



LEADER'S NOTES

Power for What?

John 14:12 & Acts 1:8

QUESTION 1 gives your group a chance to deep dive into some scripture. It may be good to have different members look these up and read them to the group. You may want to assign these ahead of time. You can also work to encourage group members to share how they felt during the sermon, especially the first half. Did they find themselves wanting more of the Holy Spirit active in their lives?

QUESTION 2 – There is more scripture reading here, so again it may be helpful to assign these before you meet, or at least make sure people understand there will be some additional sharing and reading of scripture above what may be normal during group. Chances are people will also start to discuss some of the differences in the scripture as well as the similarities. This is fine of course. It is generally believed that the Gospel of Mark was written first and probably around 30 years after Jesus' resurrection. It is also believed that Matthew & Luke were written next, followed by John.

QUESTION 3 works to help people walk through the idea of having access to the same power as Jesus. This is a remarkable truth that can be hard for some people to accept. I think some people struggle with this because it may feel like we are saying we are the same as Jesus or on the same level. If anyone in your group is struggling in this way, please reassure them that this is not what is being suggested. We do not believe we are the same as, equal to, or on the same level as Jesus. We do believe that the Holy Spirit empowered Jesus and wants to empower us as well.

QUESTION 4 – I believe the second fill in to be a universal truth. In almost all aspects of learning, once we know what is truly possible, we are able to not only expect, but also achieve greater things.

The four-minute mile may be one of the best examples of this principle in action:

-On May 6, 1954, Roger Bannister became the first person to break the four-minute mile, a milestone considered a physical impossibility by many. Bannister, a 25-year-old medical student, ran the distance in 3 minutes, 59.4 seconds at Oxford University's Iffley Road track. This feat shattered a long-held belief about the limits of human endurance and speed. The four-minute mile was more than just a record; it represented a psychological barrier. Many believed it was impossible for a human to run a mile that fast, with some even suggesting it would be fatal. Bannister's feat sparked excitement and disbelief. Within a few weeks, other runners also broke the four-minute barrier, demonstrating that what was once thought impossible was now within reach.

Please feel free to share this story in an effort to help group members understand the universality of this truth, and how important it is that we continue to seek what God wants for us and our lives, working to not limit possible outcomes with what makes sense to us in the natural but allowing empowerment from the Holy Spirit to bring supernatural results into reality.

Question 5 – Some Christians really struggle with the idea that we play a role in how God uses us for the advancement of the Kingdom. I think they may feel like if we play a role, then we can limit God and that would suggest we have power over God. That is not at all what we believe. In the back half of the sermon, Pastor Dan worked to delicately walk people through this concept. God is all powerful and does not need us to advance His Kingdom, but scripture reinforces the idea over and over that God wants us to choose Him. The Holy Spirit will be more active in our lives, and active at greater levels, when we choose to get out of the way and let Him lead. If anyone in your group is struggling with these ideas, please work to encourage them to understand what we believe, and of course, if appropriate, they can schedule a meeting with any Pastor, to have a clarifying conversation.