

Theme:

Relational Evangelism

Title:

Lesson 2: Keep the Power Flowing

Introduction: The purpose of a relay switch is to use small amounts of power to regulate larger electric currents of power. It operates by taking a lower voltage of power to adjust the flow of a higher voltage causing it to operate in the proper context. Jesus promised the Apostles and disciples in Acts 1:8 that they would receive power to help RELAY their faith to the uttermost parts of the earth. That same power, the Holy Spirit, is available to us today.

Desired Outcomes:

As believers we need power beyond ourselves to walk out our faith and share the gospel with others. In this lesson we will explore what the bible says about the infilling of the Holy Spirit to empower every believer and the benefits of living a Spirit-filled life.

Core Scripture:

Luke 24:49

Acts 1:8

2 Corinthians 4:7

Welcome:

For this message explore ways in which electricity is generated. How can you shock someone without trying?

If there are new members always be careful of not creating a space where new members feel exposed or uncomfortable

Word:

Different sources of natural power affects everyone. Consider strong winds, strong water currents and the amount of force and power they have and the amount of damage they can cause. Electricity is powerful and without the relay switch to regulate the flow of voltage it will cause serious damage. On the other hand, wind, water and electricity can and are used for good.

The full force of God's power through Christ and was manifested in the miracles Christ performed. Jesus knew believers would need power from heaven to be effective in witnessing to others and continuing God's work in the earth. On the day of Pentecost, this promise was fulfilled. All those present were Spirit- filled and Spirit-empowered to witness to others. The indwelling and infilling of the Holy Spirit is not a one-time thing. It is a daily renewal for a thriving living relationship with Christ.

A. Keys to living a Spirit-Filled, power- filled life

- l) First key to living a power-filled life is found in your **Identification** with Christ.
 - a) You have a new identity in Christ. We identify with Christ and not the old Adam. Romans 5:17
 - b) You are a new creation. The person that you identify with is the person you will behave like. We should no longer view ourselves as sinners. 2 Corinthians 5:17

- c) God will complete the work He began in you. We are all in process and God is not finished with us yet. Philippians 1:6
 - II) Consider yourself **DEAD** to sin. Rom 6:11
 - a) You are dead to the power of sin and your relationship to it is broken.
 - b) Settle in your heart and mind that you will no longer respond to sinful influences.
 - III) Consider yourself **ALIVE** to God. Rom 6:11
 - a) You have the risen power of Christ in you through your identification with Him.
 - b) You are in Christ.
 - IV) **Offer** (surrender) yourself to God to be used by God. Rom 6:13
 - a) Give yourself to God and allow Him to have control.
 - b) The Spirit of life has set you free from bondage. Rom 8:1-2
- B. The Spirit-filled life is available to everyone. Luke 11:11-13
- C. Spirit-Filled Life displayed. Galatians 5:16, 22-25
- a) Walk in the Spirit (being responsive to the Spirit).
 - b) Fruit of the Spirit
 - c) Living a Spirit-filled life makes you an attractive witness to others.

The following could be relevant questions to ask:

- Why was it important for the disciples to wait in Jerusalem before they began to relay their faith?
- What keeps Christians from yielding to God?
- How does your view of yourself affect your behavior?
- Which of the fruit of the Spirit is most attractive to you? Which one needs to be more present in your life? Galatians 5:22-23

Thoughts to consider:

The Spirit filled life is a life filled with Christ. As Christians, Christ should be the center of our lives and not pushed to the margins. Are there areas in your life in which you've allowed substitutes to fill space that should only be filled with Christ? If so, remove the substitutes and refocus on Christ so that He can once again be the center of your life.

Worship:

Suggestion: "What a Beautiful Name" (there is no rival, there is no equal) by Hillsong Worship

Works:

1. Pray this prayer at the end of the lesson (and as often as necessary throughout the week): Jesus, I need you and I acknowledge that there is no one equal to You in my life. I surrender all of me to You and I invite You to take center stage in my life. Infill me with your Holy Spirit again so that

I may live a life that honors You and be an effective witness producing fruit for you. In Your name I Pray, Amen.

2. In groups of 3, pray for one another using the B.O.L.D. acronym:

B - is for Boldness. Ask God to give you His courage and boldness in speech.

O - is for Opportunity to share. Ask God to give you opportunities to share the gospel.

L - Laborers - Ask God to send you and strengthen you as a Laborer in His field. Matt. 9:38

D - is for Deliverance from evil. Pray that you will be protected from the evil one & His schemes.

3. Continue to pray for those on your list that are not walking with Christ, using the H.E.A.R.T prayer.