

Introduction:

1. Think of four good things to thank God for, to commemorate Thanksgiving Day.
 - a. About our country
 - b. About your family
 - c. About yourself
 - d. About our church
2. Psychologists tell us: Thankful people are happier than unthankful people.
3. What most people aspire for:
 - a. High position
 - b. Great possession
 - c. Popular prestige
 - d. Authoritative power
4. Today I'll talk to you about power.

Text: Luke 3:16, 24:49; Acts 1:8

A. In God's kingdom:

1. Poverty in spirit is the way to God's kingdom (Matt. 5:3).
2. The way up is down (Isaiah 57:15; John 7:37-39).
3. The cross is the way to the crown (Phil. 2:5-11).
4. Humility summarizes these three points.

B. The power for Christ's World Vision is the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8-9)

1. The giver of the Holy Spirit is the exalted Christ (Acts 2:31-33).
2. The receivers of the Holy Spirit power were the praying disciples (Acts 1:9).
3. The purpose of the Holy Spirit power is global witness (Acts 1:8).

Conclusion: The BIG IDEA of this sermon: Our highest calling in life is to be Christ's witnesses in the world in the power of the Holy Spirit, whatever position, possessions, prestige, and power will give to us.

1. If they can get it, most people aspire for:
 - a. High position
 - b. Great possession
 - c. Popular prestige
 - d. Authoritative power
 - * What are your aspirations?
 - * What must you do to attain your desired aspirations?
 - * What will you do if and when God gives you your desired aspirations?
 - * Group sharing.

2. Read Isaiah 57:15; John 7:37-39; Matt. 5:3; Phil. 2:5-11

What is the attitude of the heart God requires to receive His spiritual power from the Scriptures you just read?

3. Read: Luke 3:16; 24:49; Acts 1:8

Respond and discuss the sermon BIG IDEA: Our highest calling in life is to be Christ's witnesses in the world in the power of the Holy Spirit, whatever position, possessions, prestige, and power will give to us.

PRAY