

Study Guide

Monday, June 22 - Read Matthew 14:22-27; John 6:16-20; Job 9:8; 2 Kings 6:5-7 Straight after Jesus had fed the crowd, He told the disciples to get back into the boat and go ahead of Him. After sending the people home, He went up a mountain to be alone to pray. Meanwhile a strong wind was blowing across the lake, and the disciples in the boat were being thrown around by the waves. In the early hours of the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus came walking toward them on the water. The disciples were terrified because they thought they were seeing a ghost. But Jesus said to them, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." What wonderful words of hope Jesus spoke to the fearful disciples. They had been rowing half the night, fearing that their boat would sink ... and then they thought they were seeing a ghost! When life gets stormy and it feels like you're about to get swamped by waves of trouble, you fear the worst. You struggle on your own until you're exhausted; and just when you think you can't carry on, things get worse. Just stop! Put down the oars of your boat and pray. Jesus is coming to help you. Do not fear! FYI: Jesus walking on water went against the laws of nature. The prophet Elisha had faith to make a metal axhead float on water (2 Kings 6:5-7).

Tuesday, June 23 - Read John 11:1-32 Have you ever heard of Lazarus? He was the brother of two pretty famous sisters: Mary and Martha. While he was sick, the sisters were crushed. They loved their brother so much, and the first thing they did was send word to Jesus saying, "LORD! Behold, the one who you love is sick." Wait a second! They didn't even bother letting Jesus know how much Lazarus loved Him--nope! This is the FIRST secret to the miracle they needed. They focused on how much Jesus loved Lazarus! Your breakthrough miracle starts with your absolute certainty that Jesus loves YOU! Oftentimes we feel like we have to love God more in order to get what we want, but that's not how God operates. His love for you is the WHY behind His power. He'll perform miracles in your life because HE LOVES YOU! Another thing I love about the miracle of Lazarus is the timing. Jesus didn't go to Lazarus right away--He waited DAYS. Can you imagine? This seemed odd because Jesus and Lazarus were really good friends; and while he was waiting for Jesus to show up, he died. Even though the story of Lazarus included death, it didn't CONCLUDE in death. You know, something I've learned in my life is that God's timing is always perfect. Lazarus was dead. And it still wasn't too late for God! It's never too late for God, no matter how bad the situation is.

Wednesday, June 24 - Read John 11:32-40 Yesterday we talked about the first secret to your miracle breakthrough: being certain of God's love for you! Today we're talking about the second secret. Check this out...When Jesus arrived in Bethany and heard that Lazarus had died, He was moved to compassion because He loved him. In John 11:39, Jesus says, "Take away the stone." "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time, he has been there four days." Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" No matter how bad your situation is, no matter how dead it seems or looks, it isn't over with God! Jesus was showing Martha the second secret to the miracle breakthrough she needed: if you believe, you will see! Faith works through love! In other words, miracles happen in an atmosphere of faith. When you believe, you will see!

Thursday, June 25 - Read John 11:41-44 Ok, really quick--the first secret to your miracle breakthrough? The assurance that you are loved! Second, believe before you see. And the third secret to your miracle breakthrough shows up in verses 41-42 of John 11: "So, they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, 'Father, I thank You that You have heard me. I knew that You always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that You sent me.'" See how Jesus didn't say, "Father, help me" or "Father, give me the power" or "Father, will you?" When Jesus said those powerful words, "Father, I thank You," He was expressing the highest form of faith. The secret to that faith was His gratitude! "When He had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come forth!'" Lazarus came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go." (John 11:43-44) Jesus already knew God would raise Lazarus from the dead. He knew that God would answer His prayer because Jesus knew God was always listening, and that's why He was thankful. Gratitude is the gateway to miracles. In fact, it's the gateway to God's will for our lives--to a life of happiness and purpose. Are you seeking happiness today? Do you need a miracle in your life? Are you trying to discover God's will for your life? Do you need a breakthrough today?

Friday, June 26 - Read John 2:9-10 The Gospel of John records seven specific miracles of Jesus that reveal His glory in undeniable ways and teach us eternal truths that can change our lives today! They are often called "sign miracles" as they point to the power and deity of Christ. These were signs that only God could do. The first is found in John 2 where Jesus and His disciples attended a wedding feast. When the wine supply ran out, Jesus' mother, Mary, approached Him with the problem and told the servants at the feast, "Do whatever He tells you." Imagine being those servants when Jesus told them to fill six stone jars with water. These jars could hold 20 to 30 gallons of water each. They were typically used for Jewish ceremonial washing. Once they filled the jars with water, Jesus instructed them to take them to the master of ceremonies. You have to give these servants credit for obeying what must not have made any sense to them at the time. Yet they followed the instructions, and when the master of ceremonies tasted the water that had miraculously turned into wine, he called the bridegroom over and said, "This is wonderful stuff! ... You're different from most. Usually a host uses the best wine first, and afterwards, when everyone is full and doesn't care, then he brings out the less expensive brands. But you have kept the best for the last!" What a story these servants must have had to tell their families! Living a life of faith is an adventure in seeing God do the miraculous! Faith is obeying God when it doesn't make sense. It's risking looking foolish and feeling awkward. Are you going through a season in your life that makes you feel like your best days are in the past? Do you feel like your dream has died? Have you lost hope in things getting better? Look up and take heart. God always begins with the miracle you need most, and He says the best is yet to come! We will look at the other five next week. (We already have covered Lazarus.)

<https://www.cumbbooks.co.za/>; <https://gregorydickow.com>; <http://waterbrookmultnomah.com/books/246647/find-your-miracle-by-kerry-and-chris-shook/>

THE COVENANT HAPPENINGS

WORSHIP AT COVENANT

06.21.20

Sundays

8:15 AM | **Traditional Service** Sanctuary
CovKids Main Building
Birth - 4 years old - Nursery Hall

9:45 AM | **Contemporary Service** Sanctuary
CovKids Main Building
Birth - 4 years old - Nursery Hall

11 AM | **Contemporary Service** - Collide
Christian Life Center Gym

Wednesdays

6 PM | **1st Wednesday**
Once a month
Bible Study
Weekly

Online

No matter where you are on Sundays, you can join us for worship on our Covenant app, on our website at covenantdothan.org or on Facebook at facebook.com/covumcdathan.

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Happy Father's Day!

Covenant is excited about our plan for a *gradual* re-opening on campus beginning with worship services only. For your safety, we will have limited seating during each service and childcare for ages 4 and younger will be available (reservations requested). Children ages 5 and older as well as students will worship with their families. All of our services are available on our online campus.

Sundays 8:15 am, 9:45 am & 11 am Collide

Wednesday Night Bible Study 6 pm

Livestream: covenantdothan.org/messages

Facebook Live: facebook.com/covumcdathan

YouTube: Search Covenant Dothan UMC

Giving to Covenant

We are called to practice generosity in every area of our lives. Through your continued support of Covenant we are able to unleash compassion and share the love of Jesus with our hurting world. Visit covenantdothan.org/give to see how you can partner with us during this time.

Baptism

We believe baptism is an important step of obedience in our faith journey. It shows that we have personally trusted Jesus for our salvation, and just as Jesus was baptized on earth, we do this to follow his example. Your baptism symbolizes the new life you have found in Christ just as Jesus rose to life again. If you have questions about baptism or would like to be baptized, contact Rev. Kyle Gatlin at kyle@covenantdothan.org.

COVENANT growthtrack

We are excited to offer a virtual Growth Track class on **Sunday, June 28**. God still has a plan for your life, and Growth Track is designed to help you discover your

purpose! If you'd like to join our June class or have questions, contact Shawn Shirley at shawn@covenantdothan.org.

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THE COVENANT APP
Search & download
"Covenant UMC Dothan" on
any phone or tablet device.



Wednesday Night Bible Study

Join one of our pastors each Wednesday evening at 6 pm as we stay connected through God's Word. We will study the book of James and look at practical ways to live out our faith.

Livestream: covenantdothan.org/messages

Facebook Live: facebook.com/covumcdothan

YouTube: Search Covenant Dothan UMC

It's Complicated - YouTube Channel

The unprecedented circumstances we have found ourselves in can be credited for causing harrowing fears, worries, and spiraling anxiety, just to name a few. As we struggle to balance work, children, household responsibilities, and the stress of daily life, it can take a toll on our relationships. Relationships are complicated and unpredictable, and navigating this journey of maintaining healthy relationships will require more than our effort alone. We thought you could use a refresher about healthy relationships right now, and we've uploaded some previous messages to our YouTube Channel (search Covenant Dothan UMC) for you to revisit! God is love, and He desires to be the guide of our lives and our loving relationships.

Make time to listen to the inspiring messages from "It's Complicated." We hope they bless your lives, and your relationships come out of this season healthier and stronger than ever!

CovGroups

New Study Do you desire a deeper relationship with God? Join us for an eight-session study examining scriptural realities that teach believers how to develop an obedient love relationship with God. "Seven Realities for Experiencing God" demonstrates how God uses ordinary people to experience Him in extraordinary ways and explores Biblical truths such as "God is always at work around you." This group will meet via Zoom on **Wednesday evenings at 6 pm, beginning June 24**, and is great for new believers or those looking to deepen their relationship with Christ. Group will attend First Wednesday service together each month and meet on Zoom the remaining Wednesday evenings. For more information, contact Wendy Hicks at wendy@covenantdothan.org.

Right Now Media Our church has access to an extensive video library called Right Now Media. It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" and contains a HUGE library of faith-based videos that can be accessed from anywhere. We believe Right Now Media is a tool that can serve you as you live out your faith at home, work, and in your neighborhood. There are videos for everyone - kids, students, & adults - aimed at helping you grow in your faith. Contact Wendy Hicks to sign up.

Covenant News & Happenings

Are you interested in receiving a weekly eNewsletter along with other Covenant news by email? This is a great way to stay up to date on upcoming events, registration, prayer concerns and more. Email Courtney Hardy at courtney@covenantdothan.org to sign up.

Care Ministries



Celebrate Recovery Celebrate Recovery is a Christ centered recovery program for everyone who struggles with a hurt, habit or hang-up. Join us on Facebook at facebook.com/covumcdothan on Thursdays at 6 pm. For more information contact Sherry Koogler at sherryk@covenantdothan.org.

Grief Support Grief Support is a safe, confidential, loving and Christ-centered environment for sharing one another's burdens. We begin with a short presentation on a topic connected to grief and then break into small groups for discussion and sharing. Grief Support meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month and is currently meeting via Zoom. If you are interested in joining or would like more information, please contact Jim Hicks at hicksje@graceba.net.

Stephen Ministry Stephen Ministry is Christ caring for people through people.



If you are going through a difficult time, contact Kyle Gatlin at 793.4440 or kyle@covenantdothan.org. The care you'll receive is confidential, free and very helpful.



Stay connected with our CovKids! Be sure to check out everything CovKids has coming up on Facebook & Instagram - live devotionals, book readings, crafts & more!

Facebook: facebook.com/CovKids

Instagram: instagram.com/covkids_



We have a special experience coming up for our CovStudents! This two-day event will include worship, a guest speaker, and diving deeper into His word. Our 6th-12th graders are invited to join us **June 22 & 23 at 6 pm** for a time of worship with our student band and a guest speaker. During the day, we will have serving opportunities for our 9th-12th graders in various places

around our church and community. Contact David Burnham

(davidb@covenantdothan.org) or JoBeth (Jobeth@covenantdothan.org) to sign your student up today.

Facebook: facebook.com/CovStudents · Instagram: instagram.com/covstudents

CovMissions

While our outreach certainly does look differently these days, rest assured that not even a Pandemic will stop us from unleashing compassion. Here are a couple of things CovMissions has been able to do over the last couple of months:

- As a partner agency with the Wiregrass Area Food Bank, we have issued numerous food vouchers to families and individuals in need of grocery assistance. Each voucher is good for approximately 40 pounds of "dry food" (canned vegetables, cereal, pasta, oatmeal) and 10 pounds of frozen meat.
- We deliver lunch daily to approximately 50 residents at Glen East (low income senior housing). These lunches are provided through the Dothan City School's Nutrition program.

To learn more or to see how you can help, contact Barbi Nolan at

barbi@covenantdothan.org or visit covenantdothan.org/connect/missions.

Rummage Sale

Just a reminder that we have storage space available if you have donations you would like to give to the Rummage Sale. The Rummage Sale benefits our Celebrate Recovery program as well as other missions in the Wiregrass. Contact Sherry Koogler at sherryk@covenantdothan.org and she will set up a time to meet you to drop off donations.

Covenant Concerns

Recent Prayer Concerns Jennette Gayer, Ava Blackburn, Beth & Tom Sherrer, Ronnie Brannon, Molly Tew, Tom Renshaw Sr., Margaret Wilson, David Cunningham, Linda Griffith, Chris Smith, John Babinski, Tim Koogler, Linda Avera, Carrie Williams, Beverly Youse, Kathy Kerecman, Sandy Lisenby, Danielle Simmons, Tammy Reese, Family of Patsy Bowling, Johnathan Berry, Carla Lawrence, Wallace Family, JJ Price Family, Alan Tidwell, Quinton Snellgrove, Terri Daughtry, Lori Burns, Dr. Bill Lies, Lisa Silcox, Natalie Faulk, Christy Goodwin Bullard, Mary Lisenby, George Stokes, Mark Arrington, William Brown, Peter Collins Jr., Jill Walden, Sue Reynolds, Hays McKay, Helon Scott, Jeanne Stringfellow, Dutch Holland, James Salter, Lois Axtell, Thomas Evans, Lucy Cline, Carolyn Benton, Kim McNeill, David Johnston, Yvonne Reid, Cher Hicks, Happy Fox, Pete Shelley, Lisa Henry, Karen Medley, Gayle Moores, Lamar Spence, Martha Jane Shannon, Jerry Dooling, Tipton Family, Kathy Clark, Wynn Arkle, June Granberry, Evie Riley, Tony Justice, Richard Duncan, Sarah Grantham, Charles Meeks, JoAnn Gamble, Laurie Axtell, Allwyn Nilsson, Trip and Haley Moseley & family, Avery Wells, Jeffrey Bostwick, Scott Berry, Jennie Lawson, Scott Brown, Angie Goodson, Janis Caddell, Shelby Clark, Kendrea White, Kelly Armstrong Smith, Bobby Simmons, Michael Buntin, Bernice White, Beverly White, Audrey Miller, Carolyn Thomley, Bob Drummond, Connie Moore

Recently Deployed Jerrad Anderson

Have a prayer request? If you have a prayer request you would like to add to this list, please email Kyle Gatlin at kyle@covenantdothan.org.