

Acts 2.1-41 (pt. 2)

Two weeks ago we looked at the same text of Scripture and focused on the promise of the Spirit. This week we shifted to focusing on the power that the Spirit brings. Mike's bottom line was this: Kingdom citizens believe God's promises, and so they pursue God's power.

1. At the end of his sermon, Mike listed three examples of what happens when God's power shows up: transformation, gospel proclamation, and unification.

a. How have you seen the Spirit working in these areas in your own life? Where have you seen the Spirit's power at work?

b. In which of these areas are you currently asking the Lord to show up and demonstrate his power?

2. Based on 1 Cor 12:1-11, we can also add empowerment through spiritual gifts.

a. In this text Paul teaches us that there are some unhealthy ways that people seek God's power. For example, he says that the Spirit will always lead us to focus on Jesus and to humble ourselves under Jesus' lordship. Have you seen or experienced any ways in which people have sought the Spirit's power that did not exalt Jesus? If so, what was it?

b. Paul further explains that one of the ways that the Spirit's power is active in the life of the believer is by giving various spiritual gifts. Which gifts have you discovered that you have?

c. How did you discover your gifts? How do you know it is a gift of God?

d. How are you currently using that gift, and how might you be even a better steward of it?

3. In this text Mike showed how God's power and kingdom are connected, so that with one comes the other. That means that when we reject God's kingdom (his authority over us) we also are resisting his power. This means that we shouldn't expect to see God's power bring transformation, unification, or empower proclamation where there is no submission to his lordship.

- a. What does this teach us about how to deal with areas of our lives that need transformation?
- b. What does it look like to bring an area of our lives under the lordship of Jesus?
- c. Can we truly bring an area under Jesus' lordship without God's help?