

# Game Changer 4 Meekness

Hello Redemption Church! Thank your for worshipping with us in Plano Tx. Let's receive the Word of God together.

## Game Changer Title

Each week I have given you an example of a game changer. We have looked at people from recent history to learn game changing strategy.

This week's game changer wanted to bring change to his government and the world. He started a grass roots campaign that gathered 2000 people to protest and bring change to his government. The government shot back... literally... at this man and his movement. 16 of his followers were killed and he was imprisoned for treason.

Undaunted, he kept the faith in prison. He even wrote a book in prison that gained a lot of attention and called many more to his cause.

10 years later this man who was imprisoned in his country, is now an elected official in his national government. More shockingly he is appointed by his national government leaders to be the head of his government... a president of sorts.

Now sitting in the place of authority this man went on to change the lives of countless millions with his dream. This man is proof that power is a game changer.

## Power is a game changer

Power is a game changer. If you have the power you can change things. If you work hard enough you can gain authority. If you can influence enough people you can become a powerful person... and powerful people can change anything...

Our example, you have no doubt heard of... **Adolf Hitler**

Adolf Hitler is an example of a power hungry person. Adolf would have done anything to obtain power. And once he was given some power he would do underhanded things to obtain more. Once elected, buildings were mysteriously burnt down allowing him to seize more power... political leaders were mysteriously killed allowing him to seize more power.

The powerful obtain power by crushing the weak. This is the example of Adolf Hitler. We see this example throughout history. We see this example in our daily lives. You go to school with people like this. You

work with people like this. Some people treat their relationships like this. I have even known pastors like this.

## Power Crushes

**Hitler had the power, and he used that power to crush.**

- 6 million Jews
- 7 million soviets
- 1.8 million polish

Hitler had the power, and it wasn't enough. He sought more power. He wanted to have power over the entire world.

You see Hitler was crazy enough to believe that if he had enough power he could fix the world. He craved more power because he thought if he had all the power he could create a utopia – a perfect world. He would use his power to crush the world into his image... and of course his image was the correct image, because he had the power.

What do you say to the maniacal dictator with all the power when he asks you if you like his idea... “what a great idea sir.”

This is not going to be popular... it will not be comfortable... but here it is... We are more like Hitler than we care to admit... The following phrase is why...

## If I only had power

Hitler said to himself that “if he only had power” then he could change the world.

Much of our desires are power based. We may not say “if I only had power...” we may say...

- If I only had money... and then we use money as our power.
- If I only were more attractive... then we use our beauty as leverage for power.
- If I only had that skill... then we use that as a power over those that lack the skill.

Now I am not saying that you want power because you want to commit genocide. But I am saying that within you is a thirst for power... and it is largely self-serving.

## Power is a game changer

So am I saying that we don't need power? Power is a bad thing? We should be powerless?

No.

#1 Everyone has some amount of power. No one can be powerless. At the very least, you have the power of choice... the power to make decisions... the power to believe what you believe.

#2 Scripture is clear that as a child of God, you have power. ...That when you are filled with the Spirit of God you will receive power. ...You have power to cast out demons in Jesus name. This power is not a bad thing.

Here is what I am saying...

**The presence of power is not a bad thing. A lack of self-control is a bad thing.**

Hitler and every evil dictator like him, is a power out of control.

Every addiction is a power out of control... every addict likes the powerful feeling, they can't control their use.

All greed is a thirst for power that is out of control.

Murder is the result of a powerful emotion going uncontrolled. So is adultery...

Power out of control is a scary thing.

**Self Control is a game changer**

Let's dive into some scripture.

2 Timothy 1:7 (NIV2011) For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

Notice the Holy Spirit gives you power, but not just power... also love & self control.

Proverbs 16:32 (NIV2011) Better a patient person than a warrior, one with self-control than one who takes a city.

God values patience more than a big strong warrior. God values self-control over the power to take a city.

Proverbs 25:28 (NIV2011) Like a city whose walls are broken through is a person who lacks self-control.

A person without self-control is defenseless.

Titus 1:7-8 (NIV2011) Since an overseer manages God's household, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined.

These scriptures on Godly leaders never mentions power, talent, or charisma... it centers on self-control.

Here is God's design for gaining power...

1 Peter 5:6-8 (NIV2011) Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Those that humble themselves under God's mighty hand... they are lifted up in His timing.

## **IF GOD IS LIFTING YOU UP, WHO CAN BRING YOU DOWN?**

People like Hitler try to exalt themselves only to fall spectacularly. When God exalts you no one can bring you down.

When God exalts you, you will still have problems. Life is not care free, but because He is the one who exalted you, you should CAST ALL YOUR ANXIETY ON HIM...

“You should not read your own press clippings” is something former Dallas Cowboys coach, Bill Parcells used to say. He would tell his players to not pay attention to what others were saying about them.... The media has a way of telling you one of 2 things... You are either the best... or the worst... and neither is actually true. Instead focus on the game plan... focus on being in the best mental & physical shape... focus on the next challenge.

There is an enemy that is like a lion... he is looking for someone to devour. He often finds those who are distracted. Do not lose your focus.

I have 2 things you need when it comes to power.

**You need a power that is under authority.**

There was a centurion, a roman soldier, who approached Jesus and asked Him to heal his servant.

Matthew 8:6-8 (NIV2011) “Lord,” he said, “my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly.” Jesus said to him, “Shall I come and heal him?” The centurion replied, “Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed.

Matthew 8:9 (NIV2011) For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and that one, ‘Come,’ and he comes. I say to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”

Matthew 8:10 (NIV2011) When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, “Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith.

See how the centurion views himself. “I am a man under authority.” He was a powerful soldier, yet understood that he was under a greater authority.

He then realizes that the power of healing is under the authority of Jesus. Jesus only needs to command healing and it will occur because that power is under His authority.

We need to stand in a power that is under God’s authority.

Hitler possessed a power that rebelled against all authority. Jesus was amazed by a centurion who understood power under authority.

This is why the Scripture is so important. If you will come under the authority of God’s word you will see power like you have never seen.

- The power of a believer laying hands on people in prayer under the authority of scripture...
- The power of a child of God sharing the life giving gospel of Jesus Christ under the authority of scripture...
- The power of a Christian standing in the presence of God and worshipping under the authority of scripture...

Stand in power under the greater authority.

**You need a power that is under control**

We have shown you scripture about self-control, but Jesus uses a particular word for this subject. The word is Meekness.

Matthew 5:5 (NIV2011) Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Meekness, being meek, is an often misunderstood word. When asked what meek means, many people say weak. But meekness means “power under control.”

My friend, Pastor David Fuller, has the best description of meekness. Here it is...

Imagine a jack hammer. It is powerful and crushes everything it touches. It breaks through hard cement quickly. This is the world’s understanding of power... just crush everything under sheer force.

Now imagine if you were able to take the power of that jack hammer and control it enough to gently crack a walnut without destroying it. Imagine if you could take that power yet control it enough to cut a fingernail .

That is meekness. Meekness is not weakness. Meekness is power under control.

**Power crushes. But meekness is able to exact power without crushing everything it touches.**

**Meekness is a game changer**

## **Musician**

We need a power that does not crush.

Instead Jesus shows us a power that serves. Jesus was willing to be crushed for us. Jesus never crushed us.

We need a power that stand UNDER authority.

Jesus has all power. HIS WORDS. Yet the man Christ Jesus always stood under the authority of the Father.

We need a power that is under control.

Jesus never showed us a power out of control.

**Adolf Hitler v Jesus**

Are you praying for a power to serve?

Are you operating like you have no authority over you?

Are you out of control?

God is looking for someone he can trust...