No power like it!

Jesus had told his disciples of the Spirit of truth “whom I shall send to you.” John 15.26. Sure enough, after Christ's rising from the dead, it happened.

First, earlier the disciples lacked spiritual power (Matthew 17.16). Now “with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus.” Acts 4.33.

Second, before Christ's resurrection, the disciples were asking questions. Matthew 24.3, Mark 4.10, Luke 8.25, John 9.2, etc. Now they were answering questions. Acts 4.7; 5.29; 7.1; 9.30-31.

Third, beforehand they had disputed among themselves, Luke 9.46. Now they had all things in common. Acts 2.44.

Fourth, in the Gospels we see Jesus quoting the holy Scriptures. Matthew 4.1-10, etc. But now it’s the disciples doing it. Acts 2.16; 3.22-25; 4.25-26.

Fifth, the Gospels show only Jesus staying awake to pray. Matthew 26.40. But in Acts 4.24-31 we see the disciples engaged in powerful prayer.

So what made such a difference? They now had the promised (and powerful) indwelling presence of God's Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit will enable us too to do what nothing else can – make people aware of the wonderful, living, transforming presence of our Creator God.

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Ken Packer