**Clothed with Power**

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 *“But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.”* John 14:26 (NLT)

 *“He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” 45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, “This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”* Luke 24:44-49 (NLT)

 *“Then, after doing all those things, I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions. 29In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on servants—men and women alike.”*

Joel 2:2-29 (NLT)

SO WHAT KIND OF POWER DID THEY NEED?

* Power to Endure
* Power to Love
* Power to break through the lies that are in people’s minds and hearts

 *“And my message and my preaching were very plain. Rather than using clever and persuasive speeches, I relied only on the power of the Holy Spirit. 5I did this so you would trust not in human wisdom but in the power of God.”* I Corinthians 2:4-5 (NLT)

*“The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”* II Corinthians 10:4-5 (NIV)

What does this mean for us?

* Everyone who is a Christian has the Holy Spirit living in them.

Romans 8:9 *“And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ”*

* Not everybody is full of the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 5:18 (ISV) *“Stop getting drunk with wine, which leads to wild living, but keep on being filled with the Spirit.”*

Acts 13:9-11 (NLT) *“Saul, also known as Paul, was filled with the Holy Spirit, and he looked the sorcerer in the eye. 10Then he said, “You son of the devil, full of every sort of deceit and fraud, and enemy of all that is good! Will you never stop perverting the true ways of the Lord? 11Watch now, for the Lord has laid his hand of punishment upon you, and you will be struck blind. You will not see the sunlight for some time.” Instantly mist and darkness came over the man’s eyes, and he began groping around begging for someone to take his hand and lead him.*

*12When the governor saw what had happened, he became a believer, for he was astonished at the teaching about the Lord.*

WORD ONLY CHURCHES… Everywhere

One encounter with the Holy Spirit…Changes everything

Mark 2:22 (NIV) “*And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, he pours new wine into new wineskins.”*

Ephesians 5:18 (NLT) *“Don’t be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit…”*