



# THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

## PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

### PLUGGING INTO HIS POWER

#### **P.U.S.H (Pray Until Something Happens) Series - 1**

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The early Christians' zeal to worship and their love for one another attracted many people to Christ. Hence, they grew in numbers despite the persecutions they went through (Acts 2: 46-47). Today, we have the freedom to worship, the facilities where we can gather comfortably and the internet to reach more people. Despite these advantages, many Christians today lack the power of God in their lives. We, therefore, need to be empowered by the Holy Spirit by plugging into God's power through prayer and worship. We need to have the passion to serve, to love for God and one another, and to proclaim the Gospel.

#### **1. We need to plug in to the power of prayer.**

**1.1** After Peter and John were released from the Sanhedrin, they went back to their own people and reported what happened, and when they heard it, they prayed in one accord (Acts 4:23-24).

**1.2** Prayer is the secret to the power of God! Acts 4:31 tells us, "As they prayed, the place where they were gathered shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness".

#### **1.3** Important factors to remember in prayer:

**1.3.1** There is power when we pray together in one accord. United prayer is a God-given secret to plugging into God's power (Mt. 18: 19-20).

**1.3.2** Be persistent in prayer (Lk. 18: 1-8; Mt. 7: 7-8). St. Paul reminds us to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thes.5:17). God assures us that, when we call on Him, He will answer us (Jer. 33:3).

**1.3.3** Be specific in prayer. Jesus asked the blind men what they needed specifically (Mt. 20:30-34). St. Paul advises us to present our requests to God in prayer and petition, instead of being anxious (Phil. 4:6).

**1.3.4** We need to take time to pray. No matter how busy our schedule is, we need to set time for the most important activity – prayer. We sometimes tend to resort to prayer only when we are shaken. Sometimes, we do not even pray fervently. God

inhabits in the praises of His people and where God dwells, there is power; let everything that has breath give praise to the LORD (Ps. 22:3; 150:6).

#### **2. We need to plug into the power of passion**

**2.1** We should love God and love one another. When we love one another and walk in unity, people know that we belong to Christ.

#### **3. We need to plug into the power of love.**

**3.1** Jesus Himself commanded us: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind (Mt. 22:37-39).

**3.2** You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (1Jn.4:21; Jn. 13: 35).

#### **4. We need to plug into the power of proclamation.**

**4.1** The early Christians were a preaching people. They carried the message of the Gospel to a world that desperately needed that message.

**4.2** We, too, have been commanded by Jesus in Mt. 28: 19-20, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, and in Acts 1:8, "...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

#### **5. We need to plug into the Sovereign power of God.**

**5.1** We must submit to God's sovereignty by acknowledging that He alone is the ultimate source of all power, authority, and everything that exists.

**5.2** His rule must take precedence in our lives.

**CONCLUSION:** If we cut loose from the ultimate source of power, all our efforts in life will come to naught. Plugging into God's power is paramount!

**REFLECTION:** Are you still plugged in to God's power?

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