

# Welcome to Rev Darren King's Bible Study – 21 April 2024

## HOW WE USE OUR POWER AND INFLUENCE

### Opening Prayer (please pray together)

My Lord, we give you praise for new life: the resurrection of your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. The sadness and despair of his death has given way to the bright promise of immortality, for the resurrection is our guarantee that justice will triumph, light will overcome darkness, and love will conquer death. As we celebrate, we also ask for your grace that we may live the promise given to us, by imitating the life of Jesus, as we pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

### Welcome 🙏

**Q 1 What is your favourite advert and what did you love about it?**

### Worship 🎵

The little light of mine sing  
He's got the whole World in his hands  
As the deer pants for the water

### Word Psalm 23

### A Psalm of David

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

<sup>3</sup> He restoreth my soul:

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;  
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

### Acts 4.5-12

<sup>5</sup> The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem.

<sup>6</sup> Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. <sup>7</sup> They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

<sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people!

<sup>9</sup> If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed,

<sup>10</sup> then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.

<sup>11</sup> Jesus is; ‘the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.’

<sup>12</sup> Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

## **COMMENTARY**

**It is rather incredible that the religious leaders would ask Peter and John “By what power, or in what name”, had they healed the crippled man. They ought to know that any miracle of healing was from God, and not by any other power or name, thus Peter and John were acting out the will of God. The Pharisee Nicodemus knew Jesus was of God because of His miracles.**

**But the council is motivated by keeping their authority, rather than submitting to the will of God. The council had made an enormous error, the same man that they killed, Jesus Christ the Nazarene (the same man that they thought was not the Messiah) actually was the Messiah. And although they crucified Him, He did not stay dead. He has risen again. God raised Him from the dead and He is alive today.**

**The power in His name is the reason this poor man, lame all his life, stands before the council in good health.**

**Peter specifically called upon the name of Jesus when he healed the man, saying, “In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene - walk!”**

**Q 2 What is your understanding of power and influence? Compare the power of Jesus to say a modern-day leader today. Please discuss**

**Q 3 Peter and John were so excited by what they had seen and witnessed that nothing was going to stop them.**

**Have you ever felt this way about the good news?**

**Q 4 Jesus had a model of power that was very different to our own. It was a model of service, sacrifice and humility.**

**How do we use our power and influence?**

## **Works**

Who can we reach out to this week via a visit, phone call or prayer?

**Ending Prayer** (please pray together)

My Lord, thank you for those people you have brought into our lives who bring us closer to you, who have shown us by their example, the message of our Savior Jesus Christ, we ask for your blessings, grace and peace to do your will. We pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

## **Shalom**

**Rev Darren King (Roots on the web, The Message)**