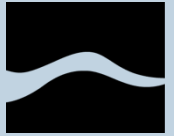


SERMON NOTES

BE THE CHURCH IN THE SPIRIT'S POWER

Acts 1:8



BIG IDEA: By the Spirit's power, the church is enabled to live faithfully and bear witness boldly for the glory of Christ.

APPLICATION GUIDE

JANUARY 25, 2026

DISCUSS

When you think about something that looks impressive but lacks real power, what comes to mind—and why?

In general terms, what are some ways a church could look healthy or impressive on the outside but lack true spiritual power?

EXPLORE

In Acts 1:8, what connection does Jesus make between the Holy Spirit's coming and the church's mission? What is promised—and what is not?

Throughout the sermon, how do we see the Spirit's power expressed differently than human strength or strategy? What contrasts stood out to you?

Why is it important that the Spirit is described as a person rather than a force or tool? How does that shape the way we think about power in the Christian life?

Looking across the eight areas (boldness, prayer, guidance, love, purity, unity, worship, suffering), which ones are clearly corporate rather than merely individual—and why does that matter for understanding the church?

APPLY

Where are you most tempted to rely on your own strength rather than the Spirit's power—personally or in your involvement in the church?

Which of the eight marks of Spirit-empowered life do you sense God encouraging you in right now? Which one exposes weakness or neglect?

When you encounter difficulty, uncertainty, or opposition, what usually shapes your response more—fear and control, or prayerful dependence on the Spirit?

How might your view of success in the Christian life or in the church need to change in light of this sermon?

COMMIT

This week, commit to one intentional act of dependence on the Holy Spirit—personally and corporately.