

Study Guide – Power Trip, from 3-18-2018

Key Scriptures:

- Matthew 20:28 Jesus - “the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”
- James 4:2-3 You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.
- James 4:6 But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."
- Matthew 10:16 Jesus - “Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.”
- Philippians 2:5-9 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,
- 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Start Talking. *(Find a conversation starter for your group.)*

- Do you ever secretly think that you are greater or better than someone else, and that you hope God notices? Be honest.
- Do you think it's more difficult for a person who has had a hard life to deliberately make themselves more vulnerable? Or, is it more difficult for someone who has had an easy life? Discuss.

- Pastor Bobby said, “The lust for natural power will exempt us from God’s power.” Have you ever considered this truth before? Discuss.

Start Thinking. *(Ask a thoughtful question.)*

- Pastor Bobby said, “Jesus left the most powerful position in the universe to become a servant.” In comparing yourself to Jesus, have you ever considered how far your fall from position would be to become a servant? Is there really any comparison?
- What would have to change about your life if you embraced the attitude that you don’t have to exalt yourself, but just humbly obey God?

Start Sharing. *(Choose questions that create openness.)*

- Read James 6:4 Does it surprise you that God is closer to those who are humbly vulnerable than to the proud and boastful? So, why aren’t more people intentionally humble? Who wants God to resist them?
- Pastor Bobby said, “Unless we realize we are in need, we can’t really lead.” What would change about your life if you sincerely and humbly expressed your need to God every morning?

Start Praying. *(Be bold, and pray with power.)*

Lord, thank you for your Word and its wisdom. The world tempts us to be defensive and protective, yet Your power comes to us through our humility and obedience to You as Your servant. Help us to stop living like the world and start living for You and like You. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Start Doing. *(Commit to a step and live it out this week.)*

- Pastor Bobby gave examples of Abram, Moses, David, and Daniel as leaders who were stretched to a severe point of vulnerability. Are you willing to let God put you in a place of vulnerability in order to serve His purposes? Is He doing that now in your life? Will you humble yourself to be used by God?

- Name one way you will stop “playing it safe” in order to stretch out into God’s will for your life? What issues need to be addressed, what challenges? In what area is God pulling you right now?
- Pastor Bobby said, “God’s much better at His job than you are at His job.” Name some practical ways you can begin seeing when to get out of God’s way, or when it’s your time to act, or when it’s your time to just “Be Still.”