**The Trilogy Series Week 8: The Power Part 2**

Welcome to the Trilogy Series.

Who can recite our vision statement from memory? I have some sweets to give to those who can do it.

Here is our Vision statement - let's say it together: “We see lives, communities and society transformed through DISCIPLESHIP in the WORD, the PRESENCE and the POWER of God.”

In Part 1 we learnt how to get into God’s Word using the SPECK method - we read a passage from the Bible and look for a sin to avoid, a promise to claim, an example to follow, a command to obey and knowledge to gain.

In Part 2 we learnt how to experiencing the presence of God in our personal lives through creating reminders and using our senses (sight, sound, taste, touch and smell) and in corporate worship where we need to prepare, focus, confess sin, eliminate distractions, enter in, picture and use actions.

Last week we started Part 3 and we learnt that God’s power flows through ordinary people in Salvation, Deliverance, Healing, Miraculous and in Disciplemaking.

Today we are going to actually experience God’s Power.

Last week we looked at the miracles that Elisha did. Well, his mentor was Elijah…

And he had a showdown with the followers of Baal - a false God that was pretty dramatic and God’s power showed up in an incredible way!

Video: Elijah's confrontation on Mount Carmel. Get it online at: http://www.churchleaders.com/worship/worship-videos/165928-elevation-creative-elijah-on-mount-carmel.html or on YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-D\_Rp8nHsg4

How to Limit God’s Power. As we consider putting ourselves in a place where we can experience God’s power it would be helpful to think of things that could hinder us from experience His power! There are at least three things we can do that have the potential to limit God’s power:

**1. Fear limits God.** When we are afraid of what our friends think or when we are afraid of failure or when we are afraid that people will think we are crazy we won’t be able to experience God’s power. Fear causes us to be more conscious of others than about what God is wanting to do in and through us.

Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.” “Come,” he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!” Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?” (Matthew 14:25-31)

A famous missionary, William Carey once said: “Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God!” us. So let’s ask God to fill us with boldness and courage and take away any fear that we may have!

**2. Unbelief limits God.** Last week, Pastor Mark said that there was a town where Jesus could do no miracles because of the unbelief of the people. If you don’t believe that God is willing and able to do something then you just may miss out on experiencing his power.

Ephesians 3:20 says: “With God’s power working in us, God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or imagine.” So believe that God is going to work in and through you and you will see his power at work!

**3. Disobedience limits God.** If God tells you to do something you need to do it. Nothing will hinder you from experiencing His power than refusing to do what he wants you to do. If you disobey God when he asks you to do something you will miss out on a blessing.

Jesus said: “Whoever believes in me will do the same things that I do - they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.” So let’s be obedient this morning when God asks us to do something and we will see greater miracles than we could imagine. Trust in the One who makes the impossible possible, in the One who provides and the One who is always for you!

**The Five Power Stations.** We have set up 5 stations around the room - places you can visit and have someone pray for you to experience God’s presence in that area. As I introduce each station - one of our leaders is going to share a brief testimony of God's power in that area.

1. Filling. At this station someone will pray for God to fill you with his Spirit.

2. Deliverance. At this station someone will pray for you to be set from anything that you have struggled to break free from.

3. Healing. At this station someone will pray for you to be healed of anything that is afflicting you.

4. Miracles. At this station someone will pray for you or someone you know to experience a miracle from God.

5. Witnessing. At this station someone will pray for you to have power when you tell people about Jesus.

We have also set up an experience of Communion - a table where you can go once you have received prayer at a few stations - to celebrate what God has done for you this morning remembering that without the death and resurrection of Jesus none of this would be possible.

Power Stories: Five leaders are going to come and share a testimony about each station and then you are free to visit the stations and receive prayer and/or pray for others at the stations.

Prayer

Next Sunday we end the term with a special service after worship downstairs.