



Dgroup Discussion Guide for August 28, 2016

Jesus, the God without Limits

Scripture: Ephesians 3:30

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us.

Why do we need God's power? Whether we admit it or not, we are addicted to something. It could be computer games, drugs, relationships, career, power, money, etc. We are anxious and restless, always angry, losing joy and peace. Something is missing in our life. We need power to overcome problems, but by ourselves alone we cannot, we need supernatural power to overcome them.

The problem is not with God, because God looks to and fro to show His power to those whose heart belongs to Him (2 Chronicles 16:9). How can we have that kind of heart to experience God's power?

THE GOD WITHOUT LIMITS

God can do far more beyond what we ask or imagine according to the power that He has given us (Ephesians 3:20). We can see this power at work in the two miracles cited in John 6.

1. Jesus feeds the five thousand (John 6:1-14)

Jesus was compassionate on the large crowd of people following Him on the mountain. His disciples wanted to send them away because it was already late in the evening but Jesus asked them to feed the people. He knew what to do, but He was testing His disciples if they had learned from Him.

His disciples should have remembered the miracles that Jesus had done, but apparently they saw the size of the problem, their inability to solve it and the scarcity of resources to meet the problem rather than to trust Jesus for another miracle. Obviously His disciples failed the test.

You limit the power of God when you focus on the problem and your abilities or inabilities to overcome the problem. As a result, you become anxious, restless and helpless.

The little boy in the story gave his five loaves of bread and two fish. It was probably all that he had for dinner, but he gave it all. Jesus told His disciples to distribute the bread and fish. As they obeyed, they began to see another miracle. God multiplied what they had to feed everybody. After all had taken as much as they wanted, they still had 12 basketful of loaves and fish.

The boy did not only witness a miracle, he obviously ate more than what he gave. This boy will never be the same again after he witnessed the power of Jesus. If he did not give what he had, Jesus can still surely do a miracle to feed the people, but then the boy will miss the opportunity to know and witness what God can do in his simple giving.

2. Jesus walks on water (John 6:15-21)

After the people had eaten, immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat to go to ahead of Him to the other side (Matthew 14:21-22). The disciples obeyed Jesus. But along the way, there was a storm.

When you obey Jesus, it does not mean your life will be storm-free but it will be stormproof. Jesus will allow problems to happen to test you and teach you something. Obedience is a long process. Many people give up following Jesus when they encounter problems because they do not truly know God and do not understand His way.

Jesus allowed His disciples to keep rowing the boat amidst the storm the whole night until He appeared to them in the fourth watch, almost daybreak (Matthew 24:24-26). When we are following Jesus, we can trust that His timing is perfect.

The disciples were terrified to see a man walking on water. But immediately Jesus spoke to them:

“Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.” When we obey the Lord, we are assured of His presence. Our security is never in the absence of storm but always in the presence of God.

Peter made sure it was Jesus. Jesus commanded Peter to come to Him. Peter obeyed, got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. Peter knew that power comes from the Lord. Without the command of Jesus, he will not have the power to walk on water.

EXPERIENCE GOD’S POWER

To experience God’s power, you must learn to apply the following principles:

Admit your limitations, you cannot do it by yourself, you need God’s supernatural power. You need to connect to the source of the power like a spigot, a faucet, or a pipe, which by itself will not produce water; it is just a distributor of the water coming from the source. You are only the distributor, not the spring of God’s power.

Surrender to God what you have, no matter how little it may be. You limit God’s power when you think your little is worth nothing. God can use whatever you have to bless you and others.

God will ask us to give only what we have in our hands. In God’s hands, it can be a lot. He can use it far beyond our imagination.





Obey Him and be ready to experience the power of God in your life. Keep on obeying God even though sometimes it does not make sense.

Obey God not to get something. Do not manipulate God like a santa clause. The true test of Christianity is following God even if He does not seem to answer your prayer.

Do not limit God from what He can do. To experience God’s amazing power in your life, admit your own limitations; surrender to God whatever you have; and obey Him. The evidence of truly experiencing God’s power in one’s life is restedness in the presence of God.

APPLICATION:

Patiently listen as God reveals where you can apply the passage’s lesson in your life. Write down specific action points to what He has revealed to you.

	<p>1. Uncontainable. According to Ephesians 3:20, what is the extent and measure of God’s power?</p>
	<p>2. Experiencing God. When did you experience God as All-Powerful in your life? How did it impact you?</p>
	<p>3. Comfort Zone. If God is calling you to get out of the “comfort boat” to follow Him, what will you do now?</p>
	<p>WALK ON WATER</p> <p>If you truly want to learn to walk on water like Peter in the scripture passage that we read, then get out of the ‘boat’, your comfort zone.</p>
	<p>To get out of the boat is scary, but as long as it is Jesus calling you to get out of the boat, you can be sure that His presence is your security, your safety and your success. Follow Him.</p> <p>What is your comfort zone today? Is it a relationship, position, power, money, ambition?</p>

PRAYERS:

Lift all the things that you learned back to God. Share your thoughts to Him. If He is impressing a sin in your life, confess it to Him. He is always ready to forgive.

