

1 Step by step

- Do we have the Power to move Mountains?

2 You've got power

- Every step we take generates 6 to 8 watts of power.
- Several architectural firms are looking into ways of capturing all that power and convert it into electricity.
- Using vibration-harvesting sensors they hope to convert vibrations caused by people walking, machines working, and traffic over bridges to produce electrical energy.

3 You've got power

- In fact, a healthy brain produces in one day enough energy to power a light bulb for a 24 hour period.
- We've got power!
- Together we've got much power!

4 Increase our faith

- In Luke 17:5-10, the Apostles said to Jesus, "Increase our faith."
- Evidently, the disciples thought their faith was too miniscule and insignificant to make a difference.
- However, Jesus didn't buy their complaint about "needing more faith," instead he gave them an illustration.

5 Mustard seed

- He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you." (Luke 17:6 NIV)
- Faith doesn't have to be huge to make an impact.
- We don't need Jesus to super-size our faith.
- Simply use what we have . . . and more will be given. (Luke 19:26)

6 What would happen?

- What would happen if every believer in the church would use their faith regardless of its size?
- Would that generate a lot of impact?
- Won't some mountains and mulberry trees get thrown into the sea?

7 Explosion of Power

- In Ephesian 3, the Apostle Paul prays that that believers may know their inheritance but also . .

- incomparably great power for us who believe.
 - power that is the working of God's mighty strength
 - which not only raised Christ from the dead, but also,
 - seated Him far above every ruler, authority, dominion, and every title.

8 Place of power

- Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, . . . (Eph. 3:20 NIV)
- Christ in you, the hope of glory. (Col. 1:27 NIV)
- Christ being formed in our hearts.

9 The church

- According to the Apostle Paul, in Ephesians 4:11–14, 16,
 - Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, and Pastors/Teachers purpose is to equip the “body of Christ” for works of service. (vs. 11–12)
 - When the “members of the body” minister we grow in the knowledge of God and become mature—attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. (v. 13)
 - Thus having the “mind of Christ” we will be able to discern the deceitful scheming of false teachers who seek to recruit us to be their disciples. (v. 14)
 - The Church grows and builds itself up in love as each part does its work. (v. 16)

10 How does faith grow?

— How does faith grow?

11 Road to Maturity

12 pneumatikos

- We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. (1 Cor 2:6–7 NIV)
- Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly — mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. (1 Cor 3:1–2 NIV)

13 pneumatikos

- In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use (step –by–step) have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. (Heb. 5:12–14 NIV)
- Our daily conduct “doing what is right” means all the difference for us in knowing God— becoming mature so that we can properly discern right from wrong.

14 Summary

- Spiritual Growth is a process . . .
- When each part of the body does its work, not only is the church blessed, but the parts themselves mature.
- In other words, we when use what faith we do have carrying out the elementary truths of God’s word, the power of God within us is released to make us mature.
- Out of this, we come to know God’s good pleasing and perfect will and able to discern all things—because we now have the “mind of Christ.”

15 hindrances

- Wrong Priorities.
- Wrong understanding of the five–fold ministry.
- Wrong understanding of true greatness.
- Wrong understanding of the church as the body of Christ and we all are ministers.
- “But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.” (Matt 13:23 NIV)

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