

DIMENSIONS OF A MIRACLE

Scripture used: [John 6:1-14](#)

OVERVIEW

Today Rev. Dr. Horace W. Sheppard Jr. provided the sermon titled, “Dimensions of a Miracle.” He encouraged us to move beyond a limited, natural perspective and learn to see through God’s eyes—a faith vision that trusts in His unseen provision. Even when our resources seem inadequate, God often begins His work with what we already have. Miracles frequently require our active participation, involving persistent effort even when we feel tired or overwhelmed. Ultimately, God’s miracles don’t just meet immediate needs; they overflow, leaving us humbled and amazed. These experiences deepen our worship and strengthen our trust in God’s abundant power and greater purpose.

KEY POINTS

1. **Measured Vision – Seeing Through God's Eyes:** In [John 6:5–6](#), Jesus asks Philip how to feed the crowd—not for answers, but to test his limited perspective. Jesus already had the solution. Similarly, in [2 Kings 6:15–17](#), Elisha’s servant panics until God opens his eyes to see a heavenly army. God challenges us to move from natural sight to faith vision, trusting His unseen provision. As [Hebrews 11:6](#) teaches, faith is essential to please God—even when the way forward seems impossible.
2. **Conflicted Confidence – Trusting God with Limited Resources:** In [John 6:7–9](#), Philip and Andrew doubt that they can feed the crowd—eight months’ wages or a boy’s lunch seem insufficient. In [Mark 6:38](#), Jesus says, “Go and see what you have.” God often starts with what’s already in our hands. Though our confidence may be shaken, [Hebrews 13:8](#) reminds us that Jesus never changes. When we trust Him with our little, He multiplies it. Our faith must rest in who God is, not what we have.
3. **Exhausting Effort – Working While God Works:** In [John 6:10–11](#), the disciples serve thousands, distributing food as Jesus multiplies it. Miracles often involve our active effort. As [Galatians 6:9](#) urges, *don’t grow weary in doing good*, and [James 2:17](#) adds that *faith without works is dead*. The miracle happened while they worked—and the supply never ran out. Even when we’re tired, God is working through our persistence.
4. **Devastating Revelation – God’s Miracles Go Beyond the Moment:** After feeding the crowd, Jesus gathers twelve baskets of leftovers, showing His abundant provision. The miracle didn’t stop with fullness—it overflowed. The people saw and believed, just as Peter did in [Luke 5:1–11](#), when a miraculous catch of fish led him to repent in awe. God’s work often humbles and amazes us, reaching far beyond what we can imagine. As [Ephesians 3:20](#) declares, He does *immeasurably more* than we ask or think. True miracles lead us to worship and trust God’s greater purpose.

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - What is God showing you about your current “vision”—are you seeing only limitations, or trusting in His unseen provision? Has God reminded you of a past miracle or answered prayer to strengthen your faith now? What message or promise from Scripture stood out to you that you believe God is speaking directly to your situation?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - Where is your confidence being challenged—are you trusting in your resources or in God’s power? Is God asking you to keep working and serving, even when it feels exhausting or you see no immediate results? How might God be calling you to shift from a limited, human perspective to a faith-filled perspective?
- 3) **DO** - What small resource or gift do you need to place in God’s hands today, trusting Him to multiply it? How can you serve others this week—knowing God may work a miracle through your effort? Will you take time to worship and thank God for past blessings, even before you see the next miracle?