

## Centerpoint Church Position Paper: Miracles Today

Centerpoint Church believes that God is at work today in reconciling people to Himself and using His believing people to do so. We believe that Jesus gave this mission of reconciliation to His followers – that God would use His believing people today to do extraordinary works to proclaim the good news of reconciliation. This includes healings and miracles that testify to the validity of the message and show God’s love towards people.

As Christ-followers we believe in the historical miracles of the faith, that God took on a human body in Christ through a virgin birth, that Christ lived a sinless life, died for our sins, and rose from the dead. We also believe that God works miracles today – that God still saves people from their sin and brings new life. The Apostle Paul wrote along these lines, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes...”<sup>1</sup> So we believe in the miraculous historical tenants of the faith, and also believe that God is still at work in the world today, convicting people of their sin and bringing them to salvation through faith in Christ.

There are differences within the greater Christian community over the extent to which God works through His people in our world today. Some argue that God has limited His activity through His people since the compilation of the Biblical texts. Yet, it is fairly apparent that these same texts never speak to miracles ceasing or God’s methods in forwarding the gospel message changing. Indeed, we are told that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever<sup>2</sup> and that He sent His followers out as He was sent, thus passing on His methods to His disciples.<sup>3</sup>

**It is our position that Jesus came to be a perfect sacrifice for our sin and to begin a movement we know as the Church. This is why Jesus trained His disciples, so that the message of reconciliation with God might go forth. He did this by giving His disciples power and authority to bring this message.**<sup>4</sup>

Wherever the disciples were sent they proclaimed the message of reconciliation with God and performed the same works Jesus did, powerful healings and miracles that attested to the validity of the message.<sup>5</sup> This is pictured well for us in Acts 8:5-8: “Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah there. When the crowds heard Philip and saw the signs he performed, they all paid close attention to what he said. For with shrieks, impure spirits came out of many, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. So there was great joy in that city.”<sup>6</sup>

From these examples we see that the methods of forwarding the message of reconciliation with God were passed on by Jesus to His followers. We believe that both the message and the methods have not changed, and so we also in our day should expect to see these same powerful works accompany the proclamation of the message of reconciliation with God.

---

<sup>1</sup> *The New International Version*. (2011). (Romans 1:16). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

<sup>2</sup> Hebrews 13:8

<sup>3</sup> John 20:21

<sup>4</sup> Luke 9:1, 10:19

<sup>5</sup> See Luke 10:1-21, Acts 3:1-10, 6:1-7, 9:32-43, 13:4-12, 14:1-20

<sup>6</sup> *The New International Version*. (2011). (Acts 8:5–8). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.