



**January 19 / Sunday**

**Annus Mirabilis 1905: Amazing**

Read [Acts 15:11](#) / [Ephesians 2:8-9](#)

**20 / Mon – Wow!** | Read [Psalm 65:5](#)

'Amaze' defined: *to overwhelm with surprise or sudden wonder; to startle, astound, flabbergast or astonish*. That is what happened in 1905 when Albert Einstein published his theory of relativity and the famous  $E=mc^2$  equation, which rocked the scientific community and gave them a totally new way to look at the universe. Has God done something amazing in your life that rocked your world? What were the circumstances?

**21 / Tue – A new normal** | Read [Mark 8:35-37](#)

Just as Einstein upended the scientific world, Jesus upended 'normal' life, through the way he lived and his teachings. Who knew you could find your life by losing it in something bigger than yourself? Or that forgiveness, not revenge, brings closure? That hope and meaning could come from tragedy? And that putting another's needs above your own would bring such satisfaction? Jesus offers a very different way to live which can seem startling. What does this look like in your world?

**22 / Wed – Amazing provision** | Read [Matthew 14:16-21](#) / [Psalm 46:10-11](#)

Food is a necessity of life but can sometimes be scarce. The Lord chose some amazing ways to feed His people: manna appearing overnight in the desert (Exodus), ravens dropping meat and bread into Elijah's lap during a famine, multiplying five flatbread and two small fish to feed 5000+ people. Imagine your astonishment if you saw these things occur. Is there scarcity in your life? Amazing things can happen, even today, if you let God be God and trust His good heart.

**23 / Thu – Seeing a need** | Read [John 10:10](#) / [Matthew 7:7-8](#)

Jesus amazed people by the things he did. He had compassion for the poor, the sick, the outcast and he took action. Healing bodies, hearts, and minds. Raising their spirits, hopes, and dignity. Looking over your past, what amazing things has Jesus done for you? Do you believe he will do such things for those you care about? As you pray for each person, remind yourself of what God has already done for you and what He has promised to do for those who ask.

**24 / Fri – Amazing starts with 'I don't know what to do.'** | Read [2 Chronicles 20:1 and 12](#)

God's people had found themselves facing an overwhelming army. In this unprovoked battle, God circumvented the normal strategies so they would know they did not fight alone. Read v. 10-12 for the king's prayer and v. 21-24 for his unusual approach and the result of the battle. Are you fighting something which seems impossible to conquer? For encouragement, read God's answer to the king in v. 15-17 and consider...could the Lord be saying these same words to you as well?

**25 / Sat – If God did nothing else...** | Read [John 3:16](#) / [Romans 6:23](#)

The most amazing thing God has ever done is described here. In a world where people often believe they have earned every good thing that comes to them, scriptures reveal this fact: God knew every human being would be powerless to conquer their sin-bent nature and would never be able to reach the level of holiness required to enter heaven after death. Because of love, He chose to pay the sin penalty Himself and now offers this new life freely, as a gift just for the asking. Truly astonishing!