



Real Church: Acts 1 - The Power of the Church

Greg Wendschlag January 30, 2022

What is real church?

Key verse: *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."* Acts 1:8

Key word: Together

1. The Desire for Power

"Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" Acts 1:6

"Power corrupts. Absolute power corrupts absolutely." Lord Acton to Bishop Creighton; 1887

"Nearly all men can withstand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character give him power." Abraham Lincoln

The natural inclination of a person is to ask, "What's in it for me?" This is the opposite spirit of Real Church.

2. The Power is a Person

⁴ On one occasion, while He was eating with them, He gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift My Father promised, which you have heard Me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ... ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:4-5,8

The power Jesus spoke of was not position or control; it was the person of the Holy Spirit residing in us to love like Jesus did.

What does the Holy Spirit do? WWJD?

- John 14:20 *"On that day you will realize that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you."*
- John 14:25-26 *"All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."*
- John 16:7, 13 *"But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you...But when He, the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth."*

3. The Purpose of Power

"...and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

"When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, He will testify about Me. And you also must testify, for you have been with Me from the beginning." John 15:26

4. The Prayer for Power

"They returned to Jerusalem...When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. They all joined together constantly in prayer along with the women, Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers." Acts 1:12-14

The key to the power of the Holy Spirit: Pray and obey