

"innumerable healing for the lost"

- I don't think we really grasp how eager God is to back up His word on behalf of lost people

The Promise of Power for Evangelism

Acts 1:8 NASB1995

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."

Mark 16:15-20 - 15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. 16 He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned. 17 These [d]signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues; 18 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." 19 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. 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the [e]signs that followed.]

Acts 4:29-31 And [v]now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence, 30 while You extend Your hand to heal, and [w]signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy [x]servant Jesus." 31 And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

The Precedent of Power for Evangelism

We are trying to reach people purely on the rational level, while all of this is totally irrational!

- **None of these can be program-itized**

Woman at well - John 4:28-30,39,41-42





Phillip and Eunuch - Acts 8

- Knowing how to lead people to Jesus, grounded in the Word - absolutely

Acts 3 - Acts 4:4

Paul and Silas - Acts 16:25-34

The Purpose of Power in Evangelism

Surpasses limits of knowledge

Power forces a decision

Power opens doors/dialogue

Power enraptures attention

Power multiplies

- Aeneas and Tabitha - acts 9:32-43
- Gate beautiful

Power destroys the paradigm of a weak, uncaring, distant God

The Practice of Power in Evangelism

Why we Don't:

Fear of Rejection

Harshest rejection came before string of greatest healings in Psychic Fair
who cares if you get rejected - people here who love you, accepted in the Beloved!

New King James Version

to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. - Eph 1:6

Fear of Failure

1 Corinthians 13:8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away.

Professional/ Laity Divide

- Seeker sensitive model promotes this - real cost
- Everyone gets to play/pray



Compassion coupled with power in Evangelism

Not just power for power's sake - the testimonies, forgetting that **people are people, not a testimony**

[Mat 9:13, 36 NASB95] 13 "But go and learn what this means: 'I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT SACRIFICE,' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Matthew 9:35-37 35 Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. 36 Seeing the [a]people, He felt compassion for them, because they were [b]distressed and [c]dispirited like sheep [d]without a shepherd. 37 Then He *said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few."

[Mat 12:7 NASB95] 7 "But if you had known what this means, 'I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT A SACRIFICE,' you would not have condemned the innocent.

[Mat 14:14 NASB95] 14 When He went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and **felt compassion for them and healed their sick.**

[Mat 15:32 NASB95] 32 And Jesus called His disciples to Him, and said, "**I feel compassion for the people**, because they have remained with Me now three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way."

[Mat 20:34 NASB95] 34 **Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes;** and immediately they regained their sight and followed Him.

[Mar 1:41 NASB95] 41 **Moved with compassion, Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him,** and said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed."

[Jas 5:11 NASB95] 11 We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the **Lord is full of compassion and [is] merciful.**

Crowd Collision

Luke 7:11-17

If not for Jesus everyone you meet is just marching towards death -

We as people who have seen His power get to interrupt and change the course of their life

- *As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.* Col 3:12

Compassion kills "the agenda"

