



POWER UP

Power Up: Week Nine:
“Consider It Joy”
Acts 5:40-42
*The Spirit empowers us to
experience joy no matter
what.*

Recap—What have we experienced this summer in this series?

The Spirit empowers us to be the people God longs for us to be.

THE SPIRIT EMPOWERS US TO EXPERIENCE JOY NO MATTER WHAT.

Think of the worst season of your life...

If you could sum that time up in one word, what would it be?

[it probably wasn't “joyful” was it?

Our conversation partner today is from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 5:40-42

- *The backstory is so important here—we have to set the scene*
- *The apostles were in front of the same group who had judged Jesus*
- *They end up getting flogged—a word that is loaded in the Ancient world.*
- *They left “rejoicing” - and then kept right on doing what they were doing.*

They got through all of that and then said, “Is that all you’ve got?”

THIS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE, RIGHT? TO REJOICE IN SUFFERING?

Yetser Hatob & Yetser Hara

Ancient Jewish belief about God—creating both evil and good within us.

It extends to circumstances as well

It's either God's fault, or my fault...mostly my fault.

What do you make these statements?

"If God brought you to it...He'll get you through it."

"God doesn't cause all things, but God is revealed in all things."

James 1:2-4 - A new way of seeing trials and tribulations... they serve a purpose...

Through the power of the Spirit we are able to reframe suffering.

1. *If you ain't dead, you ain't done.*
2. *Your joy is a choice that only you can make.*
3. *It may take time... and it may take a helping hand.*

THE SPIRIT EMPOWERS US TO EXPERIENCE JOY NO MATTER WHAT.



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SERMON EXTRAS &
FURTHER READING

FOR FURTHER READING:

Will Willimon

The Holy Spirit

Joseph D. Small

Fire And Wind: The Holy Spirit In The Church Today

Francis Chan

The Forgotten God

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DAILY DEVOTIONALS THIS WEEK:

The daily devotionals will be posted on Pastor Leon’s blog, linked on his Tumblr account, the church’s Facebook Page and Twitter.