

Made New
Power and Perspective

June 7th, 2026

READ

Ephesians 1:15-23 ; Acts 19:19-20 ; Luke 12:16-21 ; Genesis 3:16 ; Mark 8:35-36 ; Romans 8:11 ; Philippians 2:5-11

KEY POINTS

- We Often Seek Power for Security and Control - Whether through money, influence, success, knowledge, or status, we often pursue power because we believe it will provide stability and certainty in an unpredictable world. Yet our true power is found not in what we can control, but in trusting the God who is sovereign over all things.
 - The Pursuit of Power Can Make Us Part of the Problem - Humanity's instinct is often to gain control, win, dominate, or prove ourselves right. But when we surrender our need to control outcomes and follow the way of Christ, we become agents of peace, reconciliation, and healing in a broken world.
 - The Resurrection Is the Source of Our Power - The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to believers today. Because Christ has conquered sin, death, and every authority, we can live with confidence, hope, and strength that come from Him rather than ourselves.
 - We Find Our True Identity Through Surrender - Jesus demonstrated that true greatness is found not by grasping for power but by surrendering it. As we follow His example, we discover freedom, purpose, and fullness of the life God intended for us.
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QUESTIONS

1. People often pursue power because they believe it will provide security, significance, or control. What are some of the most common places people look for those things today? Why do those sources ultimately fall short of what God offers us in Christ?

2. Philippians 2 shows that Jesus possessed all authority and power, yet He chose humility, service, and sacrifice. What does this teach us about the difference between the way the world uses power and the way Jesus used His power? In your life, where has humility and servitude been more empowering than demonstrating control?
3. Paul does not begin by praying that believers would do more for God; he prays that they would know God better. Why is knowing God Himself more foundational to the Christian life than simply gaining biblical knowledge, serving more, or trying harder?
4. Paul prays that the "eyes of your heart" would be enlightened. What are some truths about God, yourself, or your circumstances that can be difficult to see without spiritual perspective? How does the gospel help us interpret life's challenges differently than the world does?
5. We find our true identity by giving up our power. Why does surrender feel so difficult, even for believers? What is one thing you are holding onto that may be preventing you from fully experiencing the freedom, purpose, and power that come from trusting Christ?

LIFE APPLICATION

- Identify Your Source of Security - Take time this week to honestly evaluate where you look for security when life feels uncertain. Ask God to reveal any areas where you are relying more on your own power, resources, or control than on Him.
- Pray for Spiritual Perspective - Spend time each day asking God to "enlighten the eyes of your heart." Pray specifically for wisdom to see your circumstances, relationships, and challenges through God's perspective rather than your own.
- Practice Surrender - Identify situations where you are trying to maintain control. Intentionally surrender that area to God through prayer and obedience, trusting His power more than your own ability to manage the outcome.
- Use Your Influence to Serve Others - Everyone has some level of influence. Ask God to show you one practical way to use your time, resources, encouragement, or leadership to serve someone else rather than advancing yourself.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for revealing Your power through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Forgive us for the times we place our trust in our own strength or accomplishments instead of relying on You. Open the eyes of our hearts so that we may know You more deeply and see life from Your perspective. Help us understand the hope to which You have called us and the power that is available to us through Christ.

Teach us to follow the example of Jesus by choosing humility over pride, service over self-promotion, and surrender over control. Use our lives to reflect Your love, grace, and power to the people around us. May we trust You fully and walk confidently in the resurrection power that is at work within us.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.