

Sermon Notes – 07.23.2023 – Commands of Jesus – Exercise Spiritual Power

Matthew 10:1, 7-8 Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness... 7 "And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' 8 "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give.

Jesus Gave Them Authority and Power Then He Told Them to Exercise It

Luke 9:1-2 And He called the twelve together, and gave them power and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases. 2 And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to perform healing.

This was the Commandment, the Ministry, and the Message that Jesus Gave the Twelve

This Ministry is at the Core of the Message: The Kingdom of God is at Hand

We Could Get into a Discussion of Unanswered Prayer that Would Lead to Us Doing Nothing, BUT:

The Word Calls Each of Us to a Ministry Beyond Our Natural Abilities to Declare the Kingdom of God

Romans 12:3-8 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, **as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.** 4 For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, 5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6 **Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly:** if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; 7 if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; 8 or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

1 Corinthians 12:1 Now **concerning spiritual gifts,** brethren, I do not want you to be unaware. 2 You know that when you were pagans, *you were* led astray to the mute idols, however you were led. 3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. 4 **Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.** 5 And **there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord.** 6 **There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons.** 7 But **to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.** 8 For to one is given the **word of wisdom** through the Spirit, and to another the **word of knowledge** according to the same Spirit; 9 to another **faith** by the same Spirit, and to another **gifts of healing by the one Spirit,** 10 and to another the **effecting of miracles,** and to another **prophecy,** and to another the **distinguishing of spirits,** to another **various kinds of tongues,** and to another the **interpretation of tongues.** 11 **But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.**

Jesus Empowers Us by the Holy Spirit

We Are called to a life of Seeking, Receiving and Exercising the Power of God

Acts 1:8-9 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." 9 And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. (After this He Ascended & Gave Gifts to Us. Ephesians 4:8)

1 Corinthians 12:31 But earnestly desire the greater gifts...

There is so much that Jesus wants to do in us, but, this week, the command, the provision is for us to 'Exercise Spiritual Power.'

- So, let's seek for the 'more.'
- Let's believe we receive the 'more.'
- Let's step out and believe to see the 'more,' that is beyond our natural abilities.

The Powerful Faith Opportunities that Begin With "Perhaps the LORD."

1 Samuel 14:6-10 Then Jonathan said to the young man who was carrying his armor, "Come and let us cross over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; perhaps the LORD will work for us, for the LORD is not restrained to save by many or by few." 7 His armor bearer said to him, "Do all that is in your heart; turn yourself, *and* here I am with you according to your desire." 8 Then Jonathan said, "Behold, we will cross over to the men and reveal ourselves to them. 9 "If they say to us, 'Wait until we come to you'; then we will stand in our place and not go up to them. 10 "But if they say, 'Come up to us,' then we will go up, for the LORD has given them into our hands; and this shall be the sign to us."

God's Word to Mary

Luke 1:37 "For nothing will be impossible with God."