

**God's Power At Christmas**  
**#SermonPower**  
**The Power of Advent**  
**November 25, 2018**  
**Dr. Mark Jackson, November 25, 2018**

**Matthew 2:1-3a** Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, <sup>2</sup> "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup> King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this... (NLT)

**Matthew 2:4** He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?" (NLT)

**Matthew 2:7-8** Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!" (NLT)

**Matthew 2:16, 19** Herod was furious when he realized that the wise men had outwitted him. He sent soldiers to kill all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, based on the wise men's report of the star's first appearance... <sup>19</sup> When Herod died... (NLT)

**Christmas Is God's Power In Action**

**1 Corinthians 4:20** For the Kingdom of God is not just a lot of talk; it is living by God's power. (NLT)

**Psalms 68:35** God... gives strength and power to his people. Thanks be to God! (GW)

**When Can I Count On God's Power?**

I need God's power when I'm \_\_\_\_\_.

**Isaiah 40:28-29** ...The Lord is the God who lives forever. He created all the world. He does not become tired or need to rest... <sup>29</sup> The Lord gives strength to those who are tired. He gives more power to those who are weak. (ICB)

**2 Corinthians 12:9** God said, "...My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. (NLT)

**2 Corinthians 12:10** I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and difficulties for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (TEV)

## How Do I Access God's Power?

### 1. ADMIT MY NEED

**James 4:6** But **God gives us more and more strength** to stand against all such evil longings. As the Scripture says, "**God gives strength to the humble** but sets himself against the proud and haughty." (LB)

### 2. PLUG INTO THE SOURCE

**John 15:5** I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who **remain in me**, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For **apart from me you can do nothing**. (NLT)

**Philippians 4:13** I can do everything through **Christ who strengthens me**. (GW)

### 3. STEP OUT IN FAITH

**1 Corinthians 2:5** **Your faith**, does not rest on human wisdom but on **God's power**. (TEV)

**Ephesians 1:19-20** I pray that you will begin to understand how **incredibly great his power** is to help **those who believe him**. It is that same mighty power <sup>20</sup> that raised Christ from the dead... (LB)