
LIFE TEEN PARENT LETTER

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LIFE NIGHT: PICS OR IT DIDN'T HAPPEN

CONTENT OVERVIEW

Actions speak louder than words. This simple, yet profound, phrase is uttered quite frequently and speaks directly to the point that if our words are not backed by our actions, then they lose their credibility. It may be very easy, for example, to tell someone that you love them. But to reinforce that love by actions, defines that love so much more.

Much of Jesus' public ministry included teaching. Jesus was a genius at using words. By using parables, stories, and analogies, He had a knack of making a very difficult point easy to understand, allowing His listeners to enter more deeply into the meaning of His point. But, it was more than His words that certainly proved who Jesus truly is, the Son of God; it was His actions.

Jesus not only taught about the love of God and revealed Himself as the Son of God, He demonstrated it in how He lived. Jesus' divinity was on display through His actions. And, at the height of these actions were the miracles that Jesus regularly performed. Simply put, miracles are signs or wonders which can only be attributed to divine power. The miracles that Jesus performed were the signs of the presence of God and proof of His very own divinity.

Here are some examples of just a few of the miracles of Jesus:

- Changing water into wine - John 2:1-11
- Healing of Peter's mother-in-law - Matthew 8:14-15
- Catching a large number of fish - Luke 5:1-11
- Healing of a leper - Luke 5:12-15
- Healing of the Centurion's Servant - Matthew 8:5-13
- Raising of Jairus' Daughter - Matthew 8:18-19, 23-25
- Feeding of the 5,000 - John 6:1-15
- Healing of the man born blind - John 9:1-41
- Raising of Lazarus - John 11:1-44
- Healing Bartimaeus of blindness - Mark 10:46-52

And that is only just a few..."Miracles strengthen faith in the One who does his Father's works; they bear witness that he is the Son of God." Jesus' miracles were the actions that reinforced God's love, revealing the divinity of Jesus, proving that He is who He says He is, and leading us all on that journey of faith that always points back to God. In addition, miracles are not just something that happened 2,000 years ago, they continue today, and as they do, they point back to Christ and the power of God that is alive in our lives. (CCC 548)

CONVERSATION STARTERS

1. What do you think holds more credibility when proving something, words or actions? Why?
2. Is it difficult to believe that Jesus is the Son of God? Do the miracles of Jesus make it easier to believe this?
3. What miracle of Jesus do you relate to or remember the most? Why?