



## BREAKING THE ICE

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What is the longest time you have gone without power in your home?

If you had to choose between living without social media or without TV, which would you choose and why?

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Last week Pastor Kevin talked about living beyond our own perspective and looking through God's perspective. We gain perspective when we pray for others, spend time getting to know God better and see with spiritual vision.

1. How were you able to change your perspective this last week? Were you prompted to pray for others, spend time with God and see with spiritual vision? If so, how did you carry that out?

We were made to live with the presence and power of God in our lives. When we live with God's power we are dependent on His spirit, His strength and His presence in our lives. We are dependent on Him instead of depending on ourselves.

2. How do you experience God's power in your life? Do you tend to depend on His power or do you depend on yourself?

When Jesus left the earth, He sent the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was God's gift to us to live with His power in our lives.

\*You can learn more about the Holy Spirit from the Bible Project in this quick 5-minute [video](#).

Jesus told the disciples the Holy Spirit would come but didn't give them an exact time to expect it. So, the disciples and others prayed, creating unity, while they waited for the Spirit. After 10 days, the Holy Spirit and His power descended on them.

3. What is the longest you have prayed and waited for something? What happened in the situation when

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you had been praying and waiting?

God calls us to bring unity, and He supplies the power. Jesus said in John 13:35, “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” When we truly look past our differences and love those around us, unity is created. When there is unity, God’s power and Spirit can move in ways we can’t even imagine.

The disciples and others who prayed and waited for the Spirit to move acted in unity and God moved. God’s power drew hearts to follow Him and transformed lives. That was called the day of Pentecost and was when the church began.

4. How have you experienced the power of God and His transformation in your life?

We can try to do things in our own power, but when we do, we miss out on God’s ultimate best for us.

Paul prays a prayer in Ephesians that is a great example of how to ask God for power in our lives.

Read Ephesians 3:14-21

5. What stands out to you the most in this prayer Paul prayed?

**Prayer is the secret of power.** Paul was not in physical proximity of the Ephesians he was praying for, but he continued to pray for them because he knew God could do infinitely more than he could. Paul knew that prayer changes things.

Pastor Kevin said, “Prayer is how we take dependence off our own strength and put it on God.” We pray for God’s power in our lives, so that Christ would dwell in our hearts and host the presence of God in our lives.

6. How have you experienced the power of prayer in your life?

**God’s power is for God’s purposes.** God’s purpose is (and our purpose should always be) to point people back to Jesus. The spirit of God lives in all of us, we all have the same power from Him. When we remain and abide in Him, we bear good fruit that points back to Jesus.

“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23

7. Which fruit of the spirit comes easy for you? Which is harder? Which fruit do you wish you had more of?

Jesus is the root to help us produce the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. The more time we spend with Him and become like Him, the more these fruits become evident in our lives.

**Power is being rooted in the love of God.** Where you find your worth, significance and identity is what you are grounded in. What you are grounded in is your root system. We choose what we are rooted in from approval of others, stability at home or work, our significant others, our children, our friends, our bank account.

God's love is secure. When we root ourselves in God's love for us we can be sure He will never leave us nor forsake us. We experience God's love as we spend time with Him. Praying is talking with and listening to God, and it is the secret to God's power in our lives.

8. How have you experienced God's love in your life? Do you feel rooted in His love?

## PRAYER

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God, thank you that you know every single one of us by name. Fill us with your Spirit so we can live our life fully following you. Remove the things in our lives that drain us and keep us from you. Fill us up with your presence and let your love grow deep roots in our lives. Amen.

## ACTION STEP

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Pray through Ephesians 3 this week and spend time with God asking Him to help you experience His love. Ask Him how His power can reveal His purpose in your life. Journal what God is showing you through this prayer time and share it with a group member or friend.