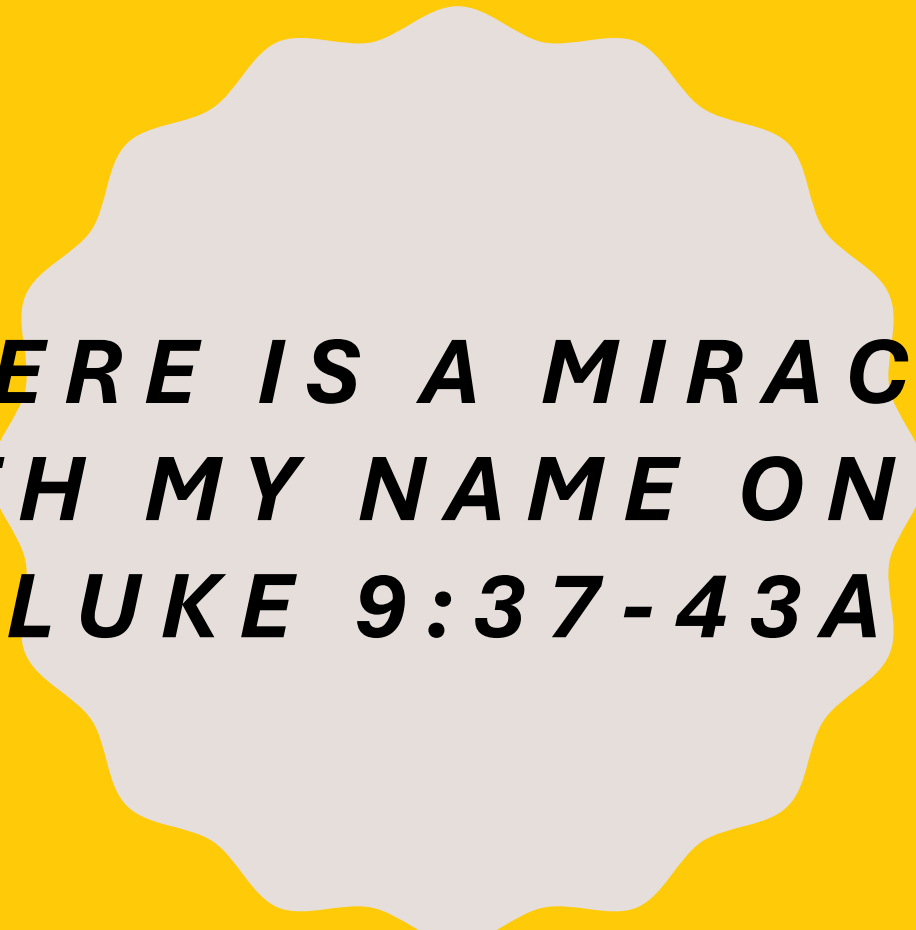




***THERE IS A MIRACLE
WITH MY NAME ON IT!
LUKE 9:37-43A***

OCTOBER 12, 2025

DR. DARRYL T. CANADY

RODMAN STREET CHURCH

THERE IS A MIRACLE WITH MY NAME ON IT!

LUKE 9:37-43A

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10.12.25

Title: There's a Miracle with Your Name on It: Persisting in Prayer and Faith

Sermon Summary: In this powerful message, we're reminded that our faith can move mountains and change outcomes even when faced with seemingly impossible situations. The story of a desperate father seeking healing for his son in Luke 9:37-43 serves as a testament to the power of persistent prayer and unwavering faith in the face of challenges.

We learn that sometimes, the problem we face is what necessitates the miracle we need. This father's unwavering faith, even when the disciples couldn't help, teaches us to keep pushing, keep believing, and keep seeking Jesus. The sermon also ties this message to the Community of Hope vision and the LIFE Male STEAM Academy, showing how faith and persistence can transform communities and young lives.

The message also challenges us to examine our own prayer life - are we giving up too easily, or are we persisting like this father did? It encourages us to align our desires with God's desires, reminding us that when we do so, miracles happen. This story isn't just about physical healing; it's about total deliverance and transformation. It's a call for us to have that same persistent faith in our own lives, believing that there's a miracle with our name on it, waiting to manifest.

Chapters

Chapter 1: The Problem That Tests Our Prayer

We explore how problems in our lives can test and strengthen our faith.

Chapter 2: The Persistence That Strengthens Our Prayer

We learn about the importance of persistence in prayer and faith.

Chapter 3: The Power That Answers Our Prayer

We witness the transformative power of answered prayer and divine intervention.

Key Points:

- The problem that tests our prayer often necessitates the miracle
- Persistence strengthens our prayers and faith
- God's power answers persistent prayer and brings transformation
- We must not give up on our children, schools, or communities
- Our prayers can change negative reports and statistics
- Faith sees beyond current circumstances to God's promises
- The importance of desire and determination in seeking miracles
- Community transformation through education and mentorship

Scripture Reference:

- **Luke 9:37-43 (The healing of a boy with an evil spirit)**

Stories:

- The father seeking healing for his demon-possessed son
- The blind woman (Dr. Arzella McCauley) who promoted the church's vision despite her disability
- The encounter at Sam's Club where the pastor's identity was revealed
- The story of a boy at Life Male STEAM Academy who improved his reading by five grade levels in one year

Here are the scripture references mentioned or alluded to in the sermon:

SCRIPTURES:

1. Luke 9:37-43 - This is the main passage the sermon is based on, discussing Jesus healing the boy with an evil spirit.
2. Matthew 7:7-8 - "Keep on asking and it will be given to you; keep on seeking and you will find; keep on knocking and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."
3. Psalm 37:4 (alluded to) - "Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart."

4. 3 John 1:2 (alluded to) - "Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul."

While not explicitly mentioned, the following verses align with themes discussed in the sermon:

5. James 5:16 - "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." (On the power of persistent prayer)

6. Galatians 6:9 - "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (On persistence in faith and good works)

7. Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." (On God's power to overcome challenges)

8. Isaiah 40:31 - "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." (On perseverance and faith)

9. Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (On God's desire for our well-being and success)

QUOTES:

The doctor's report didn't change my prayers. My prayers changed the doctor's report.

If there was no problem, there would be no need for the miracle.

Real prayer does not deny reality. But it declares authority over the reality.

We are not ignoring the statistics. We're just changing the story.

Persistence means this, I won't let go until something changes.

Persistence means this, I still believe even when I don't see it yet.

Too many of us, we diagnose the problem, but ain't got a solution. We can't give up on our children. God didn't give up on you.

May the work I've done speak for me. May the service I give speak for me.

When God's power meets your prayer, transformation happens. That's why we don't give up on our sons. That's why we don't give up on our schools. That's why we don't give up on our streets.

It ain't about talking about it. It's about doing something about it.

There's a miracle in this room with my name on it. There's healing in this room and it's here for me. There's a breakthrough in this room and it's got my name on it.

Every time a life scholar walks across a stage, every time a young man calls himself king, every time a family finds strength through our church ministries, that's the power of the answered prayer at work.

See, persistence is what builds scholars. It strengthens families and it sustains communities.

When I pray, I'm not talking to a practice, I'm talking to the great physician who has never lost a patient.

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Here's a 5-day Bible reading plan and devotional guide based on the themes from the transcription:

Day 1: Persistent Faith in the Face of Adversity

Reading: Luke 9:37-43

Devotional: The story of the father seeking healing for his son reminds us that persistence in faith can lead to miraculous outcomes. Just as the father didn't give up when the disciples couldn't help, we too must persist in our prayers and faith, even when immediate results aren't visible. Reflect on areas in your life where you may have given up too quickly. How can you renew your persistence in seeking God's intervention? Remember, our prayers have the power to change not just our circumstances, but also our perspective and faith. Today, commit to bringing your deepest concerns to God with renewed determination and trust.

Day 2: Transformative Power of Prayer

Reading: Matthew 7:7-11

Devotional: "Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for." These words of Jesus remind us of the transformative power of persistent prayer. In our fast-paced world, we often expect instant results, but God's timing and methods are often different from ours. The Community of Hope vision mentioned in the sermon shows how persistent prayer and action can bring about significant change in communities. Today, consider an area in your life or community that needs transformation. Begin to pray consistently for this, believing that God hears and will respond. How might God be calling you to be part of the answer to your own prayers?

Day 3: Seeing Beyond Labels

Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Devotional: Just as the sermon spoke about calling young boys "scholars" and "kings," today's reading reminds us that God sees beyond outward appearances and societal labels. Samuel was instructed to look not at appearance, but at the heart. In our daily interactions, how often do we judge based on outward appearances or preconceived notions?

Challenge yourself today to see others as God sees them - with potential, value, and purpose. How might this change your interactions and the way you pray for others?

Day 4: God's Power in Our Weakness

Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Devotional: The father in Luke's account brought his weakness - his demon-possessed son - to Jesus. Paul speaks of a "thorn in his flesh" that he repeatedly asked God to remove. In both cases, God's power is made perfect in weakness. Our challenges and struggles are opportunities for God's power to be displayed. Reflect on your current struggles. How might these be opportunities for God's strength to shine through? Instead of praying only for removal of difficulties, consider praying for God's power to be manifest in and through them.

Day 5: Community of Hope

Reading: Hebrews 10:23-25

Devotional: The sermon spoke about the "Community of Hope" and its impact on young lives. Today's reading emphasizes the importance of community in maintaining hope and spurring one another toward love and good deeds. We are not meant to journey in faith alone. How are you contributing to a community of hope? Are there ways you can encourage others in their faith journey? Today, reach out to someone in your faith community with a word of encouragement or an offer of support.

Remember, as we build each other up, we create an environment where miracles can happen and lives can be transformed.

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Small Group Guide: "There's a Miracle with My Name on It"

Key Takeaways:

1. Persistence in prayer can change outcomes, even when faced with seemingly impossible situations.
2. Our faith should not deny reality but declare authority over it.
3. God's power meets our prayers to bring about transformation.
4. The Community of Hope vision is about taking action to address problems, not just talking about them.
5. We must persist in believing for miracles, even when initial attempts fail.

Discussion Questions:

1. The sermon mentions that "the problem is what necessitates the need for the miracle." Can you share a time when a problem in your life led to a miraculous outcome?
2. How does the father's persistence in the biblical story inspire you in your own prayer life?
3. The pastor says, "Real prayer does not deny reality, but it declares authority over the reality." What does this mean to you, and how can we apply this principle in our daily lives?
4. Discuss the concept of "praying past your pain, praising past your problem, and pushing past the prognosis." How can we cultivate this kind of resilient faith?
5. The sermon emphasizes the importance of taking action, not just talking about problems. In what areas of your life or community do you feel called to take more action?
6. How does the story of Dr. Arzella McCauley inspire you? What can we learn from her example of service despite personal limitations?

Practical Applications:

1. Identify one area in your life where you need a miracle. Commit to praying persistently for it this week, keeping a prayer journal to track your journey.
2. Choose one societal issue that concerns you. Research ways you can take practical action to address it, inspired by the Community of Hope vision.
3. Practice reframing negative self-talk or circumstances this week. Instead of denying reality, declare God's authority over your situations.
4. Reach out to someone you know who is facing a challenging situation. Offer encouragement and support, reminding them that their miracle may be on the way.
5. Reflect on your own "doctor's report" (any negative prognosis in your life). Write down prayers that can "change the report," focusing on God's promises and power.
6. Look for opportunities to serve others this week, even if you feel limited in some way. Let Dr. McCauley's example inspire you to use your gifts, regardless of perceived limitations.

Closing Prayer:

Lord, we thank you for the reminder that miracles are still possible today. Help us to persist in prayer, to take action in addressing problems, and to declare your authority over our circumstances. May we be people who not only talk about change but work towards it, always trusting in your power to transform lives and communities. In Jesus' name, Amen.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How does the concept of 'praying past your pain' apply to challenges in your own life, and what might it look like to put this into practice?
2. In what ways can we, like the father in the story, demonstrate persistence in our faith and prayers even when facing seemingly insurmountable obstacles?
3. How does the Community of Hope vision challenge stereotypes about urban black males, and what role can each of us play in changing narratives about marginalized groups?
4. What does it mean to you personally to have 'a miracle with your name on it,' and how might this belief impact your approach to difficult situations?

5. How can we balance acknowledging the reality of our problems while still declaring spiritual authority over them, as demonstrated in the sermon?
6. In what ways can the church today emulate Jesus' approach of rebuking destructive forces, healing the afflicted, and restoring people to wholeness?
7. How might our prayers and actions change if we truly believed that God desires for us to 'have everything that he created us to have'?
8. What are some practical ways we can demonstrate persistence and diligence in our spiritual lives and community service, inspired by figures like Dr. Arzella McCauley?
9. How can we cultivate a mindset that sees potential for transformation and resurrection in situations that seem hopeless or broken?
10. In what ways can we, as individuals and as a community, work to change negative 'reports' about our cities, schools, and neighborhoods through prayer and action?