

- (1) What do you think of when you hear the word “power” used in today’s world? Political power? Economic power? Nuclear power? What does the Bible mean when it speaks of spiritual power? How important is the power of the Spirit for the Christian life? Give reasons for your answer.
- (2) Read aloud these texts: Philippians 3:8-11; Ephesians 1:17-21; 3:14-21; Colossians 1:19. What conclusions do you draw from these texts? Does Paul’s emphasis on God’s power at work within us change your expectations for what you can do as a Christian and what we might hope for as a church? Be specific.
- (3) Numerous texts in the NT speak of the impartation of spiritual power, such as Mark 5:30; Luke 5:17; 9:1-2; 24:49; Acts 1:8. What exactly are these texts saying? How might an understanding of this truth transform your prayer life, your approach to local church ministry, etc.?
- (4) What is the difference between the “fleshly triumphalism” we see in many churches today and the experience of the Spirit’s power that God intends for all Christians? Can you give examples of the former?
- (5) How does the reality of spiritual power relate to the exercise of spiritual gifts in the church? Provide some personal examples of instances when you yourself experienced this power and were enabled to help others.