

Kingdom Series - Autumn 2005 - King's Centre Church
Week 4 - Kingdom Power and Faith (2.10.05)
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When I was asked to speak about this I felt totally inadequate because God's power and kingdom and faith, I know, are all things we are all pressing into. I asked myself, "What do I know about God's power?" but I realised that it's not about us but about Him and I do believe He's given me something to share.

I think for the Kings Centre particularly over the last few months we've been hearing prophetic words from God about how he wants to release us into something. It's interesting if you look at the prophecy book – He's telling us he wants to release us into something to do with healing and his power. It's a really timely thing for us to be exploring as a church because it doesn't need to be a theoretical discussion, we need to be people who are advancing in the manifestation of the bits of God that we already know.

Careful how you hear today

I'm going to say be careful how you hear God's word today. Hear it in a way that will impact your life and hear it as you've never heard it before and lay all your previous experiences aside.

What are God's words about power, and God's words about healing - as I think that is something he has been saying to The Kings Centre specifically?

- Jn.14:12 – Jesus said, 'I tell you the truth.'
 - If Jesus says this to you, I suggest that you listen! So what does he so solemnly tell us? What is the truth that he's talking about? He says, 'Anyone who has faith in me will do greater works than I have done.' Hear that as though you've never heard it before.
- Acts 1:8, 'You will receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you will be my witnesses.'
 - Why would we receive the power – so that we will be his witnesses.
- Luke 10:19, 'I have given you power over all the power of the enemy.....nothing by any means shall harm you.'
 - This is very reassuring as we may feel in a bit of a battle sore when confronting the enemy, but we must remember his promise to us. It's a choice to believe the promises of God, but sometimes our experiences can get in the way of our faith.

So, how do you identify the power of the enemy?

In Jn 10:10, 'The thief comes to kill, steal and destroy', so any time you see stealing happening, i.e. your joy or your hope gets stolen, that's not the work of God because he says clearly that this is the enemy. Jesus says, 'I have come that you may have life and have life more abundantly.' Isn't that wonderful! I hope your heart is beginning to leap because you must hear, you must be careful how you hear these words.

And it's not just power that God wants to give us for all of that. God wants to give us power in teaching. Jesus was teaching with power and with authority. If you're a cell leader or you share in cell, be encouraged because Jesus wants you to share with power and authority just like he did.

Read Eph. 1:17-23.

If you're ever in any doubt about the power it took to raise Jesus from the dead then you just have to think about the opposition that the enemy would have exerted to Jesus being raised from the dead, because the devil knew that if Jesus was raised from the dead he would be the first of many, many more who would be raised from the dead and that his power would be broken. So the power within you and me is the same power that raised Jesus up from the dead. Hallelujah! That's the same power that is at work when we are kind to someone, when we stand to love someone who is absolutely unloveable, when we stand to meet the challenge of praying for someone to be raised from the dead, when we share the Scriptures and how Jesus has come to bring us salvation, that's the same power. God has chosen to allow us to share in this same power and I think it's fantastic.

I have tried to give you a few scriptures about what God says about the power that is within us and I could go on and on as they numerous.

Desperate for God?

Sometimes we have to ask ourselves why God doesn't give us power on tap? What else is it that God requires from in order for us to move from a place from where we are experiencing some of what God is doing and we thank God for that, but why might it be that we're not experiencing what God has for us. My heart, and yours, is so desperate to see God break in power and ways that we know and have heard of.

If you read the scriptures you will have heard what God did in Egypt and what he did when Jesus was on earth, what he is doing all over the world, but we want God to do them here. At the core of us for me is about relationship with God and being desperate for God.

Praying & praying

When you look at what God is doing in Nigeria and the move of the Holy Spirit, there are few places where you will see the raw power of God. These things have happened because over the decades many, many people have prayed and prayed.

I would encourage young people to seek God desperately and to seek his face again and again. I am encouraged because we here at Kings Centre have started to cry out to God and pleading with God and seeking his face. We are learning to see what Jesus saw, what the Father was doing. I want to encourage us to not stop what we have started doing, but to pray that God will move in our families and neighbours.

Be careful how you're hearing this, don't let the devil fill your mind with 'buts'. I believe God wants to encourage us to set our eyes to see what Jesus can do and not have all the doubts and negatives to challenge these things that God shares with us.

An example of people like that in the Bible – Mark 19: Disciples prayed for Son but nothing had happened. Jesus looked at them and said, 'Oh you faithless generation.' When we think about God moving in his power it's not about pointing the finger individually but corporately. We as a community have to encourage one another. Jesus never sent his disciples out to preach not one by one, but in twos or more. The disciples asked why they couldn't heal people. Jesus said that they had to pray and fast. Why would he say that to them? They would know a thing or two about prayer but if you look at the disciples' prayer life pre and post resurrection, you will see a great difference. In fact Acts 1:8, Jesus told them to wait in Jerusalem. It took 40 days before the Holy Spirit came and this was because (Acts 1:14) they devoted themselves steadfastly to prayer.

Get ready!

During the Shake the Heavens conference someone let out a mighty groan and I had a picture an angelic being and there was an urgency about him and I got the sense that God was getting his army ready. God is about to do something but we have to give ourselves earnestly to prayer and be of one mind. We want God to break in his healing, miraculous power. God will do it because he is a God who does and has in many, many nations of the world.

I just want to leave and encourage you with the words in Luke 12:32 – ‘Fear not little flock, it is my Father’s good pleasure to give you the Kingdom. And he will give us the kingdom and we will enter into it.’