

About This Unit

Wonder Stories: Learning Jesus' Miracles introduces learners from age 2 through grade 6 to the miracles of Jesus. Throughout his ministry, Jesus used miracles to show the glory of God. Through these amazing acts, Jesus announced who he was to all.

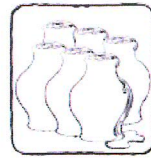
Stories tell us who we are, so the Firelight II rotational model is perfect for digging into these wonder-filled stories and making them real and meaningful for kids. This unit explores five miracles of Jesus. Firelight II's vivid, age-appropriate approach means that your growing-in-faith learners will remember and claim these stories as their own.

What Are Miracles?

The miracle stories in the New Testament are often troubling for modern readers. No explanation is offered in their texts, yet we often feel compelled to provide some explanation. This is the challenge of miracle stories. They are outside human experience and expectation; they bump up against our ideas of order and control and what is possible (even for God). This is the essence of any miracle—it shatters expectations and renders explanations superfluous.

Resist the urge to “explain” the mystery to yourself or others. These are *meant* to be extraordinary stories. These are stories of God's power and love, not supernatural events begging explanation. These stories beg only faith questions. Why did the New Testament writers tell us about this miracle? What does this particular miracle tell us about Jesus? About ourselves? What is the miracle's importance in the narrative in which it occurs? What is its importance today?

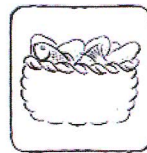
Throughout the Bible, miracles are signs pointing to something larger. Usually they demonstrate God's love and announce the presence of the Kingdom of God. We need to let these stories do this for us. We are witnesses. Notice how the people who witness the miracles of Jesus react: with awe, gratitude, a compulsion to go and tell ... Such is our role. Be amazed. Wonder. Let the story speak to you.



Wedding Wonders offers four sessions about Jesus' miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana (John 2:1-11). Learners will discover how Jesus showed God's glory and who he was when he performed this miracle.



Stormy Seas provides up to four sessions on the miracle of Jesus calming the storm (Mark 4:35-41). Learners will hear Jesus ask, “Why were you afraid? Don't you have any faith?” and know what it means to trust in him.



Sharing Lunch explores the miracle of the 5,000 fed by Jesus (John 6:1-15) in up to four sessions. As Jesus' followers, learners will come to understand that God provides everything we need, often in unexpected ways.



Healing the 10 uses the miracle of Jesus healing ten men with leprosy (Luke 17:11-19) to explore how we can always ask Jesus for help. Up to four weeks of experiences acquaint kids with the importance of showing praise and thanksgiving to God.



Little Girl, Get Up! is four fun weeks of activities focusing on Jesus' power over death when he raises Jairus's daughter to life (Mark 5:21-24, 35-43). Believers will rejoice in the knowledge that we don't need to worry, because Jesus is always with us. All we need is faith.

Learning these *Wonder Stories* will enhance your learners' understanding of who Jesus really is. When kids encounter Bible stories in deep, multi-sensory ways, the learning can last a lifetime!