

Engaging Gospel Doctrine (Episode 114.2)

LESSON 37 (STUDY NOTES)

“Thou Hast Done Wonderful Things”

Hook	Amazing and wonderful is the topic—what God and angels do for us. But in life there is hard as well as amazing, and often we need to be angels to each other.
Goal	
Overview	
Conclusion	

Manual Goal: To help class members come unto Christ through recognizing some of the wonderful things he has done.

EGD Goal: To help class members draw closer to God and each other by reflecting on what Christ, God, and others have done, and what we can do to follow their examples.

I. Sunday School

- a. Framing: Gratitude and emulation **Hunter quote on miracles**
- b. Review the Reading
- c. What has Christ done for us?
 - i. Manual notes: Opens the door to God’s presence, shows mercy, strength and refuge (focus)
 - ii. Messianic feast/set right wrongs
 - iii. Wipes away tears (focus)
 - iv. Resurrection
 - v. Sure foundation
 - vi. Restoration
 - vii. Empathy and guidance
- d. What has God done for us? (How do we distinguish what Christ has done from what God has done? Does it matter?)
 - i. God as teacher ()
- e. How have others brought you closer to God and Christ? (Could be a very rewarding focus for class) Holland and Uchtdorf quotes
- f. How do we follow their examples? (go through the highlighted traits and others)
- g. Conclusion I

II. Scholarship

- a. Literary and historical analysis of the reading (Oxford Bible Commentary)

III. Study Notes

- a. Return to the reading
- b. The nature of God—all that is good comes of God, or God as one who brings “weal and woe”?
- c. But if not... What can we say to those who don’t feel “the wonderful things God has done”? What if we are one of those people? (Does Isaiah 25’s “waiting on the Lord” help?)
- d. Restoration, resurrection from a humanist perspective
- e. Gratitude and happiness
- f. How we can do and be “wonderful things” for each other
- g. Conclusion II

Refuge

1. a.
[Isaiah 22:22](#). The Savior opens the door to Heavenly Father’s presence.
2. b.
[Isaiah 24:21–22](#). The Savior shows mercy for those in spirit prison.
3. c.
[Isaiah 25:1–4](#); [32:1–2](#). The Savior is a strength and a refuge.
4. d.
[Isaiah 25:6–9](#). The Savior will prepare a feast and destroy the “vail.”
5. e.
[Isaiah 25:8](#). The Savior wipes away our tears.
6. f.
[Isaiah 26:19](#). The Savior will bring the Resurrection.
7. g.
[Isaiah 28:16](#). The Savior is our sure foundation.
8. h.
[Isaiah 29:4, 9–14, 18, 24](#). The Savior will restore the gospel to the earth.
9. i.
[Isaiah 30:19–21](#). The Savior knows our trials and directs our paths.

Good conference quotes:

<https://www.lds.org/general-conference/1989/04/the-god-that-doest-wonders?lang=eng> (Hunter)

It is most remarkable to witness one who is deaf made to hear again. But surely that great blessing is no more startling than the wondrous combination of bones and skin and nerves that lets our ears receive the beautiful world of sound. Should we not stand in awe of the blessing of hearing and give glory to God for that miracle, even as we do when hearing is restored after it has been lost?

Is it not the same for the return of one's sight or the utterance of our speech, or even that greatest miracle of all—the restoration of life? The original creations of the Father constitute a truly wonder-filled world. Are not the *greatest* miracles the fact that we have life and limb and sight and speech in the first place? Yes, there will always be plenty of miracles if we have eyes to see and ears to hear.

<https://www.lds.org/general-conference/2008/10/the-ministry-of-angels?lang=eng>
(Holland)

I have spoken here of heavenly help, of angels dispatched to bless us in time of need. But when we speak of those who are instruments in the hand of God, we are reminded that not all angels are from the other side of the veil. Some of them we walk with and talk with—here, now, every day. Some of them reside in our own neighborhoods. Some of them gave birth to us, and in my case, one of them consented to marry me. Indeed heaven never seems closer than when we see the love of God manifested in the kindness and devotion of people so good and so pure that *angelicis* the only word that comes to mind.

<https://www.lds.org/general-conference/2011/04/waiting-on-the-road-to-damascus?lang=eng> (Uchtdorf)

President Spencer W. Kimball taught this concept when he said: “God does notice us, and he watches over us. But it is usually through another person that he meets our needs. Therefore, it is vital that we serve each other.”⁷ Brothers and sisters, we each have a covenant responsibility to be sensitive to the needs of others and serve as the Savior did—to reach out, bless, and uplift those around us.

Often, the answer to our prayer does not come while we're on our knees but while we're on our feet serving the Lord and serving those around us. Selfless acts of service and consecration refine our spirits, remove the scales from our spiritual eyes, and open the windows of heaven. By becoming the answer to someone's prayer, we often find the answer to our own.