

# **BREAKTHROUGH, Week 5: "Supernatural Breakthrough"**

## Sermon Outline

### **I. Introduction**

- A. A. Reflect on the advancements in technology and science.
- B. B. Acknowledge our reliance on natural explanations.
- C. C. Emphasize our faith in a Supernatural God.

### **II. The Story of John Smith: A Modern-Day Supernatural Breakthrough**

- A. A. Share John Smith's near-drowning survival story.
- B. B. Highlight God's supernatural intervention.
- C. C. Show a video testimony from medical professionals and responders.

**John Smith Video Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJ1xqjxQFvY>

### **III. Lessons from the Israelites' Supernatural Breakthrough (Exodus 14)**

- A. A. BIG IDEA: "Supernatural Breakthrough Comes at Your Breaking Point"
  - 1. Describe the dire situation of the trapped Israelites.
  - 2. Highlight their fear, doubt, and desire to return to Egypt.
  - 3. Share Moses' assurance of God's supernatural rescue.
  - 4. Explain the concept of breakthroughs at our breaking points.
- B. B. BIG IDEA: "Supernatural Breakthrough Requires a Bold Step of Faith"
  - 1. Explain God's command to Moses for a bold step of faith.
  - 2. Describe Moses' act of faith and the Red Sea parting.
  - 3. Emphasize the necessity of bold steps in supernatural breakthroughs.
- C. C. BIG IDEA: "Supernatural Breakthrough Is Always Bigger Than You"
  - 1. Share God's broader purpose in displaying His glory.
  - 2. Explain how God's power was demonstrated to the known world.
  - 3. Emphasize God's motive to draw attention to Himself and inspire worship.

### **IV. Conclusion**

- A. A. Affirm that God can move supernaturally in our lives.
- B. B. Encourage trust in God's timing and His greater plan.
- C. C. Remind listeners of God's love and His desire for our best, even when His ways are beyond our understanding.

## **BREAKTHROUGH, Week 5: "Supernatural Breakthrough"**

### Sermon Notes

#### **Introduction:**

#### **Consider our time in history...**

- It wasn't long ago that computers filled entire rooms
- Airplanes didn't exist, much less rockets to the moon, mars and beyond
- Remember when there wasn't an internet or cell phone?

#### **We live in a high-tech, medically advanced time...**

- We've cured diseases we used to die from
- The blind see and the deaf hear... technology!
- Science continues to make massive advancements in understanding the planet God gave us and the Universe we exist in
- We're bombarded with knowledge like never before
- All of this is wonderful!!! But it comes with a price...

#### **Faith in the supernatural is hard for many people to believe**

- We want to see proof
- When we hear about supernatural things, we want to see a pattern (*repeat*)
- We like to come up with practical ways to explain a supernatural event

#### **Example:**

- If someone was healed... we like to focus on how modern medicine played its part
- If someone survives a disaster... we like to find a logical way to explain it
- Basically, we've become so advanced... we take supernatural moves of God and reduce them to natural events...
- We find ways to remove God's part and give the glory to ourselves

**Matthew 19:26 (NLT)** Jesus looked at them intently and said, "**Humanly speaking**, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible."

I want you to know... **We serve a Supernatural God who does Supernatural things**

#### **Just because something doesn't fit within our modern-day discoveries doesn't mean it's crazy...**

- God created all of our natural laws... like gravity... Even Death...
- God has the power to introduce an alternate force that repels natural law
- God has the authority to make our natural laws irrelevant

**I want you to hear a modern-day story of our supernatural God...**

#### **The Movie Breakthrough: (2019)**

- John Smith was playing on the ice at Lake St. Louis when he broke through
- He was underwater for 15 - 20 minutes
- His heart stopped for 55 minutes
- But God moved in a supernatural way and the world witnessed a Breakthrough...

**Video:** A miracle – the story John Smith

John Smith Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJ1xqjxQFvY>

## **SOME BREAKTHROUGH ONLY HAPPENS BY A SUPERNATURAL MOVE OF GOD!**

### **The Bible is full of God's supernatural power**

- Protecting people
- Feeding people
- Raising people from the dead
- Providing in miraculous ways

***I want to focus our attention on the supernatural breakthrough God provided the Israelites when He freed them from slavery in Egypt***

**Biblical Text:** Exodus 14

Tell the story of the Israelites leaving Egypt and eventually crossing the Sea

### **LESSONS TO LEARN ABOUT SUPERNATURAL BREAKTHROUGH:**

#### **1. SUPERNATURAL BREAKTHROUGH COMES AT YOUR BREAKING POINT**

The Israelites were trapped between mountains and the sea

That's when Pharaoh and his army showed up to take them back to Egypt

**Exodus 14:10–14 (NLT)** As Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up and panicked when they saw the Egyptians overtaking them. They cried out to the Lord, <sup>11</sup> and they said to Moses, “Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren’t there enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt? <sup>12</sup> Didn’t we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, ‘Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It’s better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!’ ” <sup>13</sup> But Moses told the people, “Don’t be afraid. Just stand still and watch the Lord rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. <sup>14</sup> The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm.”

**They started to doubt God and wanted to return to Egypt instead of dying in the desert**

- They were desperate and at their breaking point
- That night God planned to give them a Breakthrough in a Supernatural way!

**GOOD NEWS:** If you're at your breaking point... turn your eyes toward Jesus...

- He's getting ready to move supernaturally or comfort you supernaturally!

#### **2. SUPERNATURAL BREAKTHROUGH REQUIRES A BOLD STEP OF FAITH...**

***While the Israelites were trapped God asked Moses to step toward the sea***

**Exodus 14:15–16, 21-22 (NLT)** <sup>15</sup> Then the Lord said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving! <sup>16</sup> Pick up your staff and raise your hand over the sea. Divide the water so the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground... <sup>21</sup> Then Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the Lord opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the seabed into dry land. <sup>22</sup> So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side!

## **Moses had to believe God could do something that to the natural was impossible**

- Moses didn't get to hide away in prayer while God did the supernatural...
- He had to stand at the seashore and hold out His staff
- Then they had to walk down into the sea bed and across the sea floor with walls of water on both sides
- AT NIGHT!

## ***Supernatural Breakthrough always requires a bold faith step...***

**Movie Example:** The mother shouted in prayer for the entire ER to hear

## **I don't know what your bold step is... but Just like God showed Moses He'll show you!**

- Today, your bold step may be coming to the altar to pray and be prayed for
- It might be telling your life group and asking for prayer
- If you need Breakthrough... we serve a supernatural God who cares!

## **3. SUPERNATURAL BREAKTHROUGH IS ALWAYS BIGGER THAN YOU...**

### ***Listen to the Bigger Picture God was working with...***

**Exodus 14:17–18 (NLT)** And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they will charge in after the Israelites. My great glory will be displayed through Pharaoh and his troops, his chariots, and his charioteers. <sup>18</sup>When my glory is displayed through them, all Egypt will see my glory and know that I am the Lord!"

### **God was using the supernatural Breakthrough of Moses and the Israelites to show the superpower of the known world His glory...**

- To show them He's the One True God!!
- God moves supernaturally so He will get the Glory!
- So, the world will worship Him!
- God's motive for parting the sea... wasn't just for the survival of the Israelites...
- It was to bring all the attention to HIM!

### **Life started with God... and will end with God...**

- That means everything in between is designed to bring God glory!!

## **CONCLUSION:**

- If God moved for the Israelites in the desert... HE CAN SUPERNATURALLY MOVE IN YOUR SITUATION
- If God moved in John Smith's life... YOU CAN SEE A BREAKTHROUGH AS WELL
- Get this one thing clear in your heart...
- Just because God hasn't moved the way you think He should... doesn't mean He can't do it
- God's timing and ways are different than ours...
- God sees a BIGGER picture than we see
- **We have to trust God loves us, knows us, and has His very best for us!!**

## **BREAKTHROUGH, Week 5: "Supernatural Breakthrough"**

### Transcript

Welcome to New Life church. Glad to have you guys here. I don't know if you guys have noticed or not. But the time that we live in, in history seems very unique. I know that every generation that ever lived, always feels that the time they live in is very unique. And that's true. There are, you know, unique moments, my grandfather and his generation man they were they were alive and fought in World War Two. That's unique, right? So we live in a very interesting time. Here's, here's what I mean by that. I mean, I'm talking specifically about advancements, technology, medical advancements, all of that kind of stuff, as we're looking at our series breakthrough, so that used to be that my mom went to work. And I remember her coming home with these large cards that had all these random holes in them not knowing anything about what they were. But we would drop my mom off, and she would walk into this smaller kind of building. And the entire building was one computer, the entire building one computer, and they use these large cards to program the computer, and it took forever. And I don't know if any of you guys ever worked in industry, but it's amazing that my mom was technologically advanced. And my mom watches online with her iPad that never leaves her side, by the way. All right, so my mom is still technologically advanced. And I love that about my mom. But that's not the world we live in now. Now, the computer in our cell phones is more powerful than that. I think about like, airplanes haven't really been around that long. Okay. And much less the fact that we've we've taken rockets and put men on the moon. Okay. And then we have rockets that have gone to Mars, and we've landed on Mars. And by the way, did you realize that just recently, we took one of our first flights on Mars, with a drone that flew on Mars? Incredible. Just think about the people that live on Mars, but they're thinking when this little thing flies by just messing around. Just messing around. They've already all come here. They landed in Roswell. All right. Where do you think Bigfoot comes from? By the way? Okay. Let me stop right there. All right. So but I just understand, like, it wasn't that long ago, right? That we weren't flying airplanes. And now, it only takes, you know, a number of hours, just a few hours, and you can get from here to Europe, or halfway around the world, right? Or now take a rocket ship someplace. And we have satellites that have now gone beyond our solar system. And they're out there exploring the rest of the Milky Way galaxy. I mean, to me, it's just an interesting, interesting time. Remember, for some of you, not not you guys in the front row, or some of you at other campuses. But remember, when we didn't have the internet? What in the world did we do? Remember before cell phones, not you guys, but you remember? You remember, you remember when we didn't have cell phones? I mean, that wasn't that long ago. And so advancements have just been amazing. We've had technological advancements, medical advancements, I think about medical advancements, and just in my lifetime, right diseases that once used to kill people, we've now cured. I mean, what you think about this from a technological and medical advancement perspective, right? Think about this, the blind now see, and the death here. And if medical advancement has its way with what they're working on right now, the lame or those who are in wheelchairs, and just using New Testament language, they will walk again. That blows my mind away. from a technological perspective. Blind people see we're talking like cataracts used to cause people to go blind. Now we have the ability to overcome that LASIK case. Some of you were sitting here, like modern day miracles, some of you have like, you've got the you know, the hearing aid and that's Bluetooth to your phone and you're listening to some kind of sports event while the sermon is going on right now. Not you see, that's how it works. You guys might have known about the internet thing, but you don't know about hearing aids yet. So okay. So all of them, you know, you know what I'm talking about? Isn't that amazing? For me to even to be able to say that. As science, its sciences continues to discover things about our body, and about our planet, and about our universe. That literally it just keeps blowing my mind away we have more access, the more knowledge now with just the access of your cell phone than you've ever had before. And all of this my friends I would say to you is wonderful, but it comes with a price Here's the price. The price is this faith in the supernatural is super hard now for many people to wrap their head around because of all of this advancement, because of all of the technology, faith in the supernatural is super hard for us to wrap your head around. What we want now is we want proof. If something supernatural happens, right, we want proof. Show me the proof. Well, I can't show you the proof it was supernatural, well, then it didn't really happen. Or it's not what you think it was. And another thing that people want when it comes to supernatural and they want to try to prove it or disprove it, they'll say things like this, like will

show me the pattern. Where has this ever happened before? Right? How will you if it happens again, then I'll believe that it's Supernatural. So we try to take everything supernatural, and just make it natural. Let me give you an example. If someone gets healed, like physical healing takes place, you know what, you know what many people, including Christians, most Christians do. They try to find the medical reason for the healing. instead of it just being plain and simple. That was a supernatural touch of the Lord. If someone's in a disaster, and they survive a disaster, a flood and earthquake, you know, a car accident, when we try to find the natural reason for why a person would have survived that versus just saying, Yep, it was a supernatural move of God. Basically, we become so advanced that we take supernatural moves of God, and we reduce them to just natural events. And we're literally living in a world that's so technologically advanced, that we're removing the god factor out of all things, because we believe we're so advanced that we can give the reasons for everything that's going on in the world. And we find ways to remove God and focus the attention on us. Now, Jesus talked about this, when he was talking with his disciples about salvation. Okay. But I believe that the principle that Jesus gave his disciples about salvation applies to the kingdom of God versus the kingdom of man. You know, the kingdom of man, right? It's Earth. It's us, right? But there's a kingdom of God. And we're all we're all trying to live our lives so that we can surrender it more to Jesus Christ so that the kingdom of God will come here on earth inside of my heart, while I'm here on Earth, but there is this kingdom of God versus the kingdom of men. Jesus was talking about that in Matthew chapter 19, verse 26, when he said these words, Jesus looked at them intently, and he said, humanly speaking, it is impossible, but with God, what everything is possible, humanly speaking, I'm talking about salvation, we get it, right, we understand it, like humanly speaking for a man to be saved, and set free from man or woman, I'm just using man in general to be saved and set free from their sins and spending eternity with God, humanly speaking, that sounds irrational and impossible. But this is what we do with everything in the world. We're humans, yes. But we are just passing through this world if you're a follower of Jesus Christ. And we tend to look at things from a human perspective, and we look at it and we say, from a human perspective, that makes no sense. from a human perspective, that's impossible. And Jesus is the one who told us there's going to be a lot of things that you're going to see. And with your human eyes, it's going to be impossible. So what is Jesus challenging us to do on this earth? To look at things through our spiritual eyes? Can you see the Spirit of God at work in your life? Can you see the Spirit of God at work in our church? Can you see the Spirit of God at work on your campus? Can you see the Spirit of God at work in your family? In our community? Will you choose to see the Spirit of God at work? Or will you only choose to see this world through human eyes? If you see the world through human eyes, then the next statement I'm going to make to you absolutely does not land in your heart. But if you choose today, to say this to the Lord, Lord, help me to see this world through spiritualize, then this statement is going to excite you because I want you to know that we sue, we serve a supernatural God who does supernatural things. That's who we serve. We don't serve a natural God who does natural things. We serve a supernatural God who does supernatural things. So that means this that just because something doesn't fit within our modern day scientific discoveries doesn't make it crazy.

That the God who created the natural laws that we live within, like gravity and even death, that the same guy who created those natural laws of the same God that has the power to insert an alternate force that pushes back on the natural law because he's the creator of the natural law. It doesn't make it crazy. It just means he pushed back on it for a moment, that sickness should have killed you. But instead, the doctors go, I don't know where it went, it's gone. Like the report I just got in our church. In our church, I just got that report last Wednesday from a family that lives in mendon. And they told me about a medical, you know, miracle that took place with her mom, and how her mom had this tumor. And then all of a sudden, she goes in and she gets the same test done. And now the tumors gone, miraculously gone. Alright, that's a miracle that took place. Those are miracles. But that's God, God's pushing back on the natural force. And I want you to know, today we serve a God that has the authority, a supernatural God who pushes back on the natural laws and inserts a supernatural advancement. That's what he does. And he does this from time to time so that he will get the glory. I want to help you wrap your head around this. So what I chose to do today is show you a five minute video. Okay, now, it's not normally me, that's a long video. But you remember the movie breakthrough that came out in 2019. Okay, that movie was was was about a teenager who grew up in St. Louis, where I was born and raised. And he lived in St. Charles, which is an it's just a part of the St. Louis metro area. And he was out one when spring and he was playing on Lake St. Louis, on the

ice with a couple of friends of his, and he broke through the ice. If you remember the movie, it's called break through, but had a double meaning to it. Right, and he breaks through the ice and he's under the water for 15 to 20 minutes before he's rescued. His heart had stopped for somewhere between 55 minutes and an hour. So he is dead. He is gone. Right. But God moved in a supernatural way. And the world watched as the world couldn't turn away from the fact that God moved in a supernatural way and did a miracle. And what I want you to hear today is I want you to hear from the medical force that worked with this young man, right when he was brought in and he was flatlined. And what took place and how all of the medical people that worked with John Smith on this case, and how they how they see a supernatural breakthrough that only God could do. Take a look at this testimony. For 14 year old St. Charles boy who spent 15 minutes underwater after falling through the ice of Lake St. Louise has made a recovery no one could explain.

Think we're at a place nationally, and locally, particularly here in St. Louis, where people are looking for hope. They're looking for a sign that there is something bigger than each of us that there is something beyond what we struggle with each day.

The paramedics have brought him in said he'd been down for 15 to 20 minutes. It was very grim. Not we didn't have any hope for him. And we're going to do our best.

Even in the cases that I've seen where we do our advanced cardiac life support and give them epinephrine and shock a rhythmic as after that length of time. All I ever see is somebody that goes from dying in the ER to dying in an ICU, I was at the end of what I could offer medically. I was waiting for the mother to come in.

I watched them as they were working on John, a very tall young man. And he was working. You can see the stress on his face. And he was working so hard on John and they kept saying no pulse, no pulse, no pulse. And finally, Dr. Sen told me, he said you can go up to the bed. And I remember walking up to the end of the bed and getting a hold of John's feet which was uncovered and cold. And I started praying your God, send your Holy Spirit to just fill his life and give him breath.

I don't think I can emphasize it enough. This wasn't just somebody saying, Please, God bring my son back. She was screaming. You could hear it down the hall. She who is yelling at God. And when she did that, it was just the evidence is there.

It was moments later I heard them say and I don't even know who said it. We've got a pulse. We've got a pulse and I was like thank you Jesus.

I doubt that any went out there with knowledge of the facts is going to deny that it was American.

The only factors really that medically were in John's favor is that this was a cold water drowning, this really shouldn't have worked in John's case, because what you really need to have happen is for the brain to get cold, before the blood flow stop to the brain. This is a bona fide marriage, it was a miracle that he just woke up and recognized everybody. You could tell that he was in there he, you know, when we said Do you know who this person is? Or do you know that we're here? He would shake his head yes or no answering appropriately. He was able to then squeeze their hands.

The doctors had gone from that evening saying, man, there's really not much hope to man, we're starting to see incredible change already,

though, is a very emotional time there was everybody was crying, including me. It was just an amazing feeling. I just couldn't believe that I was a part of that.

It's truly a miracle that I'm alive, really. And I just think that I think God every time I hear a new, like a new piece to what happened. I think it's a way to prove that he's still out there. He's still alive.

This is a testament that we really are exceptional healers, and we can provide the best care to our patients. We did reveal the healing presence of God. The fact

that we had super doctors and super nurses, I mean, I can't even say enough about the doctors and the nurses in the ICU. They were phenomenal godson as far as I was concerned, caring, loving, worrying about John, I truly believe in my 39 years of experience in these types of rescues. This was truly a series of small miracles that have occurred. It occurred in that water with the firefighters. It occurred here at St. Joe's west. It occurred back at Cardinal Glennon and the results are what we see that occurred when John walked out of Cardinal Glennon a fine, healthy young teen.

There's really no words. And I know that our team and those that have been involved in this and the Glennon team, and everyone, were changed because of it if you were an unbeliever before, you're a believer now. It's our mission statement. It's our mission, not our statement. It's our mission came to life.

So the reason like you're like, Well, why, why did you show that to me? I showed that to you, because I wanted you to hear from other eyewitnesses that supernatural things happen today. And God's still alive and God's still working. I just want you to know that because we read in the Bible, and we see a supernatural God at work. But sometimes we disassociate the fact that this is happening in the bible verses No, this is happening today. And that is a real life story of a real life person who experienced something that shouldn't have happened. And all of the medical people around them, including the rescue, people all had to admit, that was a supernatural move of God. So when you look at the Bible, you see God moving supernaturally, God heals people, God brings people back from the dead. God feeds people God provides for people. And I just want you to know God's still at work doing those things for you today. And so I want to help anchor your, your theology, and I want to help anchor your understanding of a supernatural God today in Scripture. So if you have a Bible, I want you to open it up to Exodus chapter 14. Okay, and I just want to give you a few lessons about the supernatural breakthrough that only God can do. Because for some of you guys, be honest with you, can I still take you straight? All right, I'm always trying to be honest with you. But let me talk to you straight. That's this. Some of you, the breakthrough you need in your life is a supernatural breakthrough. And the only way that you're going to get from where you are to where you want to be, is for God to move in some kind of supernatural way to intervene on your behalf, just like God did an Exodus chapter 14. Exodus 14 is the account of the Israelites being set free or finding a break through from their oppressors for the last hundreds of years in Egypt, called Pharaoh. And they had been slaves there for hundreds of years. And God was going to deliver his people and he was going to use Moses to do it. And so you guys, I don't know if you remember but the 10 plagues. Okay, and I'm not going to tell you all of them, but it starts with water turning into blood and gnats and flies, I mean, crazy locusts, livestock dying frogs, darkness, and then the firstborn of all of those in Egypt dying. I mean, it was just like a crazy set of circumstances until Pharaoh only says the Moses, get those people out of here. You know, and, and that's exactly what happens. And so they start, they start leaving. And according to the Bible, I mean, we're talking a lot of people, we're talking somewhere in the neighborhood of a million and a half to 2 million people. And they leave. And they're fleeing, okay? So they're, they're making their way. And God gave them strict instructions on which way to go, they couldn't take this easy path that was just going to take them back to the promised land, they had to take this alternate routes that took them south and lead them into the Sinai Peninsula. And they ended up in these mountains and walking along the seashore. And long story short, they get to this point where God says to them, these interesting words, tell the people to turn back and to camp. Now, before that happens, they don't know it. But Pharaoh has got all of his chariots, the Bible actually gives us the number he says there's 600 of his chariots, with his, with the dudes that ride on that by his commanders, and then all of the other forces, they all are going with Pharaoh to go get these people because Pharaoh finally woke up and he's like, What in the world, like, who's gonna take care of our crops, who's gonna build things for us, we let all of these people go, and we want them back. And so he's going after them, so they can't and the Bible says that they can't between this place called middle and the sea. Now middle is like a military fort. Or it could also be a high point, it could be a mountain, you know, where maybe it would be a lookout, or a place where military advantage would take place. And they're camped between this like, Can you picture being camp between like this mountain range, and the sea, that's where they're camped. And they're kind of in his point where they're, they're trapped there. Okay. And then all of a sudden, Pharaoh and his and his troops show up, and the Israelites start freaking out. And they say, basically, to Moses, like, What in the world? Why did you lead us out here? We're gonna die. Right? And then God says, The Moses, stop, you're complaining, right? Like, here's what I want you to do, I want you to turn towards the sea. And I want you to lift up your staff towards the sea, and split the waters and I want my people to walk across the you know, the sea that is impassable, I want you to walk across that on dry ground. Okay, on dry ground, he walks across it. And then on the other side, when they get to the other side, then God causes the waters to collapse in on Pharaoh and his army and kills them all. And then the people of Israel are free. Oh, amazing story. It's incredible. It's amazing. But there are some that's a supernatural, I guess we would agree that that was a that was an incredibly supernatural deliverance that God brought that day. That's a breakthrough. There's some things that you and I can learn from



this, the first lesson that I want you to take away that we can apply to our lives today. Right, because this is the God we serve a supernatural God is that supernatural breakthrough comes at your breaking point, though. It comes at your breaking point. And when what we see in this passage, is that when they're when they're at their their weakest there, they've escaped, the they've walked for maybe a couple of days or so are more weak, who knows. And then they get to this place, and they're trapped. And then the enemy is coming down on them. They know the oppression of the Egyptians, the oppression of the Egyptians is harsh. It was so hard to to cause Moses to kill one of the Egyptian guards, which is what triggered all of the all the chaos, right? And Moses had to flee and he goes into Midian. And then he gets the burning bush moment. And then God sends him back to the lives of the people. And so they were harsh. And it was at their weakest point that God goes Okay, now it's time for a supernatural breakthrough. Take a look at with me in Exodus, chapter 14, verses 10 through 14 says that as Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up and they panicked. When they saw the Egyptians overtaking them, they cried out to the Lord. And they said to Moses, why, what listen to all these questions, okay. This is why it's so fun to be a leader. Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Question The Moses, right? Weren't there enough graves for us in Egypt? Right? How? What have you done to us? That's a great question. Like, what have you done to us? Why did you why did you make us leave Egypt? It's all getting blamed on Moses, the leader, everybody realizes leadership, so much fun, because when things go sideways, everybody blames the leader. All right. So why did you make us leave Egypt? Didn't we tell you that this would happen while we were still in Egypt? Like basically the people like we told you so. Right. We said Leave us alone. Let us be slaves in Egypt. It's better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness. To listen to what Moses says, I love this. But Moses told the people don't be afraid. Just stand still and watch the LORD rescue you today. Listen, these next words, the Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. How prophetic was that? He didn't even know what was getting ready to happen. But he's this confident that God brought us this far, God's gonna see us through we serve a supernatural God and a supernatural God does supernatural things. Trust me, the Egyptians, you see today, you will never they will never be seen again. The Lord himself will fight for you just stay calm. So the people, they started to doubt God, they started to doubt that this was the plan, they were desperate and at their breaking point. And it was at their breaking point that something supernatural took place. Some of you here today are in that place. Some of you walk through the doors, and you are at a breaking point. And you've walked through these doors going, God, if you don't show up today, if you don't speak to me today, then that's it. I'm now like, I'm never going to follow you again. I'm going to go do my own thing, or whatever your clause was to God, you were at your breaking point, you might be here to Kearney campus, you might be watching us online. Okay, you might be at a physical campus, I have no idea. But I just want you to know, I know you. God knows you. And you're here today. And you're at your breaking point. And I just want I got good news for you. It's at your breaking point that God is wanting to show up and show off with a supernatural breakthrough. It's at those moments. So if you're at your breaking point, and you need a supernatural breakthrough, can I just say this to you? Don't do what the people did and question God, turn your eyes towards Jesus. Because it's when you're at your breaking point that God's getting ready to break through God might be breaking through in a supernatural way, and bring the dead back to life. Okay, that might happen. But God also might just break through and do something supernatural and comfort you while he walks you through a breakthrough. Either way, it's a supernatural move of God. Amen. So the first thing you need to know though is this, many people want to see a supernatural thing that God would do. Many people would love to see that. I just want you to know, they tend to happen. When you're at your worst. When you're at your breaking point. Let me tell you, let me show you a second lesson that we can get from this. The supernatural breakthrough requires a bold step of faith. One of the things that I find interesting about this story is that in the midst of being trapped, here's what God asked the leader to do. Take a step towards the unobvious. Like, take a step towards the thing that you've never seen split, take a step towards the water. Okay, that makes great sense. What do you want us to do guy like, swim out into the water? He wants to swim out there. I'm pretty sure the Egyptians could do that. Right? They're not with their chariots, but they can still get us in what do you want us to do? We're going to tread water out there for days while they just sit on the shore. I mean, you want us to swim across this thing. You see them saying like, God's God will ask you, if you want to see a supernatural breakthrough, God requires a bold step of faith here. Here's what happened in Exodus chapter 14, verses 15 through 16. And then we're going to jump to 21 through 22 says, Then the Lord said to Moses, why are

you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving, pick up, pick up your staff, and raise your hand over the sea, divide the water so that the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground. Then Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the Lord opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind, and the wind blew all night, turning the seabed into dry land. So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea, on dry ground with walls of water on each side. Moses had to believe watch this, Moses had to believe God, that God was supernatural enough that he could push back the natural because how many people know it's not natural for water to pile up on both sides without there being some kind of physical dam created? That's, that's not natural. Moses was being asked by God, would you take a bold step of faith towards that water? And would you raise up that staff? And would you speak to that water in authority that I've given you? And will you speak to that water and basically say to that water be split into so that the ground might be dry by the way, and that I can that people can walk across it? And that's what God was asking Moses to do. And that's what God is going to be asking you to do as well. And so then the people had to do another thing. They had to trust God all the people had to trust God and step into a place they've never walked before the sea floor. walk across it with these walls of all Water. And by the way, this is the detail I love. It was at night. How many guys know all the spooky things happen at night? Right? And that's exactly what was going on here. It was at night that they had to walk across this supernatural things require a step of faith just like the mother in the in the movie breakthrough. What did the doctor the actual doctor, not the actor Doctor, what did the doctor say? It was no ordinary prayer. This was no bomb who went into this room and grabbed the feet of her son and this prayed this quiet little nice prayer that's not going to draw a lot of attention so that if God doesn't move supernaturally, then people don't think I'm crazy. Like God, heal my son. No, it's not what she does. The physical doctor says that you have no clue. On the other side of the ER, we heard her God said Your Holy Spirit. Thank you, my son. That's like Moses, holding up the staff over the water with all of the millions of people watching. What is this lunatic doing now? We told you, you brought us out here we're gonna die. And now you're holding a stick up to the water. That's it. Can you see it? This is how I could see myself. I'd be telling my wife, Honey, get the kids pick up this stuff right here. Let's go. This guy's lost it. We're gonna go get a new leader. I mean, that's what you would do to you would do the same thing. Right? Like the mother, praying with that bold kind of prayer. To God requires if you want to see a supernatural breakthrough he requires for you and me to take a supernatural step. And today, I don't know what your step is. But God made made Moses he gave him a clear step. And God will give you a clear step. Maybe your clear, bold step of faith today as this while we worship, to come to the altar, and just to seek God in prayer. So that, you know, you can pray and other people can come pray with you. You know, maybe it's to go to your life group until your life group like, hey, I need prayer, like, I need help, like, come join with me because I need a supernatural breakthrough. I don't know how it's I don't know how we're gonna get out of this. God's gonna have to move, right? Like that might be what you need to do. I don't know, I just know this. If you need a breakthrough, make a move towards the one who has the authority and the power to bring the breakthrough. Don't question him make a move toward him. Let me give you the last example. supernatural breakthrough is always bigger than you. It's always bigger than you. One of the interesting things about the story is that the story we talk about is a story about God delivering the Israelites, God had a much bigger story going on here. Take a look with me to this chapter 14. Now look at verse 17, and 18, and I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians. He was talking to Moses, and they will they will charge in to the sea. After the Israelites, my great glory will be displayed through Pharaoh and his troops, his chariots and his chariot tears when my glory is displayed through them. All Egypt and 1000s of years later, us included, we will, we will see, you usually basically look you'll see my glory, and know that I am the Lord. You want to see God do a supernatural breakthrough in your life, then you just need to be ready for this. It's not just going to end with you that a supernatural breakthrough from the Lord. It's not just you, you are like one side of a coin. And on the other side of the coin, God's going, I move supernaturally so that the world will see me so that the world will worship me so that the world will give me glory so that those who are around you will praise me. That's what I love about the story breakthrough that happened and they turn it into a movie. And then the world has to grapple with this testimony that is irrational from a human perspective, but totally possible from a supernatural perspective. And the world has to worship and give glory to God, medical people who think that they can explain everything away, can't explain it away, and they have to give glory and worship to God. Can I just say this to you. If God chooses to move in a supernatural way in your life, you better also be ready to proclaim it from the mountaintops, because that's God's

agenda, if he's gonna move supernaturally in your life. And if you're not ready for that, then you're not ready for a supernatural breakthrough. If you're not ready to give him glory, and to shout it from the mountaintops, even if it feels just a little bit awkward, then you're not ready. Because that's what God requires. Remember, this life started with God, it's going to end with God and that means everything in between is designed to give him glory. So today if God moved on the edge realize, and supernaturally delivered them. And if God supernaturally delivered John Smith, from those frigid waters in a heart that had been stopped for 55 minutes to an hour, then one thing I know for certain today is a supernatural God can move on your behalf. But you and me have got to get one thing clear. But just because God hasn't moved in a supernatural way up to this moment in your life doesn't mean God can't. You gotta get that clear in your heart. Just because God hasn't doesn't mean that God can't. God's timing. And His ways are bigger than ours. God always has a bigger story at work. And just know, just know that if God ever chooses to see a breakthrough in your life through a supernatural means, can we just all agree today that we would just give him glory, and we will proclaim His name from the mountaintops. So once you stand with me today, Father, I pray for this congregation because there are people that are here, listening to my voice right now that they're in need of a supernatural breakthrough. They're in need of seeing you do something that only you can do. And Lord, I just ask in Jesus name that you would prepare their hearts, for, for a supernatural breakthrough that you would give them the boldness and the faith to take a step, even in a direction that doesn't make any sense. A direction towards the sea, a direction towards the obstacle, that you would give them the boldness like that mother who grabs the feet of their son and shouts it for the world to hear, believing that God nothing is impossible with you. Yes, humanly speaking. Man doesn't I don't know how but God with you all things are possible. Give us that kind of faith, Lord to believe that. Lord, help us help us, Lord, some people listening to my voice right now are at the breaking point, and what they need to make a move towards you, a supernatural God. Lord, would you give us faith to trust what you say? Give us faith to believe what your word says. Give us faith to believe that we don't serve a natural God who does natural things. We serve a supernatural God who still does today in 2023 Does supernatural things it got me me up at work in the hearts of this congregation in Jesus name, Amen.

## **BREAKTHROUGH, Week 5: "Supernatural Breakthrough"**

### Small Group Guide

#### **Ice-Breaker: "Two-Word Introduction"**

Let's get to know each other in a creative and concise way with the "Two-Word Introduction" ice-breaker. Here's how it works:

1. Each participant takes turns introducing themselves using only two words that describe them or their current mood. For example, "Adventurous Explorer," "Coffee Lover," "Eternal Optimist," or "Musical Geek."
2. Participants should aim to choose words that capture something unique or important about themselves.
3. After sharing their two-word introduction, they can briefly explain why they chose those particular words, giving some context to their choices.
4. Continue around the group until everyone has introduced themselves.

#### **Introduction:**

Begin by discussing the concept of supernatural events or interventions in our daily lives. Have the group share their thoughts on whether they believe in the possibility of supernatural occurrences today.

**Exodus 14:10-22** As Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up and panicked when they saw the Egyptians overtaking them. They cried out to the Lord, and they said to Moses, "Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren't there enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt? Didn't we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, 'Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It's better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!'" But Moses told the people, "Don't be afraid. Just stand still and watch the Lord rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving! Pick up your staff and raise your hand over the sea. Divide the water so the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground. And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they will charge in after the Israelites. My great glory will be displayed through Pharaoh and his troops, his chariots, and his charioteers. When my glory is displayed through them, all Egypt will see my glory and know that I am the Lord!" Then the angel of God, who had been leading the people of Israel, moved to the rear of the camp. The pillar of cloud also moved from the front and stood behind them. The cloud settled between the Egyptian and Israelite camps. As darkness fell, the cloud turned to fire, lighting up the night. But the Egyptians and Israelites did not approach each other all night. Then Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the Lord opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the seabed into dry land. So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side! (NLT)

#### **What stands out to you in this story?**

#### **Supernatural Help in Tough Times**

Discuss times when life circumstances felt overwhelming or hopeless. How did you handle those situations?

Share personal stories or examples of people you know who have faced challenging circumstances and received unexpected help or breakthroughs.

## **Taking a Leap of Faith**

Talk about situations where you had to take a significant risk or make a bold decision. How did you summon the courage to take that step?

Ask participants to consider what "faith" means to them, and whether they have ever taken a step of faith in their lives.

## **Seeing God's Hand in Everyday Life**

Explore the idea that supernatural events aren't always as dramatic as parting seas but can be found in everyday life.

Have participants share instances where they believe they've experienced God's guidance, protection, or provision, even if it seemed small or ordinary at the time.

**Matthew 19:26** Jesus looked at them intently and said, "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible." (NLT)

## **Application**

Invite each participant to share a current challenge or obstacle they are facing where they could use some form of breakthrough, whether it's related to health, relationships, career, or personal growth.

Encourage participants to think about practical steps they can take, inspired by the idea of bold steps of faith, to address their challenges or seek breakthroughs.

Discuss ways in which seeking divine intervention or guidance in their situations can align with their Christian faith and values.

## **Conclusion:**

Summarize the discussion by emphasizing the belief that God can intervene supernaturally in our lives, even in ways we may not fully understand.

Encourage participants to trust in God's plan, timing, and ability to work in their lives, even when facing difficulties.

Conclude the meeting with a group prayer, asking for God's guidance, strength, and supernatural help in the challenges discussed, while seeking His glory in the outcomes.