

Overcoming the Darkness #3
“The Light of God’s Power”

INTRODUCTION

When you think of great power what comes to mind – hurricanes and earthquakes, supernovas, colliding galaxies? God’s power is far greater than these! As we catch a glimpse of the power of our God, we should be filled with awe and astounded by the ways in which our lives are touched by His power. In this study we will look at how Christ brings the light of God’s power into our lives.

Ice Breaker (Optional): What is the most powerful natural disaster you have experienced? How did it affect your perception of God?

STUDY QUESTIONS (45 MIN)

1. The Revelation of God’s Light

Q1. Read Psalm 68:32-35, Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

In these verses, both David and Isaiah experienced powerful revelations of God. David joyously proclaims that God gives power to His people. How does Isaiah describe the condition of the people before God shines His light into their lives? Can you relate this to your life before Christ?

Q2. Read John 1:9, 11-12

Through Christ, the Light of God has come to every man. According to John, how do we receive the right and power to become children of God?

2. The Power to Create and Sustain

Q3. Read Colossians 1:15-17

Most of us know that Genesis 1:1 says, “...God created the heavens and the earth”, but reading Colossians gives us another perspective on creation. Not only were material things created by Christ, what else is this verse specifically declaring is under Christ’s control? What questions does this raise regarding unjust rulers throughout history?

Note: There are not always easy answers to life's hard questions. It is all right to wait and seek God for those answers over time. He knows the answers even if we don't. The challenge is to wait patiently and trust that God is in control.

3. The Reflection of God’s Light in You

Q4. Read John 8:12, 2 Corinthians 3:18

As Moses spent time in the presence of the Lord, he was being transformed and his face literally shone with the reflected light of God’s glory. John tells us we have the light of life, and Paul says we are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory. For each member of your group, have the others describe how the light of Christ is reflected in them.

4. The Power to Redeem and Restore

Q5. Read 1 John 1:7, Ephesians 1:7, Matthew 26:27-28

Redemption, cleansing and forgiveness all come through one powerful element found in these verses. What is it?

Q6. Read John 10:10b, Joel 2:25a

God knows our present condition, He knows our past and He desires to give us an abundant life. Do you feel you’ve suffered loss at the hand of the enemy (i.e. locusts)? What do you seek God to restore in your life?

WRAP-UP

The Light of God’s power is infinite and it has been extended to us through His great mercy and grace. It sustains our very lives, it transforms us, and it has redeemed us unto eternal life. God has chosen to pour out for us His powerful cleansing blood, and now we can reflect the light of His power to a dark and dying world.

Memory Verse:

1 John 1:7 NIV - *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.*

PRAYER (20 MIN)

Ask your group to pray for you regarding one area where you can apply this study in your life: _____

Pray for your group members’ needs: _____

Challenge: Use a concordance, or study tool, to look up references to the blood of Christ and see what power it has to offer you.

Scripture Verses

1. The Revelation of God's Light

Psalms 68:32-35 NIV - 32 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth, sing praise to the Lord, 33 to him who rides the ancient skies above, who thunders with mighty voice. 34 Proclaim the power of God, whose majesty is over Israel, whose power is in the skies. 35 You are awesome, O God, in your sanctuary; the God of Israel gives power and strength to his people. Praise be to God!

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 NIV - 2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. ... 6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

John 1:9, 11-12 NIV - 9 The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. ... 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—

2. The Power to Create and Sustain

Colossians 1:15-17 NIV - 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

3. The Reflection of God's Light in You

John 8:12 (NIV) 12 Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NIV) 18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

4. The Power to Redeem and Restore

1 John 1:7 NIV - Please see your Bible.

Ephesians 1:7 (NIV) 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace.

Matthew 26:27-28 (NIV) 27 Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. 28 This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

John 10:10b (NIV) 10b I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Joel 2:25a NIV – 25a "I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten--

Prayers (continued):
