

Powerless to Power-up!

Devotion

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly (Romans 5:6).

As on so many Sundays, I was leading music at a small country church, giving the organist a weekend off. I was stationed front left, next to the communion rail which housed the outlet to power my keyboard and microphone. I had taped the cables down, but left a clear path for congregants to get to and from the communion rail. As I was singing a solo selection during communion distribution, an elderly man was rising from the rail after receiving the Lord's Supper. His shoe snagged the cable just enough to disengage the plug from the outlet. I was mid-verse when the system lost power and silenced my piano, background music, and microphone. My ear caught the abrupt pop, but I continued singing while subconsciously assessing this potential disaster and considering a plan.

In those 8–10 seconds between the distribution of the body and blood, another gentleman at the railing noticed – at just the right time and quickly replaced the plug into the outlet. When power returned, I was in exactly same spot as the song track, and my hands and voice slid seamlessly into the chorus. I couldn't stop smiling as I finished the song. In those few moments on that brisk fall morning, I was literally powerless to do anything to change the circumstances. I just continued to sing His praises, and Jesus powered me up again and delighted me musically with perfect timing. I got a glimpse of a kind of powerlessness that resulted in more glory for Him.

Romans 5 speaks of a spiritual powerlessness. All of humanity was dead in sin, but at just the right time – ordained by our Creator and decided by Him before time began – Christ stepped into the world to live among the powerless. He served, healed, preached, and loved to perfection. At just the right moment, He took the weight of our sin upon His shoulders and paid the price in full for you and me. He gave His life on a cursed cross to bring about beautiful redemption, then broke from the tomb displaying His power over death forever! Christ returned to the Father and sent the Holy Spirit, who descended as flames of fire on Pentecost, empowering God's people to act and speak boldly as they proclaimed the Good News.

Christ was, is, and always will be **the** “power source” for all things earthly and eternal.

Are you plugged in? If you are trusting Christ for salvation, you already have the living active power source of the Holy Spirit inside you, working faith in your heart! You and I can feed our faith daily by taking our Bible off the shelf and soaking up its wisdom. By God's grace, we can grow and learn

through personal or group Bible study, online devotions, worship, and a host of faith resources. We can recharge and reconnect as a community and as an active part of a congregation. Finally, we can act and speak boldly to help the powerless “power up” — to eternal life! What are we waiting for? **Now** is just the right time!

Prayer: Good Father, You spoke all things into being, including me! Your Word brings power and life. I praise You, Jesus, for Your perfect timing in bringing me from “powerless” to “powered up” in the forgiveness of my sin and the great rescue of my soul. Holy Spirit, fill me with Your fire to proclaim the Good News with courage and boldness so that the lost around me are found. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

You may hear and sing along with Wendysue Fluegge’s hymn
from that Sunday morning with this link:

“How Great You Are”: <https://youtu.be/EtBylYyGr3Y>

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