




# SISTERHOOD LOUNGE ROOM

*From our lounge room to yours*

## FAITH, HEALING, & MIRACLES

### Part two: The Power Gifts: Healing & Miracles




Loved part one of month's conversation? Well so did we!

In part two of this special edition of The Sisterhood Lounge Room, Nicola is joined by her mother, Rachel Hickson as they continue to explore the power gifts.

Below we have highlighted the key scriptures and thoughts as well as a few questions you can use in discussion with your group or in your own personal devotion. Enjoy!

*"But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you."*

John 16:7



Nicola began by sharing the words of Jesus in John 16:7 that explain that the Holy Spirit will empower us to operate in our gifts and that we can be hungry and expect signs and wonders to follow. Jesus did say that we will be able to do even greater things than He did.

Rachel shared a powerful story of when her husband Gordon and herself were in a serious car accident in 1984. The accident should have been fatal for Rachel who was in a coma and not expected to live and should have left Gordon in a wheelchair as he broke his spine. Despite the terrible prognosis, through

prayer, intercession, medicine, and miracles both Rachel and Gordon fully recovered.

Nicola asked her mum to give her perspective on why broadly speaking the hunger and expectation for signs and wonders has greatly diminished in the Western church. Rachel said that she had believed this was the case, but throughout her ministry within England she repeatedly hears incredible story after story of miracles and healing and suggests that perhaps we are not good at sharing stories. God is always working and moving.

**Q- What are some testimonies of healing you have seen in your life or those you love?**

**Q- When you hear a praise report, how do you respond? Are you filled with awe and wonder of God, or has a little familiarity set in?**

**Q-When you pray for the sick do you find it easy to believe for healing? What thoughts go through your mind as you pray?**


*Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home." He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them.*

Mark 6:4-5

Rachel explained that we can lift our expectation for healing and miracles if we acknowledge:

–Familiarity: we need to not lose our awe and wonder. Do not grow familiar with praise reports. Jesus could not perform miracles in his hometown because the people were too familiar with him.

–Not giving room for the gift of faith: We often do not like the uncomfortable and we can be fearful of disappointment. Healing and miracles needs space and room.



– Tenacity: Rachel quoted Reinhard Bonnke in saying “no one dies if you pray for them, but some may live”. In other words, you have nothing to lose by praying and everything to win, so be tenacious in your prayers.

Nicola agreed and said that perhaps we have too many options in our culture unlike in Jesus’s day when prayer would have been the first option and perhaps it’s become our last. Imagine if it became our first again.

**Q- Do you feel like you are good at making room for God to do signs and wonders in your life? Do you have an expectation for this?**

**What are some of the things that hold you back?**

**Q- How does Reinhard’s statement of “no one dies if you pray for them, but some may live” make you think differently?**

**Q- How can you purposefully make the prayer of faith your first option rather than a last resort?**

*“... to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.”*

1 Corinthians 12:9-10

Nicola asked Rachel to explain the difference between the healing and the miracle giftings. Rachel said that although they may work together, they can be distinct. A miracle is a supernatural intervention into the ordinary course of nature whereby natural laws are thrown out. Young’s concordance says that miracles means powers, explosions of almightiness, causing wonder and astonishment. Miracles are often a

supernatural event beyond just healing. For example the car fuel gauge signal empty, but the car continues to run for hours.

In verse 9 the gifts of healing, is the intervention of the Holy Spirit into your body, soul, mind, and spirit to bring alinement back and restore full health. Nicola shared her experience of seeing healing as a child. The blind seeing again and people walking for the first time. She asked Rachel if anyone can pray for healing and miracles or if these gifts are gifted to specific people. Rachel said that she believed that everyone can operate in these gifts but sometimes God give specific gifts to certain people. We simply need to get hungry to see signs and wonders, and then ask, receive, and practice! So, how do you know if you received a gift? You release it in faith and keep praying (practicing).

Lastly Nicola asked Rachel to share why it is important that we see signs and wonders in 2023. Rachel said these signs bring a message of hope and make us WONDER about God. Ultimately signs and wonders point us to Jesus and the reality of a powerful God who cares for us. Rachel reminds us that we too are supernatural and are made to see a move of God in our life and nation.

*“Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.”*  
Matthew 10:1

**Q- What is a miracle that you have witnessed something that defies the laws of nature?**

**Q- Jesus has given us authority on Earth in his name, do you feel confident to speak to sickness and believe for healing?**

**Q- If there is someone you know is sick, take a moment to pray for them.**

Rachel concluded by encouraging us to stay hungry and not be satisfied with staying safe and in the normal, but to stretch out our arms and pray in faith and expectation.

### **PRAYER**

God, we thank you that you are a miraculous, all powerful God. We are sorry that often we resort to relying on self rather than allowing you to have your wondrous way within our lives. Thank you that you choose to use us as vessels for your mighty deeds. We pray that you will open our eyes to see what you see and that we would step out in faith. We are expectant for a move of God in the world around us because you are a God who is always working and moving. Amen