

DAY 33

Empowered!

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you ...

Acts 1:8

Leadership Affirmation

My LQ (Leadership Quotient) is fueled by my reliance on God's promises to empower me for service by His Spirit and His promise never to leave me.

When Jesus spoke with His disciples on that final night before His crucifixion, He introduced them to the most amazing truth that both the church and each individual believer in Christ will ever experience. Surely their minds could not imagine the meaning, much less the magnitude, of His promises.

You will do greater works than I do (John 14:12). Whatever you ask in My Name, I will do (John 14:13–14). I will not leave you as orphans (John 14:18). I will come to you (John 14:18). The Father will give you another Counselor [a Paraclete like me who will build on what I have already done both in you and in the world]^{xxiv} (John 14:16). He will be with you, indeed will be in you, forever (John 14:15).

Forty days later, with Jesus' gathered followers on the mountain in Galilee, He expanded their understanding a bit more when He closed His Commission with this verbal command: *Remember, I am with you always (Matthew 28:20).* Shortly thereafter, as Jesus was about to Ascend from their sight on the Mount of Olives, He delivered this final promise: *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth (Acts 1:8).*

They were experiencing in real time what we now clearly see.^{xxv} We don't rely on our personal giftedness, position, or personality, or any other human method to fulfill Jesus' Great Commission. Jesus' method for carrying out His mandate is simple: "I will give you my power. And I will give you my presence." We have the promise of His power. We have the promise of His presence. Jesus is with us even to the end of the age!

This promise is such a comforting challenge. It's comforting to know that Jesus is with me wherever I go. I don't have to worry about failure. I don't have to worry about messing up. I don't have to worry about rejection or persecution. Jesus is with me and, as Romans 8 states, nothing can separate us from His love.

Prayer for Protection

O Holy Spirit, I refuse to rely on my natural abilities to influence others for Christ.