

THE PRESENCE

- **QUOTE:** *God wants to do something IN us and FOR us that we've not given Him space to do before now.*
- Why? Because He loves us. But also, because time is running out and He needs to show His goodness in our lives as bait to bring this lost world home to Him. He wants to TROPHY-FY you!
- In God's Presence, we can expect to: ***Be Led by His Presence, Be Healed in His Presence, Be Empowered by His Presence, and Be Prospered in His Presence.***

Week #3 – Be Empowered by His Presence

Empower – *to give (someone) the authority or power to do something; to make (someone) stronger and more confident, especially in controlling their life and claiming their rights.*

- **QUOTE:** *Peace comes not from the absence of trouble, but from the Presence of God. – Alexander Maclaren*
- **Acts 4:13 (NLT)** – *The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ORDINARY MEN with no special training in the Scriptures. They also recognized them as men who had BEEN WITH JESUS.*
- **QUOTE:** *So many believers unknowingly suffer from a condition known as POGD (Presence of God Deficiency).*
- Take the **ONE YEAR IMPACT CHALLENGE** and see what God can do.

What Happens When We're Empowered by God's Presence?

We Fulfill Our Call

Acts 1:4,5,8 (NIV) – *On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this COMMAND: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."*

⁸ 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."

- This promise was fulfilled in Acts 2 on the Day of Pentecost. They were ALL FILLED...
- **SIDENOTE:** The disciples' previous failure became the greatest proof of Jesus's resurrection. Don't run from the failures of your past. Be empowered to show the world the NEW YOU!!

We Reclaim Our True Identity

- **II Corinthians 3:16 – 18 (MSG)** *Whenever, though, they turn to FACE GOD (worship) as Moses did, God removes the veil and there they are—face-to-face! They suddenly RECOGNIZE that God is a living, personal presence, not a piece of chiseled stone. And when God is personally present, a living Spirit, that old, constricting legislation is recognized as obsolete. We're FREE of it! All of us! Nothing between us and God, our faces shining with the brightness of his face. And so we are transfigured much like the Messiah, our lives gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and WE BECOME LIKE HIM.*
- Latin: **IMAGO DEI – the image of God.**

We Showcase God's Glory

I Corinthians 2:2 – 5 (THE VOICE) *I claimed to know nothing with certainty other than the reality that Jesus is the Anointed One, the Liberating King, who was crucified on our behalf. ³ I was moved to utter despair during my time with you. I would find myself trembling in dread and fear. ⁴ The sermons I preached were not delivered with the kind of persuasive elegance some have come to expect, but they were effective because I relied on God's Spirit to demonstrate God's power. ⁵ If this were not so, your faith would be based on human wisdom and not the power of God.*

- **QUOTE:** *God is calling us into His presence to pray BOLD PRAYERS that enable Him to do MIRACULOUS SIGNS.*
- In His presence, we are empowered to be His Ambassadors to this hurting world.

We Witness with Our Lives

- In God's presence, we BECOME LIKE HIM. Not just in power, but even more in character.
- **Genesis 21:22 (NIV)** – *At that time Abimelek and Phicol the commander of his forces said to Abraham, "God is with you in everything you do..."*
- **QUOTE:** *Preach the gospel at all times and if necessary, use words – often attributed to St. Francis of Assisi*