

Ephesians 1:18-22
Message 10 in the series, “Treasured Truths”

“I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance. I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God’s power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God’s right hand in the heavenly realms. Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church.” Ephesians 1:18-22 (NLT)

1. We serve a God who is full of power.

Power- possession of the qualities and abilities required to do something or get something done.

“He heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds. He counts the stars and calls them all by name. How great is our Lord! His power is absolute! His understanding is beyond comprehension!”

Psalm 147:3-5 (NLT)

“The LORD made the earth by his power, and he preserves it by his wisdom. With his own understanding he stretched out the heavens. When he speaks in the thunder, the heavens roar with rain. He causes the clouds to rise over the earth. He sends the lightning with the rain and releases the wind from his storehouses.” Jeremiah 51:15-16 (NLT)

“The LORD merely spoke, and the heavens were created. He breathed the word, and all the stars were born. He assigned the sea its boundaries and locked the oceans in vast reservoirs. Let the whole world fear the LORD, and let everyone stand in awe of him. For when he spoke, the world began! It appeared at his command.” Psalm 33:6-9 (NLT)

2. God is fully confident in His power. The question is, are we?

“...This is what the LORD says: I will fill this valley with pools of water. For this is what the LORD says: You will see neither wind nor rain, yet this valley will be filled with water, and you, your cattle and your other animals will drink. **This is an easy thing** in the eyes of the LORD...”

2 Kings 3:16-18 (NIV)

Then the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh? Why did she say, ‘Can an old woman like me have a baby?’ Is anything too hard for the LORD?”... Genesis 18:13-14 (NLT)

“Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Has my arm lost its power?’...” Numbers 11:23 (NLT)

“Then this message came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ‘I am the LORD, the God of all the peoples of the world. Is anything too hard for me?’” Jeremiah 32:26-27 (NLT)

“...Why didn’t anyone answer when I called? Is it because I have no power to rescue? No, that is not the reason! For I can speak to the sea and make it dry up! I can turn rivers into deserts covered with dying fish. I dress the skies in darkness, covering them with clothes of mourning.” Isaiah 50:2-3 (NLT)

3. It’s our simple faith in Jesus and in His power that releases God to work in our lives.

...Jesus told them. “I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it would move. Nothing would be impossible.”

Matthew 17:20 (NLT)

“As Jesus was saying this, the leader of a synagogue came and knelt before him. ‘My daughter has just died,’ he said, ‘**but you can bring her back to life again** if you just come and lay your hand on her.’ So Jesus and his disciples got up and went with him. Just then a woman who had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding came up behind him. She touched the fringe of his robe, for she thought, ‘**If I can just touch his robe, I will be healed.**’ Jesus turned around, and when he saw her

he said, 'Daughter, be encouraged! **Your faith has made you well.**' And the woman was healed at that moment. When Jesus arrived at the official's home, he saw the noisy crowd and heard the funeral music. 'Get out!' he told them. 'The girl isn't dead; she's only asleep.' But the crowd laughed at him. After the crowd was put outside, however, Jesus went in and took the girl by the hand, and she stood up! The report of this miracle swept through the entire countryside. After Jesus left the girl's home, two blind men followed along behind him, shouting, 'Son of David, have mercy on us!' They went right into the house where he was staying, and Jesus asked them, '**Do you believe I can make you see?**' 'Yes, Lord,' they told him, 'we do.' Then he touched their eyes and said, '**Because of your faith, it will happen.**' Then their eyes were opened..." Matthew 9:18-30 (NLT)

Note: Our faith grows when we remind ourselves of the powerful things God has already done in our lives.

"O Sovereign LORD! You made the heavens and earth by your strong hand and powerful arm. Nothing is too hard for you! You show unfailing love to thousands, but you also bring the consequences of one generation's sin upon the next. You are the great and powerful God, the LORD of Heaven's Armies. You have all wisdom and do great and mighty miracles. You see the conduct of all people, and you give them what they deserve. You performed miraculous signs and wonders in the land of Egypt—things still remembered to this day! And you have continued to do great miracles in Israel and all around the world. You have made your name famous to this day."

Jeremiah 32:17-20 (NLT)

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