Got POWER
Live out the core four to experience the POWER of We

INTRODUCTION

“Those who accepted Peter's message were baptized. God brought about three thousand people into the community on that day. The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. All the believers were united and shared everything. They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved.”


1. Where did the POWER come from that enabled this community to become the first church? What is your source of POWER? What is the source of POWER in your church?

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2. What are the values that formed our ancestors in the early church?

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3. How are these identifying marks still relevant and present for us today?

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LOVE  The Great Commandment

“He replied, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it; ‘You must love your neighbor as you love yourself.’”


1. What prevents you from loving God with all your heart, mind and being?__________________________________________________________
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2. What would be different about how you love yourself and your neighbors if you accepted the vast unconditional love God has for you? __________________________________________________________________________________________
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3. Which works of piety do you need to increase in order to more fully experience the POWER of the Holy Spirit?
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GENEROSITY
The Great Commitment

Jesus sent out these twelve after instructing them thus, “Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.”

— Matthew 10:5a & 8b
New American Bible, Revised Edition

1. Who has most shaped your understanding of generosity?
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2. What are you so indebted to Christ for that you are willing to passionately and sacrificially give of yourself?
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3. How might you expand your gratitude so that giving of your self and your life would become intuitive and without reservation?
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JUSTICE
The Great Requirement

“You have been told, O mortal, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you: Only to do justice and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God.”

— Micah 6:8 New American Bible, Revised Edition

1. As you read this Great Requirement, what do you feel God calling you to differently?
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2. If the Annual Conference were living out this value of JUSTICE, what would be different in our communities, in our regions, in our state, in our nation and around the world?

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APPRENTICESHIP

The Great Commission

Then Jesus approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

— Matthew 28:18-20  New American Bible, Revised Edition

1. What do you need to do to become a more active apprentice of Jesus?

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2. How can your church better enable people to experience grace – prevenient, justifying and sanctifying?

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3. How can the POWER of apprenticeship transform lives in your church and community?

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How is the POWER moving in your congregation and what are your next steps to join God’s mission in the world?