

Not the Same || Self-Powered (New Age)

Week 4

INTRODUCTION

The common theme of New Age is centered on a human's ability to tap into spirituality to get what whatever it is we want. In many ways it is like Aladdin's Magic Lamp all over again, just through another route. Scientology, The Secret, various forms of humanism, etc... There are even brands of pseudo – Christianity that emulate New Age concepts and use and manipulate the Bible to do so. The Prosperity Gospel is the clearest example. Paul teaches us that pretty much everything that comes from us is self-centered and contrary to God. New Age is really an old lie; we want to be in charge, we want to be God. We are not to give in to this sinful nature, but instead we are to surrender and “keep in step with the Spirit.”

CONVERSATION STARTERS

1. If you had a genie in a bottle, what would you ask for?
2. Describe a time when you did something for the wrong reasons? How did it work out?

SERMON NOTES REVIEW

Looking back at your message notes from this weekend's teaching, was there anything that caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

[Watch Video](#)

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Has there ever been a time where YOU were the center of your faith?
2. Read Galatians [5:17-21](#). How do we know if we are following the desires of the flesh? Why is it so important that we do not give in to them?
3. Read Galatians [5:22-23](#). How would the world know you are a follower of Jesus?
4. In [Galatians 5:25](#), Paul talks about living “by the Spirit”. What does this mean to you? How do you know when you are staying in step with the Holy Spirit?
5. Read Galatians [6: 7-8](#). When we are self-centered, everything, including God, revolves around us. If we are constantly thinking of ourselves and sowing to our own flesh, what is the result? What happens when we sow to the Spirit?

6. We want a miracle, God wants trust. Is there something God has asked you to do, or something God has asked you to let go of? What are some practical ways you can begin to trust God more with your life?
7. What are you currently praying for that sounds like a Spice Girl song? God, I'll tell you what I want, what I really, really want....? Read [Mathew 6:9-13](#). What are some ways we can ensure that our prayers are truly pursuing God's plan, and not our own agenda?

PRAYER

Go around your group and ask for prayer requests. As a group, spend time praying over each other. Ask God to reveal any areas of your life where you are being "self-centered" and asking God for things out of your selfish desires, rather than trusting his will for your life. Ask God to give you wisdom to know when you are not walking by the Spirit, and to give you courage to act when it you need to.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Gen Summer camps are coming soon! Camps are a great way for your kids to learn what it means to follow Jesus while building relationships with leaders and peers. For more information and to register click [HERE](#). Scholarships are available!
- Is your group breaking for the Summer? As a group, be sure to discuss your plans and land some dates for social events.
- Encourage your group to sign up to receive the daily devotional [HERE](#). Also, check out the podcast to dig deeper into the message and be encouraged during the week!