



## Sermon Notes: Power Encounters

### 1. The character of Jesus' words.

- a. They have the power to encourage.
- b. They have the power to liberate.
- c. They have the power to heal.
- d. They have the power to equip.

### 2. The channel of Jesus' words.

- During his earthly ministry, Jesus was not a reservoir of his own power; he was a conduit of God's power.

### 3. The centrality of Jesus' words.

- The core of everything is this: people need to hear and believe the Gospel.

### 4. The consequence of Jesus' words.

- a. True followers are more than amazed.
- b. True followers are centered on Jesus' words.
- c. True followers serve.



## Application Questions: Power Encounters

1. How were you inclined to test God this week in a “seeing is believing” sort of way? How did you turn that into an opportunity to trust God and take Him at His word?
2. What are some ways you’ve observed the power of words, for good or for bad?
3. What’s your gut reaction to seeing Jesus withdraw from crowds of needy people to spend time resting and praying – and then move on to a completely different place?
4. What are some things you expect Jesus to do for you and for those you care about most?
5. Reviewing your answers to #4, how have these expectations affected your relationship with Jesus when he *doesn’t* do these things?
6. Taking #4-5 together, how have you (maybe unwittingly) hijacked both the mission Jesus has *for* you and the mission he wants to work *through* you?
7. Jesus spoke words that encourage, liberate, heal, and equip. If you’re empowered by the same Spirit, loving the same Gospel, the implication is that you will do the same. This week, what are some ways you can...
  - Speak words that encourage?
  - Speak words that liberate?
  - Speak words that heal?
  - Speak words that equip?
8. Describe a time when you gave and/or served generously, and it seemed almost effortless – like it was just obvious that that’s what you were supposed to be doing. What was the occasion? What do you think was motivating you in that situation? What would need to happen in your life to have more instances like this?
9. What one specific thing will you do in response to this message this week?