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5 MINUTE LESSONS ON THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Looking for Power!

(A true story by Joe Rose)

One night, several years ago, I was giving three young men a ride home from my house in Colorado Springs to their apartment on the north side of town. We had just finished a youth group meeting at my home. One of the young men started talking to me and said that he didn't believe in God, but was **looking for power** in his life. He told me that he had been on drugs for several years and was in Cedar Springs Hospital several times for drug abuse. He was dropping acid in his eyes to get high.

As we talked, I asked him if he ever considered Jesus. He said that a relative had talked to him about Jesus and the disciples many years ago, but he didn't believe in Jesus or God. Although, he said he was studying eastern religions and the stars to find power.

Let me interrupt this story and ask you, friend, are you searching for power in your life?

Are you empty inside?

Perhaps your job, drugs, sex or alcohol are not giving you what you are looking for?

When you are quiet, by yourself, do you know something is wrong deep inside?

If you answered "no" to these questions — don't read this — any further.

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions and are serious about finding the answers, get ready for your life to never be the same and please continue!

I asked this young man if he was willing for me to pray for him. He reminded me that he didn't believe in God. I told him that didn't change the fact that there is a loving God who made him and loved him so much He sent His only Son to die for him. I told him that at that moment the Holy Spirit was witnessing to me that He was calling for him to meet his Son, Jesus. Again, the young man reminded me that he didn't believe in God. I said if there really is no God then I will be praying into empty space, but if there is a God, and you really want to know, then God will manifest Himself to you right here. He said, "Okay, you can pray." I prayed that God would immediately show this young man that He was the power of the universe and the one he was looking for. I also prayed that God would introduce him to Jesus and that his search would end.

When I finished praying, this young man opened his eyes and said that he now realizes there is a God. I explained that we are spiritually dead in trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:1), and it is because of Adam's disobedience that we were made sinners (Romans 5:19). Additionally, we all have personally sinned (Romans 3:23), and the result of this sin, is spiritual and someday, physical death (Romans 6:23). But God loved us so much that He sent His Son Jesus to die on a cross so we wouldn't have to perish for our sins, but could have eternal life with Him (John 3:15-16). Knowing Jesus brings eternal life (John 17:3). This young man could come to know Jesus right now, by calling on Jesus as His Lord (Romans 10:13). As we stood there talking, the Holy Spirit showed him that this was the truth. The young man then called on Jesus as his Lord and Saviour and personally met Christ. His search for power was over as he had met the Creator of the earth and heavens.

Friend, you have just read enough of the truth for you to end your search too!

Right now, please consider calling on Jesus as your Lord and Saviour. He loves you. He wants you to come to Him right now. He wants to give you eternal life.

Questions

- 1** Simon used sorcery to deceive the people of Samaria.
True or False

- 2** Simon was confronted with real power, the power of God.
True or False

- 3** The gospel is God's power that results in salvation to those who believe.
True or False

- 4** Would you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and call on Him today?

We want to hear from you!

We would love to hear your feedback on these lessons and how you use them in your own study or in discipling others. If you have any thoughts, stories, testimonies, comments, or questions we would love to hear them!

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Answer Key

- 1** Simon used sorcery to deceive the people of Samaria.

True

“⁹Now for some time a man named Simon had practiced sorcery in the city and amazed all the people of Samaria. He boasted that he was someone great, ¹⁰and all the people, both high and low, gave him their attention and exclaimed, ‘This man is the divine power known as the Great Power.’ ¹¹They followed him because he had amazed them for a long time with his magic.” (Acts 8:9-11 NIV)

- 2** Simon was confronted with real power, the power of God.

True

“¹²But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. ¹³Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw.” (Acts 8:12-13 NIV)

- 3** The gospel is God’s power that results in salvation to those who believe.

True

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” (Romans 1:16 KJV)

- 4** Would you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and call on Him today?

“And they answered, Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ [give yourself up to Him, take yourself out of your own keeping and entrust yourself into His keeping] and you will be saved, [and this applies both to] you and your household as well.” (Acts 16:31 Amplified Bible)

“And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.” (Acts 22:16 KJV)