



Community Bible Church
Sermon Discussion Questions: Dec 3, 2023
Pastor Ed Newton

Title: Finding Wonder as You Wander

Text: “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called **Wonderful Counselor**, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:6 ESV)

Target: Wonder doesn’t come from having all the answers; it’s more about the journey to find them.

Question #1: Think about a time in your life when you received an unexpected blessing while pursuing something entirely different. *Share what happened and what that experience taught you. How do patience and contentment help us maximize our experience walking with the Lord?*

- I. **You Shall Call Him “Wonderful”:** Meaning “Supernatural Explanation”. The same word is used in **Psalm 139:6**: “Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.”
 - A. **Jesus has Eternal Perspective:** “I am the Alpha and the Omega”, says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” (**Rev. 1:8**)
 1. **He Knows our Past:** “O LORD, you have searched me and known me!” (**Psalm 139:1**)
 2. **He Knows our Present:** “Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God, I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” (**Isaiah 41:10**)
 3. **He Knows our Future:** “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him.” (**1 Cor. 2:9**)
 - B. **Jesus has Endless Provision:** “All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made” (**John 1:3**)
 1. **Supplies your Needs:** “And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” (**Phil. 4:19**)
 2. **Makes Grace Abound:** “And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.” (**2 Cor. 9:8**)

Question #2: *What emotions and reassurances come to mind knowing that Jesus has Eternal Perspective and Endless Provision? How did Jesus demonstrate His perspective and provision during his ministry? In what ways did He model a reliance on God's provision that we can shape our lives around today?*

Question #3: *Why can it be difficult for our hearts to be reminded of these truths during times of difficulty? How can we develop our confidence in God to remain steadfast in times of trouble?*

II. **You Shall Call Him "Counselor":** Meaning "Extraordinary Wisdom". The same word is used in **Isaiah 28:29**: *"This also comes from the Lord of hosts; he is wonderful in counsel and excellent in wisdom."*

A. **Jesus fulfilled Prophecy:** *"In whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Col. 2:3)*

1. **Filled with Wisdom:** *"And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him" (Luke 2:40)*
2. **Challenged Wisdom:** *"And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers." (Luke 2:47)*
3. **Imparted Wisdom:** *"and coming to his hometown he taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished, and said, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these mighty works?" (Matthew 13:54)*

B. **Jesus gives a Promise:** *"And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord" (Isaiah 11:2)*

1. **Dwells in You:** *"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you." (John 14:16-17)*
2. **Guide You:** *When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. (John 16:13)*
3. **Teach you:** *"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you." (John 14:26)*

Takeaway: *"A mind is like a parachute. It doesn't work unless it is open." (Anonymous)*

Question #4: *Jesus has given His followers powerful promises to lean on. How can we best respond to the promises that He will guide us, dwell within us, and teach us all things when needed? How should these promises impact our actions and perspective on life?*

Question #5: *How can we remain open and attentive to the work Jesus is doing in our lives without being distracted or consumed by the things that so easily demand our attention?*