



# DUNAMIS

dunamis (doo-na-mis)

Week #1

**DUNAMIS:** inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature or which a person or thing exerts and puts forth.

**PRAYER** is the link to the power and presence of God in our lives.

## Mark 9:14-27 (NIV)

<sup>14</sup> When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. <sup>15</sup> As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him.

<sup>16</sup> "What are you arguing with them about?" he asked.

<sup>17</sup> A man in the crowd answered, "Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. <sup>18</sup> Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not."

<sup>19</sup> "You unbelieving generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me."

<sup>20</sup> So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

<sup>21</sup> Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?"

"From childhood," he answered. <sup>22</sup> "It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us."

<sup>23</sup> "If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes."

<sup>24</sup> Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

<sup>25</sup> When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. "You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again."

<sup>26</sup> The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, "He's dead." <sup>27</sup> But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up.

**2 Timothy 1:7 (ESV)**  
...for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

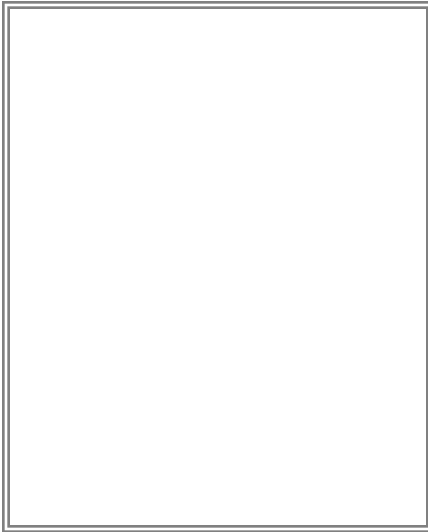
**Mark 9:28-29 (NIV)**

*<sup>28</sup> After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, "Why couldn't we drive it out?"*

*<sup>29</sup> He replied, "This kind can come out only by prayer."*

When we're **PRAYER-LESS**,  
we're powerless.

*Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)  
I can do all things through  
Christ who strengthens me.*



God is not a resource for  
**SOME** good things.  
He is the source of  
**ALL** good things

**James 1:17 (NIV)**

*Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.*

God is **GOOD**, and He is **FOR** you!

**Romans 8:31-32 (NIV)**

*<sup>31</sup> What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all— how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?*

**SO WHAT?**

What's not happening because you're not **PRAYING**?

**NOTES:**



***This is the confidence we have in approaching God:  
that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.***  
*1 John 5:14*



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## Now What? [For Further Reflection]:

- :: Describe prayer using one-word descriptors.
  - :: What role does prayer play in your daily life? How long has it been that way?
  - :: Share a time you did, or did not, see prayer answered as you expected or asked. Why do you think that was/is? What would you do differently?
  - :: Reread/Review Mark 9:14-29.
    - :: What stands out to you in this passage?
    - :: Discuss why the disciples couldn't resolve the situation.
    - :: How does that connect to the power & presence of God?
  - :: Pastor Shawn said, "Prayer is the link to the power and presence of God in our lives." Discuss the implications of that statement.
    - :: How have you seen this play out in your life or someone else's?
    - :: What do you find most challenging or encouraging about this?
  - :: Discuss some of the reasons why some things don't happen apart from prayer.
  - :: Revisit Philippians 3:14:
    - :: What does this mean? Why does it work [not work] this way?
    - :: Discuss some practical implications of the truth in this passage.
    - :: How does prayer, or the lack of prayer, impact that?
  - :: What is one thing God is asking you to do next in His "dunamis" power? What do you need to do to step fully into that?
  - :: Take a moment to pray. Ask God to empower you to do all He asks & desires.
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## How to start a relationship with God:

- 1) Admitting that you, like everyone else, are in need of rescue.
- 2) Asking God to forgive your sins.
- 3) Saying YES to God by trusting Jesus as Savior & Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

**Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I recognize you as Savior; and I choose to respond to you as my Risen LORD. Help me to walk with you by faith in every area of my life. In Your name, Amen.**

Unless otherwise noted, today's Scripture is from the  
New International Version [NIV].  
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