

# **THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL**

## **1 Corinthians 1:17-2:5**

*And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.*

*For the kingdom of God does not consist in words, but in power*

1 Corinthians 2:4-5; 4:20

### **NOT A MATTER OF WORDS, BUT OF POWER**

#### **1) Woman healed of hemorrhage...Mark 5:25**

She had spent all she had  
Rich young ruler eagerly sought, but was not willing to spend it all  
People must come to the end of themselves; different for all of us  
Prodigal son, Bartimaeus, prisoners, leper: we're all sick

#### **2) Gospel is foolishness to those who are perishing...1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

What do you mean, "Die?" -- Die today, for tomorrow we live  
Mr. Worldly Wiseman/ serpent -- choice: my way or God's way  
People laughed at Jesus. Didn't scorn after Jairus' daughter was raised  
God's perspective is completely different than ours... *Isaiah 55*

#### **3) It is the power of God for salvation... Romans 1:16**

Jesus discerned that power had gone out from Him  
What kind of power were the disciples looking for?

#### **4) Power perfected in our weakness... 1 Corinthians 2:3**

Fear and trembling  
Paradox: "not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit..." (Force, strength, wealth, vigor)  
Those led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God... *Romans 8:14*  
All of creation is longing (fully expects with intense anticipation)... *Romans 8:19*

#### **5) We're called to go and preach the gospel**

I like words, but it's not words  
I have a great need to listen

#### **6) So what hope do we have?... Colossians 1:19-27**

Christ in us, the hope of glory  
The love of Christ controls us... *2 Corinthians 5:14-17*  
Arise, shine... *Isaiah 60:1-3*