

Acts 1:4-8 "On one occasion, while he (Jesus) 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. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 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."

The Problem: A Powerless Church

A. Lack of the Fear of the Lord

B. Lack of Holiness

C. Consumerism mindset

The Solution: Posture and Proximity

A. Posture

1. Attitude - BE

2. Actions - DO

a. Establish a Secret Place with God

b. Worship

c. Fasting

d. Attending church faithfully

e. Obedience

f. Pray in the Holy Spirit.

g. Pray about it! Just pray!

B. Proximity

- 1. In His presence**
- 2. Near His presence**
- 3. Pursuing His presence**

The Result: God's Intended Design for the Church

A. A Maturing Church

Ephesians 4:13,14 until **we all** attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, 14 so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

B. A Witnessing Church

Acts 1:8 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."

C. A Powerful Church

Acts 2:42-47 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe (fear of the Lord) came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.