

NEWSLETTER

“Power”

By Pastor Steve Gibson

What is the most underused reservoir of power in our world today? Wind? Fire? Water? Oil? Something else?

Luke 1:17 gives us one answer. It describes the ministry of John the Baptist, as a life marked by the spirit and power. We learn from verse 15 that even from birth John was to be filled with the Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit. So could we say there is a link between the Holy Spirit and power? (See also Acts 1:8...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes...)

How was that Spirit-filling demonstrated in John's life? The clearest evidence was that through his ministry, people turned to the Lord (v. 16). Of course he was only the instrument used by the Holy Spirit, yet the turning of hearts is not an easy job at times.

How do you turn hearts? That judge who is convinced you are guilty, that spouse who is committed to being contrary, that teenager who is sure you are a hindrance to their happiness, how do you turn those hearts?

Isn't that Holy Spirit territory? It's no accident that we think of symbols of the Holy Spirit as sources of power: wind, fire, water, oil.

When the Holy Spirit came in a mighty way on the day of Pentecost in Acts chapter two, there was the sound of a mighty rushing wind, and the appearance of tongues of fire on those assembled (vs. 2-3). They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak. Most notably, Peter preached a convicting message. He said God's Spirit was being poured out as had been foretold by Joel. People listened and turned to the Lord. Three thousand were baptized that day (v. 41). Signs and wonders were wrought in the days after.

Would it be fair to use the word 'power' to describe Peter's ministry that day? And the days that followed? Could we use the same word to describe Jesus' ministry? He as well was one filled with the Holy Spirit.

So back to our first question. Could we say that the Holy Spirit is the most underutilized reservoir of power in the world today? Would you be interested in tapping into that power grid? Getting connected is free.

How did those believers in Acts 2 prepare to receive the Holy Spirit? As we read in chapter one, we discover they were characterized as united in prayer and asking (v. 14). The Holy Spirit comes by invitation. Not unlike the picture Jesus paints of the Divine Salesman standing at the door knocking (Revelation 3:20). It remains up to the occupant to decide whether to open the door.

If you are open to receiving a dose of power sufficient to turn hearts, including yours, put asking for the Holy Spirit high on your priority list. And brace for the wind or fire or other evidences that may follow.



April 2019 Highlights

Communion Service

Sabbath, April 6th

Women's Ministry Meeting

April 6th after potluck

Elder's Meeting

April 11th @ 6:30 p.m.

Church Board Meeting

April 11th @ 7 p.m.

Adventurer Club Meetings

April 13th @ 2 p.m.

April 20th @ 2 p.m.

Community Service Meeting

April 20th after potluck

Men's Ministry Breakfast

April 21st @ 8 a.m.

Health Ministry Meeting

April 27th after potluck

Prayer Group & Bible Study

Wednesday's from 7-8 p.m.

Friday Bible Study

Friday's at 7 p.m.

Gospel Worker Training

Each Sabbath after potluck

Email: pastorstevegibson@hotmail.com **Address:** 12400 W Desert Cove Road, El Mirage, AZ 85335

Mailing Address: 13954 W. Waddell Road, Suite 103 #616, Surprise, AZ 85379

MINISTRY NEWS!

Upcoming Events, Announcements & Inspirational Thoughts

Cat Lover

For those who have a cat as a pet, this information can be very interesting. Cats have their own rules about how they are touched. Cats are typically more sensitive to touch than dogs or any other type of pets. Cats can become overstimulated when touched and it might promote more stress than relaxation. Common mistakes that relate to giving a massage to cats, is repeatedly rubbing instead of caressing and also going to fast instead of slow. Paying attention to the basics is important. It is important to get down to their level, approach at shoulder height, caress using full palms, not just fingertips, slower is safe, caress under the chin and around the cheeks using finger pads and full palms or the flat area between the knuckles and focus totally on the cat for four minutes. Use a soft voice, soothing, low-tone phrases and not baby talk. There is research that felines suffer from joint pain or back mobility difficulties just like humans so working on legs and joints after they're fully relaxed helps them. Again, research indicates that a four-minute cat massage a day can be very therapeutic.

For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind. James 3:7

Dr. Sylvia Hayashi Health Ministry Leader

Arizona SonShine Events

There are two more events in Arizona this year:

Prescott Valley—June 13-14

Mesa—August 23-25

They need volunteers for both events, both professionals and non-professionals. This is one of the ways you can be the hands and feet of Jesus and you will never be the same after. It is such a thrill to help others and show them what Jesus was like here on earth.

Go to www.arizonasonshine.com, Event Locations, pick an event and sign up. Sign up for one or both!!

Mortgage Principal Reduction

If you want to help pay down the principal on our church mortgage, remember to write 'mortgage principal' or 'principal' or 'mortgage' so it will go directly to the principal. We now owe just a little over \$73,000.00.

Summer Camp For Your Kids

Adventurer Camp Ages 7-9 ** June 30-July 7, 2019

Junior Camp I Ages 9-11 ** June 30-July 7, 2019

Junior Camp II Ages 9-12 ** June 7-14, 2019

Tween Camp Ages 12-14 ** July 14-21, 2019

Teen Camp Ages 14-16 ** July 21-28, 2019

To register your child go to www.campyavapines.com and click on Summer Camp. Find the camp you want, then "Click Here". The church would like to help with \$50 of the fee so call Cathy Fields at 602-818-0913 for a code before registering.

Delicious Vegan Sour Cream

1 cup raw cashews, soaked for at least 6 hours, then drained and rinsed.

1/2 cup cold water

1/4 tsp. salt

2-3 tsp. nutritional yeast flakes

1/4 cup lemon juice plus a couple teaspoons if desired

1. Soak the raw cashews overnight or for at least 6 hours. Drain and rinse. Place in Vitamix or strong blender.
2. Add all other ingredients.
3. Blend on low until the cashews are getting pretty smooth then turn up and blend until very smooth.
4. Taste for salt and add a pinch or two if needed.
5. Place in a pint jar or something that will hold a couple cups and refrigerate. This will keep in the refrigerator for a couple weeks but I'm sure it won't last that long.