

Miracle or Magic?



Do you know how to perform any kind magic trick?

If not, try to remember when you have seen a magic trick being performed.



Task 1:

If you have performed a trick, write down what were you thinking or feeling whilst you performed the trick?

If you were watching a magic trick being performed write down what were you thinking / feeling during and after the trick had been done?

Now read about a Miracle.

Here are two accounts from the Christian Bible about a blind man who was healed by Jesus.

Mark 10:46-52

46 Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means "son of Timaeus"), was sitting by the roadside begging. **47** When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" **48** Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" **49** Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called to the blind man, "Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you." **50** Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus. **51** "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him. The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see." **52** "Go," said Jesus, "your faith has healed you." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

Luke 18:35-43

35 As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. **36** When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening. **37** They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." **38** He called out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" **39** Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" **40** Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, **41** "What do you want me to do for you?" "Lord, I want to see," he replied. **42** Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has healed you." **43** Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God.

Task 2: Write down what you think the difference is between a magic trick and a miracle.

Many followers of Jesus sometimes thought they had been tricked, as if it was some kind of magic trick. Jesus and his disciples told them this was a miracle, not a trick and they should **Have Faith in him, as Son of God.**

Task 3: From Task 1 write an explanation of how you react if:

- You had, after watching Jesus perform a miracle felt tricked, convinced it was some kind of magic.
- You had performed a magic trick and someone told everyone how you had done the trick, revealing your secret.