

Lesson #6 Jesus the Source of Power

Appetizer: The paradox of humiliation and exaltation is the precise point at which the drama of Jesus grips us. When we isolate Jesus from the real world, we have only empty words. But when his person touches human problems, power is born.

Discussion: When you think of power, who or what do you think of?

Main Course: Read Mark 9:2-32.

1. How does Jesus' power show through his humble exterior in this passage?
2. Imagine you were Peter, James or John. How would you describe what happened on the mountain to someone who wasn't there (vv. 2-8)?
(What did you see, hear, feel?)
3. How would it help the disciples ----- including us today ----- to see this glimpse of Jesus and the kingdom in power and glory?
4. What words would you use to describe the situation Jesus faced when he came down from the mountain (vv. 14-18)?
5. Jesus expresses his frustration in verse 19, "O unbelieving generation..... how long shall I stay with you?" who do you think he is frustrated with? Why?
6. How would Jesus' reply to the father's request (v. 23) both challenge and encourage him?
7. Immediately the father exclaims: "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" (24). What impresses you about his response?
8. Think back through the progression from the mountain to the scene in the valley. Who do you most identify with----- Jesus' followers, the father or the boy? Explain.
9. After being questioned by Jesus, the boy's father asked, "But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us" (vv. 20-22). Do you think this was genuine faith? Explain.

Dessert: What does this passage suggest is the way from unbelief to faith?