34). She could have stayed home that day, but, her desire for a miracle motivated her to leave home, search for Jesus and touch his garment. Because of it, she was healed. Peter also discovered the importance of getting in position for miracles. He had fished all night and caught nothing – and then Jesus asked him to launch his boat once again. Peter's decision to obey Jesus and try again positioned him for a miracle catch that followed (Lk 5:1-11). And so, dear friend, there is a vital truth all through the Bible – the importance of getting in position for miracles.

Three Phases of Faith

If you want to step into a flow of miracles, it will be extremely helpful if you first understand the three phases of faith. **There are generally three phases that you pass through when you set out for something in prayer. There's the**

Claiming Phase, the Waiting Phase, and the Receiving Phase. The **CLAIMING PHASE** is the time that you begin to lay hold of God's promise with your faith. It may be a promise that you've discovered in the Bible or a personal goal that the Holy Spirit has put in your heart. It's at the moment of prayer that you must learn to "receive" the answer as already done in your heart. Mark 11:24 says, *"For whatsoever things you desire when you pray, believe that you receive them and you shall have them."* The original language says *"believe that you received them, and you shall have them."* In other words, real faith does not wait to receive the answer to appear. Authentic faith says, *"It's mine, I have it NOW."* Faith sees it done and rejoices at the moment of prayer. After the Claiming Phase comes what I call the **WAITING PHASE**. We all love instant miracles, yet more often than not there is a time delay between the Claiming Phase and the Receiving Phase. Hebrews 6:12 says, *"That you be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises."* Notice that it takes faith AND patience to inherit God's promises. The last phase is also very important – the **RECEIVING PHASE**. **The remainder of this study is dedicated to helping you better understand the Receiving Phase and how to get in position to "catch" miracles.**

Learn to "Catch" Miracles

Have you ever watched a young child learn how to catch a ball? At first, they just stand there, in one place, expecting the ball to automatically land in their hands! It takes time and training for them to learn how to reach out and catch the ball. They must learn to keep their eyes on the ball, how to adjust their position slightly, and how to reach out and "receive" the ball once it comes. **Miracles are a lot like that. God's grace (his unmerited favor) has miracles prepared for your life. But you must learn to cooperate with His provision.** If you don't, then you'll "drop" most of the balls that God "throws" your way. In the beginning, nearly 100% of all children miss the ball. Yet with practice they learn. In a similar way, there's an art to getting in position and receiving miracles. The problem is not with God's desire to bless you. Ephesians 3:20 says, *"Now unto Him who is able to*

do exceedingly, abundantly, above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us." The truth is, God wants to bless your life more than you can possibly know. You must renew your mind to this fact and then learn to cooperate with His power.



Get in Position

The Bible is filled with many keys on how to step into God's flow of miracles. Here are ten vital keys that will help you get in position for miracles.

1. EXPECT MIRACLES! This is the starting point. You must start expecting and anticipating miracles. If your mind is closed to the possibility of miracles, then it will be hard for God to lead and guide you. Look at what Paul wrote during one of his toughest trials: *"For I know that this shall turn to my deliverance through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, according to my earnest expectation and hope"* (Phil 1:19-20). Notice three things that Paul had working for him: **1) Paul believed in a "supply" of the Spirit. You, too, must start believing that the Holy Spirit has a supply of miracles for your life.** 2) Paul wasn't on his own – he had other people praying for him, and 3) Paul's heart was filled with expectation and hope for a positive outcome. These three things, my friend, create an atmosphere for miracles. I encourage you to get in the habit of waking up every day expecting good things. Whisper quick prayers thanking God that, *"Today, I'm expecting*

miracles!" Expect to meet key people. Expect favorable opportunities. When things don't go as planned, then thank God that things will soon turn around. Positive expectation is extremely important in positioning your life for miracles.

2. CLAIM THE PROMISES IN GOD'S WORD. The Bible is filled with hundreds of amazing promises covering every area imaginable. There are promises regarding your health, guidance, favor, money, relationships, children, and on and on. 2 Peter 1:4 says, *"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises, that by these you might be partakers of the divine nature."* However, if you don't know the promises, then you can't exercise faith in them. **Think of the promises in the Bible like the capsules that contain medicine – God's promises are the containers of His provision.** Christ made a great inheritance available for you, but you must claim it. Ephesians 1:11 says, *"In whom also we have obtained an inheritance."* Our Savior died to give you the provision of heaven! It's sad that many Christians endure unnecessary hardships when, in fact, God's promises are available for the taking. So start claiming God's promises. Learn to lace your prayers with the promises. This habit will position you for miracles.

3. RECEIVE THE ANSWER AT THE MOMENT OF PRAYER. We mentioned this one earlier, but it bears repeating. Authentic faith "receives the answer" at the moment of prayer. At first, this may be a challenge to your mind. But think of it this way. If a person that you know and trust promises you something on the telephone, don't you rest assured that it's as good as done? Even though you don't "see" it yet, you trust in their word. Well, God is the most trustworthy friend that you will ever have. **Once you pray in faith, use your imagination to "see" it as done. Have faith that the answer is in the "pipeline."** Doing this will position you for miracles.

4. USE THE LANGUAGE OF FAITH – THANKSGIVING. If you truly believe that your answer is in the "pipeline" then you will start thanking God before you ever "see" the answer. Notice how the apostle Paul links prayer with thanksgiving and the peace of God. Philippians 4:6,7 says, *"Be*

anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God; and the peace which passes all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." The habit of giving thanks is the cure for anxiety. It helps "set" your faith in the proper mode. Instead of begging God over and over for the same requests, your thanksgiving becomes an expression of your confidence in God's ability to perform His promise. The language of doubt and unbelief is complaining and begging. The language of faith is thanksgiving and praise.

5. BE QUICK TO OBEY GOD. When God shows you something to do, then do it! It may be a habit that you need to drop or a specific action that He wants you to take. Your obedience certainly does not "earn" or "purchase" the miracle. By no means! Miracles are gifts from God that are available to us because of what Jesus has done. However, obedience is important for keeping the "pipeline" open (1 Jn 3:22). On the other hand, disobedience is like a kink in a water hose – it shuts off the supply from reaching you. Folks, this isn't rocket science. When the Holy Spirit impresses your heart about something, or you see a new truth in the Bible, then do your best to comply with what God shows you. If you are struggling with something, then ask for His grace to help. Philippians 2:13 says, *"For it is God who works in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure."* Obedience positions you for miracles.

6. PLANT SPECIFIC SEEDS OF FAITH. This may be an entirely new concept for you – but the Bible has a lot to say about the *"seed principle"* (Mk 4:14). Perhaps you've never thought of it this way, but everything you do is a "seed." Good seed brings forth good fruit but bad seed produces a bad crop. Galatians 6:7, says, *"For whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap."* **This is an immutable spiritual law that is as sure as the law of gravity. You can't "trick" it or alter it. Your seeds WILL eventually produce fruit.** Because of this, it's important that you learn to intentionally plant good faith-seeds. Find someone to give to. Give your time, your money, or some other resource that you possess. Why? 1) First of all, you give because you want to be like God and help others. That's the primary reason to plant good seed.