

**Church - All Nations and All Generations:
Power Before Programs
Acts 1**

How will Christ overcome the self-centeredness of worldly selfish ambition plaguing his disciple's hearts to turn them into disciple-makers?

The life-giving resurrection power of the indwelling Holy Spirit will be Christ's provision to turn naturally self-centered disciples into supernaturally God-centered and other-centered witnesses (disciple-makers) who...

- I. Relinquish the selfish ambition of worldly power-plays (politics): The power of pride and self-driven success (Acts 1:1-11).
 - a. The Kingdom of God vs. the self-seeking kingdom of men (1:3, 6).
 - b. Christ's power before programs: wait – baptism of the Spirit (cf. Acts 1:5, 2:33, 10:1, 12:12-14, Rom. 6:3-5, Gal. 3:27, Eph. 4:5, Col. 2:12).
 - c. The power of our witness to confront the world's pride: our witness of the gospel and the mission of God: Christ's death, burial, resurrection, ascension, return – Holy Spirit Power (James 3:13-18).

- II. Embrace the self-giving sacrifice of world-wide witnessing to raise the next generation of humble servant leaders (Acts 1:12-26).
 - a. A powerful witness requires humility: Unity in prayer and word to obey what God says (1:12-20).
 - b. A powerful witness requires integrity: raising the next generation (1:21-26, Prov. 16:33).

**Christ does not call us to be settled and safe,
But sacrificial and sent.
Stop asking "what's it in for me?"
Start declaring "He's in me for them!"**

1. What areas in your life offer you a sense of security or success? Are those areas contributing to God's glory and the blessing of others? Nothing that you build will last forever unless it contributes to God's glory through the redemption of human beings. What steps is the Lord asking you to take to join him in his mission as his witness?
2. Raising a next generation of leaders will require integrity and humility. Integrity to share healthy spiritual DNA and humility to realize it is not about us. Who are you raising to take your place?