

# Every Saint Sent

## Objectives (Part 3)

Luke: All Things New



### Series Goal

That Mercy Hill Church would be made new as we follow the One who is making all things new!



### Sermon Text

Luke 9:1-6



### Big Idea

The proclamation of the kingdom of God ought never to be without an accompanying manifestation of it.

Jesus puts the word and deed of His missionaries together into one package. There is to be both declaration concerning the kingdom and demonstration of it. There is to be both an explanation of the gospel and an evidencing of its saving and restorative power. We not only teach of God's grace we touch broken sinners with it. We not only share The Story with others, we look for ways to show it to them as well.

Keeping deed alongside word has always been important for the church of Christ, but it's perhaps never been quite as important as it is in our day. Two reasons we might think this are: **(1) Deed Ministry Helps Us Re-Wire Associations;** and **(2) Deed Ministry Helps Us Reach the "Nones"**.

#### (1) Pray the Miracle

If all the miracles do is attest to the *apostles* as the real thing, well, then we have no more need of the miracles. Because the apostles are gone. But if the miracles also attest to the *gospel* as the real thing, well, than the miracles remain perennially relevant, even to the end of this age. Because we preach this gospel of the crucified and risen Lord to our friends and neighbors and coworkers. And Christ might want to attest to the authenticity of this message by showing up for them in miraculous ways.

Listen to Martyn Lloyd-Jones on this: *"It is perfectly clear that in New Testament times, the gospel was authenticated in this way by signs, wonders and miracles of various characters and descriptions . . . Was it only meant to be true of the early church? . . . The Scriptures never anywhere say that these things were only temporary—never! There is no such statement anywhere."*

#### (2) Act the Miracle

Sometimes we pray and the miracle doesn't come. What then? Do we abandon the person in their time of need? No way. It's in these times that we must not forget what Paul says in 1 Cor 13. Sandwiched in between his discussion of miraculous spiritual gifts, Paul essentially declares that love is, in fact, the greatest miracle of all. What this means is that we not only pray the miracle, we act the miracle. We pray that God helps people with their finances, or with their depression, or with their illness. But we're also ready to open up our wallets, our homes, our lives if it will help.

At the end of the day, what we are really saying with all of our activity is that Jesus is the real thing. The word about His death and resurrection is true.

### Reflection Questions



- In your evangelistic efforts, what do you feel more gifted at, word or deed ministry? Explain. Why do you think both are in some way necessary for a missionary to be successful? How can you grow in the one you feel weakest at?
- Our good deeds open people up to the good news. How have you experienced this to be true? How are you trying to pursue this in your relationships right now? In your own conversion, was it someone else's good deeds that opened you up to the gospel? Explain.
- Describe your understanding of the miraculous and spiritual gifts. Have you seen God attest to the message of the gospel with healings or other miracles? Why do you think we don't see this as often as we'd like? How earnestly are you pursuing these things? Explain.