

Stranger Things
Power for Ministry
Keith Shepherd

I. Introduction

- A. John 16:7-8 (NLT) ⁷“But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don’t, the Advocate won’t come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.” ⁸And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment.”
- B. John 16:13a (NLT) “When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth.”

II. Purposes of the Felt Presence of the Holy Spirit

- A. Romans 10:9 (NLT) *If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*
- B. 1 Corinthians 12:13 (NLT) *Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.*
- C. To feel God’s forgiveness
- D. To receive God’s love
1. Romans 8:15-16 (NLT) ¹⁵*So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God’s Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, “Abba, Father.”* ¹⁶*For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God’s children.*
- E. To free us from bondage
1. 2 Corinthians 3:17 (NLT) *For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.*
- F. To increase our faith in the reality of God
- G. To empower us for ministry
1. John 14:12 (NLT) *“I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father.”*

III. Power for Ministry

- A. Jesus’ model for ministry
1. Luke 3:21-22 (NLT) ²¹*One day when the crowds were being baptized, Jesus himself was baptized. As he was praying, the heavens opened,* ²²*and the Holy Spirit, in bodily form, descended on him like a dove. And a voice from heaven said, “You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy.”*
- a. Philippians 2:6-8 (NLT)
2. Luke 4:1 (NLT) *Then Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan River. He was led by the Spirit in the wilderness.*
3. Luke 4:14 (NLT) *Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit’s power. Reports about him spread quickly through the whole region.*
4. Luke 4:16-19 (NLT) ¹⁶*When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures.* ¹⁷*The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written:* ¹⁸*“The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free,”* ¹⁹*and that the time of the LORD’s favor has come.”*
- a. The Holy Spirit empowered Jesus to:
- i. Give power to Jesus’ preaching
- ii. Give power to Jesus to heal the sick
- iii. Give power to Jesus to deliver people from demonic bondage
5. Luke 4:31-36 (NLT)
6. Matthew 12:28 (NLT)
7. Luke 5:17 (NLT)
8. Acts 10:37-38 (NLT) ³⁷*You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee, after John began preaching his message of baptism.* ³⁸*And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.*
9. Acts 1:8 (NLT) *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*
10. Acts 2:36-37a (NLT) ³⁶*“So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!”* ³⁷*Peter’s words pierced their hearts.*

11. Acts 13:9-10 (NLT)

IV. Three “Umbrellas” That Keep Us From Experiencing the Holy Spirit’s Power

A. A theological umbrella

B. A worldview umbrella

1. Philippians 2:5 (NLT) *You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.*

C. The negative self-image umbrella

1. Colossians 1:27b (NLT) *Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing his glory.*

V. Conclusion