**Acts 4 – Great Power and Great Grace**

And with great power the apostles were giving the testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all – Acts 4:33

**The glorious of work of God through the church by their unity in the gospel – 4:29 – 32**

1. 4:29 - They prayed for confidence to preach the gospel of the Lord Jesus
2. 4:30 – They prayed for authentication of the preaching of the gospel by healing, signs and wonders in the name of the Lord Jesus
3. 4:31 – The Holy Spirit filled them with power to speak the gospel
4. 4:32 – they were those who believed by faith the gospel by their preaching
5. 4:32 – they were one hearted & one souled in their unity in the gospel & preaching
6. 4:32 – they shared together in ministry to one another’s needs
7. They were selfless – anything belonging to him was his own
8. They were connected together – all things were common property to them

**The powerful results of God’s work through the preaching of the gospel – 4:33**

1. 4:33 – with great power the apostles were preaching the gospel
2. 4:33 – abundant - great grace was on them all

**The great power of God & the gospel**

John 1:12 – but as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name

Acts 1:8 – you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you

Rom. 1:16 – for I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek

1 Cor. 1:18 – for the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God

1 Thess. 1:5 – for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction

1 Pet. 1:5 – who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

**Salvation is the result of the power of God**

1. God’s power comes when the gospel of Jesus Christ is preached
2. God’s power comes by repentance of sin & faith in Jesus Christ
3. God’s power radically changes the mind, will and emotions of those who believe 2 Cor. 5:17

**8 truths about God’s power in the life of the believer**

1. God’s power is for the believer– Eph. 1: 19 – “toward us”
2. God’s exceeding power – Lit. to surpass anything – “hyperballo”
3. God’s great power – Lit. magnitude – “Megethos”
4. God’s powerful power – Lit. inherent power – “dynamis”
5. God’s working power – Lit. energy – “energeia”
6. God’s strong power – Lit. force – “kratos”
7. God’s might – Lit. ability – “ischys”
8. God’s power gives the believer spiritual life – Eph. 2: 5 – dead in sin made alive in Christ
9. God’s power strengthens the believer by the work of the Holy Spirit – Eph. 3:16
10. God’s power works within the believer – Eph. 3:21
11. God’s power can be known by the believer – Phil 3:10
12. God’s power will raise the believer’s body at the coming of Jesus – Phil. 3:21
13. God’s power protects & keeps the believer – 1 Pet. 1:5
14. God’s power gives the believer everything for life & godliness – 2 Pet. 1:3

**How to Live in the power of God**

1. By faith we rest in the power of God – 1 Cor. 2:5
2. The weapons of righteousness are the Word of God & the power of God – 2 Cor. 6:7
3. God’s power comes to full strength in our weakness – 2 Cor. 12:9
4. God’s power brings steadfastness, patience & joy to all circumstances – Col. 1:11
5. We serve God in ministry by God’s power – Col. 1:29
6. God’s power gives us power, love and discipline – 2 Tim. 1:7
7. God’s power comes from the reading & meditating on the Word of God – 1 Thess. 2:13, Heb. 4:12

**How to serve God in the power of God**

We have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power of will be of God and not from ourselves – 2 Cor. 4:7

1. Renounce the hidden things of shame from your past – 2 Cor. 4:1
2. Live before others in truthfulness – 2 Cor. 4:1
3. Patiently endure troubles in the power of God – 2 Cor. 4: 8 - 9
4. Die to self so that Jesus will control your body – 2 Cor. 4:10 – 11

**The practices of denying or rejecting the power of God**

Religious practices but no power of God in daily life - 2 Tim. 3:5

Ignoring the Spirit of God – Rom. 1:18, 21

Quenching the Spirit of God – 1 Thess. 5:19

Resisting the Spirit of God – Acts 7:51

Refusing to follow the leadership of the Spirit – Rom 8:14

Unconfessed sin – Ps. 32:4

Living in pride & self – confidence – James 4:6