

Acts 1:8

but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

- Power is something that many people are chasing.
- People feel like they have received power when they generate a lot of money and possession by obtaining a position or achieving dominance in an area.
- People with money have influence because others need money. They can get their way because they control money.
- Studies also show that once people assume positions of power, they're likely to act more selfishly, impulsively, and aggressively, and they have a harder time seeing the world from other people's points of view.
- A perception exists that people in position of power are fulfilled and happy. In the contrary, many of these people live unfulfilled lives.
- Power – The word power comes from an Anglo-Norman word 'poeir', from an alteration of the Latin word 'posse' which means to 'be able'.
- **Power can be defined as the ability to influence.**

Exercise:

- As you know I enjoy exercise and many times, as I exercise, the Holy Spirit speaks to me.
- Some days I feel strong, I am energised. My mindset is positive, and I achieve good results.
- I remember the first time I finished a 100km race on my mountain bike. I felt that because I could complete that race, I would be able to achieve anything.
- Other days my flesh feels weak. My muscles are paining, I feel tired, my mindset becomes negative and I just want to quit.
- There are days when I feel I can't finish. I must then talk to myself and encourage myself to push through. I endure pain and exertion and refuse to give up. I can finish what I started because I have done it many times before, but suddenly I don't feel and I don't believe I can.
- The Blindside – This is a story of a huge kid who had no one to believe in him, who did not believe in himself. He needed someone to believe in him and someone who could teach him to believe in himself. He needed a purpose.
- Even if there is power in the plug socket, no power will flow unless the switch is turned on. Once the switch is turned on, the socket can influence what is plugged into the socket.

Waiting:

Acts 1:4

Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me;

- Wait, why wait?
- They have been hanging with Jesus all the time, they have been discipled and trained. Why wait?
- What does He mean with wait?

RWC:

- Most followed the RWC and especially our Springbok team.
- How many of us criticized our players and many times didn't believe they could win the RWC.
- Hands up, who said you are tired of FAF De Klerk's box kicks and Willie Le Roux that can't catch a ball?

- Can't Rassic see the players aren't performing! Then Rassic let us all know that he hears us, but this is the game plan. Faf De Klerk is only playing under instructions of his coach.
- In the end Rassic proved to us that he had a plan and that very game-plan won the RWC.
- If Faf decided his coach's instructions were not working and brought in his own plan, how would that work out? The coach would drop him in an instant. The coach needs players that can follow his instruction.

Obedience – When Jesus says 'wait', then you wait.
Follow His plan, He knows what's best.

Acts 1:12-14 The Upper Room

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went up to the upper room where they were staying; that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

- Waiting was training, connecting to the source, being energised, being prepared for what was to come.

Lamentations 3:24-26

"The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I have hope in Him." The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, To the person who seeks Him. It is good that he waits silently For the salvation of the LORD.

Isaiah 40:30-31

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Acts 2:1-4 - The Day of Pentecost

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

- When the power came, they were ready and people all around took notice. Peter had received the power to stand up and explain. Signs and wonders took place and many got saved and the Holy Spirit added to their numbers daily.
- What would have happened if the disciples decided not to wait, but just went out witnessing and proclaiming the gospel?

We receive power to:

1. So that our lives are changed

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave the power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name:

2 Corinthians 3:18

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

2. We can influence others

Mark 16:17-20

These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” So then, when the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed. And they promptly reported all these instructions to Peter and his companions. And after that, Jesus Himself sent out through them from east to west the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.

The Power to change a life lies in the power of a changed Life. - Dr Jonathan David

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.

Anointing:

- The practice of anointing came from the shepherd that use to put oil on the sheep's head. The oil prevented lice and insects to come into the wool and drill its way into the sheep's head and kill it.
- The anointing oil was symbolic of the protection, blessing and empowerment. The power is not in the oil, but in The Spirit of God.
- The anointing can be described as the burden removing yoke destroying power of God. The anointing is the ability to overcome the works of evil.
- When we receive power, we can release power.
- We are not the power we are conduits of the power.
- The power first ignites in you before it can touch others through you.

Why do we receive the power?:

- To change us
- To change others

2 Timothy 1:7

For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and [b]discipline.

Mark 5:25-34 - The Woman with the Issue of Blood

A woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years, and had endured much at the hands of many physicians, and had spent all that she had and was not helped at all, but rather had grown worse— after hearing about Jesus, she came up in the crowd behind Him and touched His cloak. For she thought, “If I just touch His garments, I will get well.” Immediately the flow of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction. Immediately Jesus, perceiving in Himself that the power proceeding from Him had gone forth, turned around in the crowd and said, “Who touched My garments?” And His disciples said to Him, “You see the crowd pressing in on You, and You say, ‘Who touched Me?’” And He looked around to see the woman who had done this. But the woman fearing and trembling, aware of what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. And He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace and be healed of your affliction.”

Summary:

- There was a woman who had an issue.
- This woman heard of Jesus.
- She believed Jesus could heal her, if only she touched His cloak.
- Jesus asked, ‘Who touched Me?’ as He felt power flowing out of Him.
- Jesus changed the life of this woman who, after her healing, changed the lives of others who believed.

Establishing the kingdom:

1 Corinthians 4:19-20

But I will come to you soon, if the Lord wills, and I shall find out, not the words of those who are arrogant but their power. For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power.

When a Kingdom is established, new rule is established. The King of that Kingdom puts his government in place, the rules of the new kingdom is adhered to.

Summary:

- The Spirit of Power – God has given us His Spirit to bring about change in us, so that we can bring about change in others.
- Obedience – Always stay true to the Word of God.
- Abide in the Vine – We need to stay connected to God by abiding in Him in union Word and prayer.
- Establish Kingdom – The change in us must influence and change others around us, in so establishing the Kingdom.
- Faith – Keep believing and stand strong in the faith, even in trials and tribulations. Faith unlocks the power.

Ephesians 3:14-21

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto Him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.