



Releasing the Power of Heaven

Title: Part 1 – the name of Jesus
Date: Sunday 2nd July 2017
Reading: Acts 3:1-10

‘Power’

What ‘type’ of power (e.g. physical, emotional, energy, authority, etc.) would help you right now at home, work, church...?

Throughout the Bible, God provides many types of power, however the person and presence of Jesus released them all - the full power of heaven. What ‘types’ of power can you identify around Jesus’ life? What difference would more of the power of Jesus have on your life, family, work, church...?

The name of Jesus

The Bible is clear that there is power in the name of Jesus – ‘*Jesus has the name above all other names*’ - *Phil 2:9-11*. We are also called to use the name of Jesus.

‘Pray in my name and it will happen’ - Jn 14, 15, 16

‘At Jesus’ name demons will flee’ - Mk 16:17

‘There is no other name that saves’ - Acts 4:12

‘Welcome children in my name – and you welcome me’ - Mt 18:5

‘When two or three gather in my name, I will be there’ - Mt 18:20

The name of Jesus, the power of Jesus and the presence of Jesus are clearly connected, however it is not always straightforward. Read Matt 7:21-23. Our relationship with Jesus is key, but the power of Jesus’ name appears to independently release the signs of the Kingdom of Heaven. Feel free to discuss how that works – but ensure you move to the next question!

“Purposefully use the name of Jesus”

We live in a culture that has turned the name of Jesus into a swear word, but also a culture where Christians often restrict the name of Jesus to religious gatherings. Do you agree? Does simply declaring the name of Jesus in a positive, biblical way, make a difference? How can we reclaim the name of Jesus in our everyday lives – situations and conversations? What does that look/sound like? Is there a specific situation where you need to declare the name of Jesus and invite Jesus in – releasing the power of Heaven?

Allow Jesus to be Jesus

Jesus is the one who saves, and yet we can sometimes find ourselves under the burden of fixing things or getting frustrated with God because He hasn’t followed our plan (answered our prayers). We are called to love, serve, give, persevere... but it is Jesus who saves, restores, heals, forgives, transforms. How do we allow Jesus to be Jesus?



Notes