

Word notes Sunday 22/03/09 Simon Matthews
From the natural to the supernatural

Summary (read this bit out to remind cell members what was said on Sunday)

Jesus was both natural, being a flesh and blood man, and supernatural, in that he was the divine Son of God. When Christ comes into our lives we also have this dual form – a natural person and a supernatural one too. We see this made evident by the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our lives see 1 Cor 12:4-11 which given into our lives by the Holy Spirit take us from the real of the natural to the supernatural.

In particular in verse 10 we read about prophecy and miracles.

Prophecy – Simon spoke of two kinds: general prophetic words mean for encouragement and exhortation and that of prophetic ministry, which is essential both in our personal lives and corporately. This prophetic ministry catapults us from the natural to the supernatural, causing us to change direction radically. Simon gave the example of the word he was given as a young man saying he would be used in the ministry, which caused him to pursue that despite having no formal qualifications of any kind – impossible?

Miracles – Big Miracles, not just eg healing from a skin rash, which is miraculous, but not to the degree that for instance growing a missing hand would be. We may be feeling disillusioned from past disappointments or maybe let down by some ministries that were nothing more than hype. Yet we know from the Bible that our God is a miracle working God.

Application (this is the bit where cell members get to participate. Lead discussions around these points)

Does anyone have anything to share about what God said to him or her in the meeting?

Discuss our personal experiences of the prophetic or miracles in our lives, those near us or our churches. For instance:

- What was the Word/Miracle
- How recent was it
- When did we last ask for something – a Word or a Miracle (apart from Sunday)
- Does anyone feel unable or not confident to ask? (Don't try to give them answers but ask what support they would like from the group.)

If anyone was not at the meeting but wants to confess to disillusionment or disappointment that leaves them with reservation that God will do these things then invite them to share and pray for them.

If anyone was not there for the "Offering of Miracles" where we wrote down a miracle we want to ask God for but wants to put one into that offering then they can pass this to a leader to put with the others so they can be prayed for with the others as we do this in the life of the church.

Witness (this is the bit where the cell talks and prays about how to share the Good News)

Who can we invite to the Baptism Service on Sunday?

Discuss what people's understanding is of how prophetic and miracles gifts can be part of our personal outreach – be realistic to your level of faith but also encourage each other to take steps.