



## Week 5: Chaos and Power

1. **Icebreaker:** Have you ever been in a position of power over someone else (parent, boss, coach, teacher, etc.), if so what did you learn about yourself? How do you usually relate to people in power? Are you trustworthy, suspicious, rebellious, submissive – why do you think you react this way?
2. In **Gen. 1:28** we see that God shared power with us, under His authority, by instructing humanity, made in His image, to subdue and rule. How have you thought about the meaning of subdue and rule in the past? Pastor Dan shared that God's blessing meant He gave us the capacity to do perform the task, subdue actually means to harness the potential of the earth's resources to glorify God and ensure human flourishing, and rule means to oversee the cultivation and care of the earth in God's stead. How do these definitions differ from your preconceived notions? How do they effect the way we image God in the world?
3. **Read Gen. 2:7, 17:1-8, 15-16.** Had you ever considered God's changing of Abram and Sarai's names was a symbol of Him breathing His Spirit to into Abraham and Sarah to accomplish His work, just as He did to Adam? God has given you a new name and His spirit has been breathed upon you (**John 20:21-22**), when you became a new creation (**2 Cor. 5:17**)! How should this change the way you think about walking in power?
4. **Read Acts 1:8, 3:12, 4:29-33, Rom. 1:16.** What keeps Christians today from living in power under God's authority? What is one thing God is asking you to change (lifestyle, mindset, or taking a step of faith) in His power this week?
5. **To walk in God's power, we must not discount God's ability to accomplish the impossible.** How does this statement challenge you today? Where are you trusting God to accomplish the impossible? Share and pray for one other!
6. **To walk in God's power, we must walk blamelessly before God.** How does this statement challenge you? What is one way you can whole-heartedly seek Him, and enter His presence this week? How has seeking Him and His presence empowered you in the past?
7. **To experience God's power, we must continually be filled with the Holy Spirit.** Pastor Dan talked about the power of present and progressive sanctification. This is the real experience and process where we daily become more and more like Jesus Christ, through the dying of the sin and behaviors that are not like Jesus and becoming alive in His power to live like Jesus. The result, we live out His ways, His works, and His Word daily extending His Kingdom into the world!

Spend time praying that God through the POWER of His spirit will fill you afresh. Pray that He would help each person in your Grace Group to live like Jesus did, to do the works that Jesus did, and that you will obey His Word today and everyday.

**Prayer for the week:**

“For this reason I kneel before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. I pray that he may grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with power in your inner being through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. I pray that you, being rooted and firmly established in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the length and width, height and depth of God’s love, and to know Christ’s love that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. “Now to him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us— to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

(Eph. 3:14–21 CSB17)