

Message

Title: The Power Isn't For You

Speaker: Pastor Sam O'Connell

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“The Holy Spirit's power in you is for others—so you can point them to Jesus, not yourself.”

Introduction

This week, let the Holy Spirit work through you to make a real difference in someone else's life.

What if the power of God in your life was never meant for you, but for those around you?

We often talk about the gifts and presence of the Holy Spirit, but have you ever wondered why God entrusts us with such power? In this week's message, Pastor Sam O'Connell explores Acts chapters 1-4 and shows how the Holy Spirit's power isn't about self-improvement or spiritual cool points—it's so we can witness to others about Jesus. From Peter's boldness before crowds and authorities to Paul's encouragement to pursue the gifts of the Spirit for the common good, the central theme is clear: it's not about us, it's about God working through us for the sake of others.

This sermon reminds us that we don't have to muster up courage or eloquence on our own. When we open ourselves to the Holy Spirit, He gives us the words, strength, and gifts we need to point others to Jesus. The challenge is clear—let's be willing vessels, allowing God's presence in us to bring freedom, purpose, and transformation to those around us. Discover how being filled with the Spirit equips you not just for your own journey, but to play your part in God's story of hope.

Scripture



Acts 1:7-8 — He said to them,
“It isn’t for you to know times or seasons which the Father has set within his own authority.

Acts 2:41 — Then those who gladly received his word were baptized. There were added that day about three thousand souls.

Acts 3 — Peter and John were going up into the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour.

Acts 4:5-12 — In the morning, their rulers, elders, and scribes were gathered together in Jerusalem.

Luke 12:11-12 —
When they bring you before the synagogues, the rulers, and the authorities, don’t be anxious how or what you will answer, or what you will say;

1 Corinthians 12:7-11 — But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the profit of all.

Don’t Miss This

- The Power Isn’t Yours to Keep: The Holy Spirit empowers us so we can witness to others—not for our own glory but to point people to Jesus.
- The Spirit Equips Ordinary People: Peter and John’s courage came from the Spirit, not their backgrounds. God uses ordinary people filled with His Spirit.
- Seek the Gifts for the Sake of Others: Pursue the gifts of the Holy Spirit so you can make a difference, serve others, and bring hope—not for self-promotion.

Let’s Chat

1. When have you sensed that God was using you for someone else’s benefit rather than your own?



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2. Why do you think it's hard to remember that the gifts of the Spirit are for serving others, not ourselves?
3. How can we become more open to the Holy Spirit's prompting in our day-to-day lives?
4. If someone asked what difference the Holy Spirit makes in your daily life, how would you answer?
5. What practical step will you take this week to let God's power work through you for others?

