



CONNECTED

11-14yrs

Session 2:

I CAN BE... POWERFUL



AIMS

- To understand we are powerful and can make a difference.
- To think about different ways we can be powerful.
- To apply that power in the community.



MEMORY VERSE

'CHRIST IS THE POWER OF GOD AND THE WISDOM OF GOD TO THOSE PEOPLE GOD HAS CALLED.'

1 CORINTHIANS 1:24 (NCV)



GAME 1 (5 mins)

Resources:

Appendix 1, one set per team, printed onto card – cut off the top of each page so there are two piles per team – one pile of pictures and one pile of names.

Divide your youth into teams. Give each team two sets of cards (as above). Explain these are considered some of the world's most powerful people. Ask them to match the pictures to the names. The team with the most right answers wins.



CATCH UP (10 mins)

Refer to the teaching notes for guidance on how to run this time.



INTRODUCTION (5 mins)

Play this clip from Man of Steel

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwPYKkZ_GPA



GOD SPOT (5 mins)

Have the young people talk about what they have seen God doing in their lives or the lives of others. They can also speak about things they are grateful for that have happened in their lives that week. (This is based on teaching from Session 6, Term 1 of Connected. If you haven't done this session then please read the teaching notes.)



DISCUSS (5 mins)



What does being powerful mean to you?



BIBLE STORY

(5 mins)

Read 1 Kings 3:1-14 together in age appropriate Bible. Youth NCV bibles would be great for this as Solomon describes himself as a young child.



TALK

(10 mins)

When we think about power, our minds can easily associate it the type of power Superman has – strength. Or it looks like the control and authority the people in our game hold. Solomon had a similar level of influence in his time but he became great and famous not in His own power but in God's power.

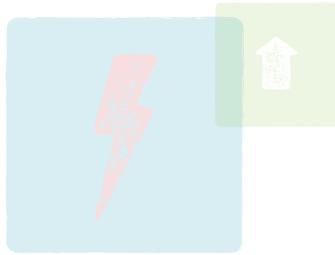
Wisdom is a form power that we can overlook or dismiss. When King Solomon was asked by God what he would like, he asked God for wisdom. He knew this would equip him to bring change to the people he had contact with every day. He had a heart for his people and this, combined with wisdom, made him great. His fame spread beyond his own country as he served the people God had put in front of him.



DISCUSS

(10 mins)

- Who are the people God has put in front of you?**
- Who is God asking you to serve and where?**
- What would you change about your community if you could change anything?**
- What wisdom or knowledge would you need to make that change?**



TALK CONTINUED

Wisdom or knowledge is defined as increasing your understanding through study or through experience, so you can learn how to do something new by trying it or you can read about it. However, that wasn't what happened to Solomon; God made him wise.

The Holy Spirit can release wisdom into your life too. 1 Corinthians 1:24 says Jesus is God's power and wisdom to the people God has chosen. Verse 25 says even God's most foolish things are wiser than human wisdom. This passage goes on to say God's wisdom isn't just for bright, strong or important people - God can release wisdom to anyone.

I think there are different ways God releases the power of wisdom into our lives:

Firstly, He can totally tell you something you didn't know, hadn't experienced and didn't learn. For example, you look at someone and just know their name, even though you've never met or been told their name.

Secondly, God brings someone into your life who has the knowledge you need. So you don't have to learn it, they share their experience.

Thirdly, God gives you a passion to study a subject so you can gain knowledge and experience.

How can you test the first example to find out if it is wisdom from God? Well, if it's an idea, you can see if it reflects the things Jesus tells us to do in the Bible. You can ask another mature Christian and see if they think it is wise and you can also apply common sense. Sometimes God only gives us a bit of wisdom and then we receive a bit more, so He guides us step by step rather than all at once.



RESPONSE (5 mins)

Resources:

A large sheet of paper and a marker pen for each young person

Hand out the resources. *Think back to our discussion earlier - we asked a couple of questions: What would you change about your community if you could change anything? We are going to ask the first question of God and see what He says. Then we are going to do some brainstorming with God to think about the second question: What wisdom or knowledge would you need to make that change?*

So in your head ask: God, What would you change about (name of town/city)?

Then write down the idea that comes into your head in the centre of your piece of paper.

Now ask God; What wisdom or knowledge do I need to make that change? Then write down on your sheet all the ideas God gives you. Now ask Him how you will get that knowledge and write down what God says to you. When you've done all that take a moment to thank God for what He has said or shown you.



REFLECT AND SHARE (5 mins)

Ask people to share what God showed them. Ask if there is anything you can do to help them achieve what God has shown them.



ACTION

(5 mins)

Discuss how they are going to put the steps God showed them into action.



GAME 2

(5 mins)

Divide into teams if you have a large group (more than 10). Each group should form a circle of chairs. One person stands in the middle, the others sit on a chair. The aim is for everyone to move to their left without the person in the middle gaining a seat. Should the person in the middle gain a seat, anyone without a seat has to stand in the middle of the group and the game starts again.



RESOURCES

Game 1:

- Appendix 1, one set per team, printed onto card – cut off the top of each page so there are two piles per team – one pile of pictures and one pile of names.

Introduction:

- Play this clip from Man of Steel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwPYKkZ_GPA
- Youth Bible(s)

Response:

- Large sheet of paper
- Marker pens

