

# The Power A Man Needs

Connect Group Guide - 6.21.26

## Opening Prayer

### Ice Breaker

**Share a memory:** What's one way your father (or father figure) influenced who you are today—either positively or as something you decided to do differently?

## Key Scripture

- **Genesis 3:9** - "But the Lord God called to man, 'Where are you?'"
- **Ephesians 5:18** - "Do not get drunk on wine...Instead, be filled with the Spirit"
- **Galatians 5:22-23** - The Fruit of the Spirit
- **Joshua 24:15** - "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord"

## Message Recap

This message challenges us to stop relying on our own strength and recognize our need for the Holy Spirit. Through Adam's story, we see the danger of passivity and the call to take our God-given responsibilities seriously. The Holy Spirit equips us with the fruit we need to lead, love, and live faithfully, empowering us to become who God has called us to be. True strength is not found in self-reliance but in complete surrender to Jesus, allowing His Spirit to work through us and bring lasting transformation.

## Key Takeaways

### 1. God Holds Men Accountable for Leadership

- God called out to Adam, not Eve, after the fall. Men carry a unique responsibility for spiritual leadership in their homes.

### 2. The Enemy Has Targeted Men

- Satan knows that weakening fathers weakens families and affects future generations. Areas of attack include:
  - Normalization of ungodly cultural standards
  - Financial irresponsibility and lack of stewardship
  - Passivity instead of active spiritual leadership

### 3. You Cannot Lead in Your Own Strength

- The job God has called men to do requires the power of the Holy Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control) enables men to:
  - Love their wives properly
  - Lead their children effectively
  - Overcome temptation
  - Walk in purity and faithfulness

## Discussion Questions

### For Everyone:

4. **The Question of Adam:** God asked Adam, "Where are you?" not because He didn't know physically where Adam was, but spiritually. If God asked you that question today, how would you answer? Where are you spiritually?
5. **Passivity vs. Action:** The message suggested Adam's first sin may have been passivity—standing by and doing nothing. Where in your life (home, church, community, workplace) might God be calling you to take action rather than remain passive?
6. **Cultural Normalization:** What are some areas where culture has tried to normalize things that contradict God's design? How do we guard against slowly accepting these as normal?

### For Men:

7. **The Weight of Leadership:** The message talked about the "weight" men carry—influence, protection, provision, example. What part of this weight feels heaviest to you right now? How can the group pray for you?
8. **Behind the Cape:** "Behind every superhero is a boy that's nervous, wondering if he can live up to being the man that God's called him to be." What fears or doubts do you wrestle with about being the man/father/husband God calls you to be?
9. **Spirit-Filled Living:** Read Galatians 5:22-23. Which fruit of the Spirit do you most need God to develop in you right now to be a better leader in your home or sphere of influence?

## For Women:

10. **What They're Watching:** "Your children are watching how you treat their mama." What legacy are you modeling for your children about marriage, faith, and leadership?
11. **Generational Impact:** The message stated that when fathers are spiritually silent, it affects future generations. What spiritual practices or values do you want to intentionally pass down?

## Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge:

### For Men:

- **Bend the Knee:** Set aside 15 minutes daily to pray and ask God, "Where am I spiritually?" Invite the Holy Spirit to reveal areas where you need to lead better.
- **Date Your Wife:** Plan one intentional act of love for your spouse this week (if married). Open doors, write a note, plan a date.
- **Spiritual Initiative:** Lead family devotions or prayer time at least once this week. Don't wait for someone else to do it.
- **Accountability:** Share one area of struggle with another man in the group and ask him to check in with you.

### For Women:

- **Speak Life:** Intentionally affirm and encourage your husband/father/son with specific words of appreciation this week.
- **Pray for Men:** Commit to praying daily for the men in your life and in this church to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

### For Everyone:

- **Surrender Assessment:** Evaluate one area of your life where you've been trying to lead in your own strength rather than depending on the Holy Spirit.
- **Fruit Inspection:** Pick one fruit of the Spirit to focus on this week. Ask God to develop it in you and look for opportunities to practice it.

# Prayer Requests & Closing

## Leader Notes

- Be sensitive to different perspectives on Israel; focus on biblical teaching rather than politics
- Encourage participation from everyone, but don't force anyone to share
- If someone wants to give their life to Christ during discussion, be prepared to pray with them
- Keep the discussion focused on personal application, not just theological debate
- Consider inviting someone knowledgeable about Israel or Jewish culture to a future meeting