Incredible Power June 3, 2018 Lynn Haven UMC – Transmitter Campus

Introduction

With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. (Acts 4:33 NRSV)

In our new sermon series based on the movie "The Incredibles 2" we are going to be looking closely at all of the incredible gifts God has placed in each of us and how we can make the most of them to bring Him the glory. This week we will begin our exploration by looking at "incredible power." What does the story of the Early Church tell us about it so that we might become part of "the incredibles" ourselves?

Digging Deeper

Incredible Power...

Comes through a reliance on the HOLY SPIRIT.

 We need divine intervention to live as God expects. That's why He gives each believer a Helper, whose job is to produce incredible Christ-like character in us. If we want to experience incredible power, we've got to trust not in ourselves or worldly resources, but instead, rely completely on the Holy Spirit. How would you describe the role of the Holy Spirit in your life today?

Jesus: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you." (Acts 1:8a NLT)

Is found through a commitment to PRAYER.

• Read Luke 11:9. Maybe little kids have the secret to life figured out. They keep on asking (and asking and asking...)! Many great things can and have happened through the persistence of earnest folk. Incredible, powerful Christians have incredible, powerful prayer lives. How much time do you devote each day to prayer? Do you keep on asking, diligently and without ceasing, for the miracles you hope to be revealed in your life? Something to consider: Perhaps we do not experience miracles because we do not seek them with our whole hearts.

"O, Lord...stretch out your hand with healing power..." After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 4:30-31a NLT)

Results in effective EVANGELISM.

• We have talked a little about how the power of the Holy Spirit and fervent prayer can work together to change us, but how do we use this power to try to open the hearts of non-believers? Faith is believing without seeing but some people need to personally experience some type of tangible miracle in order to believe. Have you ever born witness to a miracle that converted a non-believer? What was specifically done (and by whom) that constituted the outcome as miraculous?

The apostles were performing many miraculous signs and wonders among the people...More and more people believed and were brought to the Lord – crowds of both men and women. (Acts 5:12a, 14 NLT)

Conclusion

Wouldn't it be amazing to be part of a church that has the incredible power of the Holy Spirit on display to lead others to a life with Christ? Then let's join the ranks of "the incredibles" and seek incredible power that comes through reliance on the Holy Spirit and a commitment to prayer.