

Coach House Church

BEACONS

A MILLION LITTLE MIRACLES

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Have you ever sat back and thought about all the little moments that brought you to where you are today. Even you being born was a very unlikely circumstance and yet it happened.

Elevation worship released a song called million little miracles. It's about the fact that there are so many things that God does for us every day that seem tiny to us but change the course of our lives. And it's true that if we stop and think about it, we could all be in a dramatically different place if only tiny things hadn't worked out.

There are many examples of this in the bible. The first one that sprang to mind was the Ethiopian eunuch. This story is in Acts - the stories of the first Christians. Philip, one of the leaders of the early church, was told by God to go down a certain road. As he was going down this road he happened to see an Ethiopian eunuch. A eunuch was someone who was a servant or a slave, usually of the royal court. This man was on the way back to his home after worshipping in Jerusalem. The eunuch was reading the bible and he didn't understand what it meant. He just happened to be reading a part of Isaiah that was a prophecy about Jesus. He was wondering what it was about when he came across Philip, who was able to explain it to him. The eunuch immediately became a Christian and was baptised. God put the perfect situation in place for him to hear the gospel and believe it.

*There was also Ruth and Boaz. Ruth married the son of an Israelite named Naomi who just happened to be living in Moab, Ruth's native country, because there was a famine in Israel. Then Naomi and Ruth were widowed and Naomi decided to go back to Israel and Ruth decided to go with her. Following that Ruth had to glean to provide for herself and for Naomi and just happened to glean in the field of a man named Boaz who just happened to be something called a kinsman redeemer

which means that it was his right to marry Ruth to keep the family line going. Now you might ask yourself, why did God put this all in place? Why would Ruth meeting Boaz be so important? Well it turns out that Ruth and Boaz are ancestors of Jesus. In fact, the whole of the old testament is full of stories and "Godincidences" that protected the line of Jesus and meant that the saviour could be born in the correct place and at the correct time according to all the prophecies. God looked after them with things that in our lives might seem small or strange but in eternity might make a big difference.

These things also show that God cares about the little things and cares about our welfare day to day, even if it's sometimes in His will or due to us living in a broken world that things don't go perfectly.

I had a situation in my life last week that definitely felt like God was protecting me. I have a terrible fear of needles so the vaccine is not a good prospect for me. However, waiting for an injection I know is coming is worse than the actual injection itself. My mother in law volunteers at an injection centre and with Pfizer they have to use up all the doses so there were some going spare at the end of the day that had to be used. This meant I was able to get my injection with only 2 minutes to worry about it. That's the best way it could have happened.

The next morning my arm was quite swollen and looking at it made me feel very ill. I went on to faint not once but twice while I was alone in the house. I could have been seriously hurt by the falls but I wasn't.

The thing is that these things can often seem like coincidences and if you don't believe in God, you could just pass it off as nothing, but I believe these things are in God's plan. He leaves little clues for us all over the place that He is looking after us. We just have to look for them.

The same could be said of answers to prayer. If you're not a Christian you would say these things are just fate. If you did say that, you would be right in that there is only one way the future will go and it is planned out. But the only true fate - the only true meant to be is God's will. Whatever God wills will happen. * But we can get involved in prayer. We can be part of God's plan. Prayer is a mystery and on this earth we will never fully understand it but as William Temple, the Archbishop of Canterbury in the 1940s, was famous for saying - when I pray, coincidences happen, when I don't, they don't. * Prayer changes things. God wants us to pray, to line our will up to His and to seek the things that He wants to happen.

And as it says in Romans 8:28 "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them." God wants the best for you and will work situations in your life so that you can become more like Him and give Him the glory He deserves.

This week why don't you take some time to think about all the little things that brought you to where you are, all the little things that have helped make you who you are. Maybe write some of them down and thank God for them. Recording the miracles God has done, whether through answer to prayer or just to get you to where you needed to be, helps us give Him more praise and glory and can help us in our hard times. God cares for you and loves you and is working all things together for your good.



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