



## CELL GUIDE

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**TOPIC** Now I'm Empowered

**SPEAKER** DSP Chua Seng Lee

**THEME** Good News of Great Joy

**DATE** 28 & 29 Dec 2019

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# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

DSP Chua opened his message reminding us about the need to be spiritually vigilant and that spiritual dimensions are real. Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 6:12). These can lead to undesirable consequences, such as having no time for prayer or bible reading, sin and addiction. The good news however is that Jesus came to disarm the principalities of the world so that we can have the more abundant life.

## EMPOWERED TO EXPERIENCE THE LIGHT OF LIFE

We can overcome the enemy with the power of God by:

### 1) Calling on the name of Jesus

No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. (1 Cor 12:3)

### 2) Remembering the Word of God

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. (John 14:26)

It is evident that when the power of the Holy Spirit is at work, it will empower us to call on the name of Jesus and remember the Word of God. Acts 1:8 says "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

### Why do we need the Power of the Holy Spirit?

#### 1. Because the Power of the Holy Spirit is Essential for Victorious Living

When Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, He overcame the temptation by the Word of God, and as a result, the Holy Spirit empowered His public ministry. Luke 4:14 and 4:18 says "Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor."

Jesus instructed the disciples on the role of the Holy Spirit in their lives as seen in John 16:7-15 “But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don’t, the Holy Spirit won’t come. If I do go away, then I will send Him to you. And when He comes, He will convict the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment. When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. He will bring me glory by telling you whatever he receives from me.”

The power of the Holy Spirit will help us live out the victorious life by giving us wisdom, healing, breakthroughs, divine understanding of the Bible, and the ability to remember the Word of God to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. We will then reveal and glorify God in the process.

## **2. Because the Power of the Holy Spirit is Experiential, Not Inferential**

In Acts 8, when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria and prayed for the new believers to receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. The power was so visible that Simon who used his magical arts for a long time in Samaria, even tried to buy the power with money because he wanted it so badly (v. 18). He knew real power when he saw it.

When someone is filled with the Holy Spirit, it can be identified through the speaking in tongues, preaching with boldness, obedience, worshipping with joy or performing signs and wonders. John Stephen Piper said that receiving the Holy Spirit is a real identifiable experience of the living God and there are definite effects which act as evidence of it. It is not a single second event after conversion but these experiences are needed again and again in the different seasons of the Christian life.

We are reminded in Ephesians 5:18-21 that one must yearn for and be intentional about being filled with the Holy Spirit, by singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs and making music to the Lord in your hearts. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, our hearts will overflow with thankfulness to our Father God for everything.

## **3. Because the Power is for Evangelism to be His Witnesses**

DSP Chua gave positive examples of cell groups who had taken the initiatives to reach out to migrant workers and members of the public during the Christmas season. One cell group did street carolling and ministered to the public by sharing the Gospel, praying with them as the Holy Spirit empowered them with the boldness to reach out for His Kingdom. There were 12 salvations!

## **CONCLUSION**

As Christians, we should be empowered by the Holy Spirit in our daily living so that we can lead victorious lives. We should not be controlled by our sinful nature, instead we are to be controlled by the Spirit of God living in us. When we first believed in Christ, He identified us as His own by giving us the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we should be empowered to experience the light of life.

# QUESTIONS

1. DSP shared 3 important reasons why we need the power of the Holy Spirit. On a personal level, which one is the most important or relevant for you now?

2. What is one area in your life that you are struggling with and need the Spirit to intervene in today? How might the Spirit's intervention help you be a more impactful witness for God?

3. As the year 2019 draws to a close and we look forward to 2020, how will you set yourself apart to be empowered by the Holy Spirit in a greater measure to achieve Kingdom purposes (e.g., personal discipleship, evangelism)? What will you do to have a fresh encounter with Him?