

Discussion Guide

August 31, 2025

Miracle Season Week 5

Stretch Past The Struggle

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Main Idea

This week, we close out Miracle Season with the story of the man with the shriveled hand in Mark 3. Everyone else overlooked his brokenness, but Jesus noticed what others ignored. With one command, “Stretch out your hand,” Jesus completely restored him. Sometimes the miracle begins not when we notice God, but when we realize He notices us. And often, the breakthrough happens on the other side of a stretch. Faith isn’t about comfort; it’s about moving beyond what feels weak or impossible. Wholeness is God’s will for us, and when we stretch in faith, He supplies the strength.

Anchor Passage

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.”
Ecclesiastes 3:1 (ESV)

Read Mark 3:1–3, 5

1. Jesus Notices What Others Often Overlook

Jesus doesn’t just see your problems, He sees you. Where others see rules, He sees relationships. Where others ignore weakness, He leans in with compassion. The very places we try to hide, He highlights not to shame us, but to heal us.

Read Psalm 34:18; Luke 19:10

Discussion: Where in your life have you felt overlooked, misunderstood, or even hidden? How does it change your perspective to know that Jesus notices and values you, even in the broken places?

Jesus Notices What Others Often Overlook

2. Faith Often Requires Us To Stretch

The stretch isn't designed to break you; it's designed to strengthen your faith. Miracles are rarely comfortable; they live in the stretch. Sometimes God asks you to stretch in the very area you feel weakest, but it's in that place that His strength is revealed.

Read James 2:17; Hebrews 11:6

Discussion: What's one area in your life right now where God may be calling you to "stretch" your faith? How can you take a step of obedience this week, even before the feelings catch up?

3. Wholeness Is God's Will For Us

Religion restricts, but Jesus restores. God's heart isn't for you to barely scrape by. His will is complete wholeness: spirit, soul, body, and mind. When we stretch toward Him, His arm is already stretched toward us.

Read Isaiah 59:1; John 10:10; 3 John 1:2

Discussion: What part of your life feels "withered" or restricted right now? How would it change things if you believed God's will for you is not partial healing but complete restoration?

Faith Moves First, Feelings Catch Up Later

SUMMARY

The man in Mark 3 discovered that what feels like weakness can become the setup for the supernatural when placed in Jesus' hands. The miracle wasn't just the healing of his hand but the restoration of his whole life. When we stretch in faith, Jesus supplies the strength and restores us fully. Remember, sometimes God asks you to stretch the very place that you feel the weakest. The acronym for Stretech is:

S - Step out in faith.

T - Trust His Word.

R - Reveal your weaknesses.

E - Expect the impossible.

T - Testify of His goodness.

C - Continue daily in obedience.

H - Hold on to hope.

CALL TO ACTION

Believe that Jesus notices you, even in the hidden or broken places. Don't hide your weakness—bring it to Him.

Take a stretch of faith this week. Do something that puts your trust in God's Word over your feelings.

Hold on to hope. God's will isn't survival, it's wholeness. Keep stretching toward Him, and watch Him restore.

GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

Stretch Challenge

- Give everyone a rubber band (or something that stretches).
- Ask: "What's one area in your life right now where God is stretching you?"
- Have each person stretch the band as they share.
- Close by reminding the group: *The stretch isn't designed to break you, it's designed to strengthen your faith.*