

I AM WHO I AM - Power

Icebreaker: When you think of power, what first comes to mind?*

Now, how have you personally experienced God's power in your life?

Read Matthew 22:23-29 and don't miss vs 29!

To know the power of God (vs 29), the scriptures are a pre-requisite otherwise we may interpret the power of God to be something else. With which part of the Bible do you feel you have a strong grasp? Which part are you weak and could improve? Have you ever come up with a plan on how you can get better in that weak section of scripture?

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm." (John 18:36 NASB)

What can you envision what that other "realm" will be like?

The power of resurrection – "At (in) the resurrection..." (Matthew 22:30a)

- **The power of life over death**
- **The power of transformation**

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables Him to bring everything under His control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body. (Philippians 3:20-21)

What part of your "lowly body" are you most eager to powerfully transform?

The power of restored relationships – "...people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven." (Matthew 22:30b)

Assuming you were in church on Sunday May 27th, the above passage on marriage was discussed at some length. To alleviate any risk of this being misinterpreted, take a few minutes to discuss what was said about the power of God in verse 30b. How does this verse become hopeful even though it seems hopeless because of God's power?

The power of a promise – "But about the resurrection of the dead – have you not read what God said to you, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not the God of the dead but of the living." (Matthew 22:31-32)

- **The Old Testament promise of life after death**
- **The promise of a completed future plan**

What part of God's powerful future promise excites you the most?

The power in a message – "When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at His teaching." (Matthew 22:33)

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. (Romans 1:16)

Have you personally experienced the "power of God for the Salvation?" Who do you know has not yet experienced that power. Without going out to the street corner with a megaphone, how could you naturally share the powerful Gosepl message of John 3:16 (look it up and remember it) with that someone?

*How many of you, at first thought, naturally answered something related to God and his power?