

25 August 2013 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost/LITS #7.
Reading: Jeremiah 1:4–10; 1 Corinthians 1:26-2:5; Luke 13:10–17.
Theme: *Supernatural Church* – 1 Corinthians 2:5, “so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on **God’s power.**”

INTRO:



I. NATURAL.

1 Corinthians 1:26-28, “Brothers and sisters, **think of what you were** when you were called. **Not** many of you were **wise... not** many were **influential**; **not** many were **of noble birth**. But God chose the **foolish... the weak... the lowly... the despised—things that are not.**”

1 Corinthians 2:3, “I came to you **in weakness with great fear and trembling.**”



II. SUPER.

1 Corinthians 1:30-31, “It is **because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.** Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”



“Your favourite super-hero?”

1

Corinthians 2:2, “I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except **Jesus Christ and him crucified.**”



III. CHURCH.



A. FULL OF FRUIT.

Galatians 5:22-23, “the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”

1 Corinthians 12:31, 13:13, “And yet I will show you the most excellent way... And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”



B. FULL OF GIFTS.

1 Corinthians 12:7-10, “Now to **each one** the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good... a message of wisdom... a message of knowledge... faith... gifts of healing... miraculous powers... prophecy... distinguishing between spirits... speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.”



1 Corinthians 12:1, “Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be **uninformed (agnostic)**.”

1 Corinthians 14:1, “Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy.”



C. FULL OF POWER.

James 5:17, 18, “Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly... Again he prayed...”

1 Kings 18:36-39, “LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. Answer me, LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.’ **Then the fire**

of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench. When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, ‘**The LORD—he is God! The LORD—he is God!**’” cf. Acts 4:29-31.

Francis Chan, “When I read the book of Acts, I see the church as **an unstoppable force**. Nothing could thwart what God was doing, just as Jesus foretold: ‘The gates of hell shall not prevail against it’ (Matt. 16:18). The church was **powerful** and spreading like wildfire, not because of clever planning, but by **a movement of the Spirit**. Riots, torture, poverty, or any other type of persecution couldn’t stop it. Isn’t that the type of church movement we all long to a part of?”

1 Corinthians 2:4-5, “My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with **a demonstration of the Spirit’s power**, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on **God’s power.**”



1 Corinthians 2:9-10, “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived”— the things God has prepared for those who love him — these are the things God has revealed to us **by his Spirit.**”

CONCLUSION: Your epitaph, what will it be? Francis Chan: “I don’t want my life to be explainable without the Holy Spirit.” Cf. St. Paul’s - Supernatural Church. So may the Lord by His Spirit enable our faith to rest and grow, in Jesus’ name. Amen. – Pastor Aldi ☺