

7. Read Acts 4: 13-14. How did the power of changed life in the crippled man influence the Sanhedrin? Was the purpose to “shut them up” so they could continue spreading the gospel? What was the Holy Spirit’s intention to have Peter proclaim Christ’s miracle work on the cross and in the life of the crippled man? Discuss.

8. Read Acts 4:19-20. Is that your passion? Are you ready to share at any moment? Do you find yourself struggling to hold back speaking up about what Christ has done for you? Why or why not? Discuss.

9. As believers in Christ, why do you want to be an influence for Christ? What are you doing in order to accomplish this task? Are you spending time in the word and prayer? Are you leading a new believer in discipleship? Are you living with a winning attitude? May we obey God rather than man! May we not stop speaking about what we have seen and heard!

Power Up!!!

What does it mean to “power up” for Christ?

Four sources of power for the 21st century believer:

1) The power of the resurrection of Christ. (Acts 4:8-12)

Rescues you from:

- a. The power of sin.
- b. The power of strongholds.
- c. The power of self.

2) The power of our testimony. (Acts 4:9-10)

- a. God is the subject, we are the direct object.
- b. God seeks us, we did not seek Him.
- c. God transforms, we testify.

3) The power of a changed life. (Acts 4:13-14)

- a. It’s living proof... not just words on a page.
- b. It brings conviction to the seeker.
- c. It’s unexplainable to the natural.

4) The power of influence. (Acts 4:13-14)

- a. Empower: Plug in daily with Christ through Word and prayer.
- b. Equip: Disciple new believer through the Equipping Journey.
- c. Encourage: Motivate others with a winning attitude.
- d. Evaluation: Ask yourself hard questions.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

For the week of November 29, 2009

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Why were the apostles experiencing unbelievable miracles from God during the first century church? Did the Holy Spirit have more power in the first century than the 21st century? What do you think being empowered by God looks like in your daily walk with Christ?

2. Read Acts 2:24, 32; 3:15; 4:10. What is the obvious common theme? Do you see this message as the primary power source for the believer? Read I Corinthians 15:3-7, 12-19. Discuss.

3. Read Acts 4:1-7. Have you ever experienced sharing your changed life to an authority figure? Family? If so, what happened? Were you afraid of rejection? Humiliation? Were you bold? Share with the group.

4. Read Acts 4:8. Did Peter do something to get “filled with the Spirit”? Did he have a quiet time or prayer time with God? What is the purpose to be “filled with the Spirit”? Is it to “show off” our spiritual gifts? Is it to testify of God’s work through Christ for the kingdom? Discuss.

5. Read Acts 4:9-10. Why did God heal the crippled man? Was God only interested in making him whole physically? How about you and I, why do we experience certain trials that leave us incapable to fix them? What is the Lord teaching His people? Discuss.

6. Read Acts 4:11-12. Name various world religions. Can you find any that offer “forgiveness of sin”? The word “must” in verse 12 is known as the “expression of necessity” which looks to divine design, therefore, what is necessary in verse 12 and how does that effect on our need to witness to others? Discuss.