

**LIFE OF CHRIST**  
from the gospel of  
**Mark**

**LESSON 37**

**JESUS' POWER IS  
FROM GOD**

**MARK 11:20-33**

# Life of Christ

## Jesus' Power Is from God

## Mark 11:20-33

### Younger Verse

Jesus knew that the Father had given him power over everything. John 13:3

### Older Verse

Jesus knew that the Father had given him power over everything and that he had come from God and was going back to God. John 13:3

### Lesson Goals

**Understand that Jesus has the power to do all things**  
**Learn that we can pray in faith and God will answer us**  
**Recognize that we need to believe that Jesus is God's Son**

### Opener

*Is it sometimes hard to know what to believe? We hear different ideas at school, on TV, from our friends, and so on. We can look at the life of Jesus in the Bible to know what— and who—we can believe in.*

### Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Last week we learned about what happened when Jesus went to the temple. Jesus sent many people away because they were not at the church for worship. They had been using it to make money. Jesus told everyone that the church belonged to God and needed to be used for praying to God. When evening came, Jesus and the disciples left Jerusalem.

The next day they were on their way back to Jerusalem, when Peter noticed something interesting. The day before, Jesus had told a fig tree that it would not make any more fruit. Peter saw that it had withered and was dying. "Jesus, look! That tree has died!" Peter said. Jesus wanted to teach His disciples an important lesson.

Jesus said, "Trust in God's power. If you tell a mountain to fall into the ocean, and believe in your heart that it will happen, it is going to happen. Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that God has answered you, and it will be given to you. Also, if you are upset or angry at someone else, forgive them. Do this so that God will forgive your sins."

Jesus said that if we pray for a mountain to fall into the ocean, all we have to do is believe in our heart that it will happen. Jesus was not just talking about mountains. Jesus was referring to anything that we could possibly pray about. God will hear what we are asking, and He will answer it in the way that is best for us. He looks at our heart to see WHY we have prayed for what we asked.

Jesus also shows how important it is not to stay angry at others, and to forgive them for what they have done to us. God forgives us if we ask Him, no matter what we may have done. Jesus wanted His disciples and us to understand forgiveness.

Once Jesus and the disciples arrived in Jerusalem, they went to the temple again. Some of the leaders in the temple came to visit Jesus. They did not like Jesus, and they wanted to trick Him into saying something wrong. They asked Jesus, "Tell us! Who gives you the power to do the things you

do? Where does it come from?” Do you know where His power comes from? It comes from God, because Jesus is God’s Son.

Let’s see what Jesus did. “I will ask you a question,” said Jesus. “If you answer my question, then I will tell you who gives me permission to do what I do. When John the Baptist was baptizing people, did he do it because he was obeying God, or was he obeying a person?”

That was not what the leaders expected. They gathered together to talk to each other about Jesus’ question. They said to each other, “If we say John baptized people because he was obeying God, then Jesus will say, ‘Then why did you not believe that John was from God?’ But if we say, ‘John was obeying a person,’ then all the people will get angry at us because they like John and believe he was from God.”

The leaders finally responded that they did not know the answer. Jesus said, “Then I will not tell you where I receive authority to do what I do.” Jesus did not answer their question, and their plan to trick Jesus failed. Jesus had come to show and teach the people about God’s love. The leaders only cared about looking good in front of other people. Jesus showed He was God’s Son by the many amazing things He did. The most amazing of all things that Jesus did was dying on the cross and coming back to life. Jesus died to take the punishment for all the bad things we have done. Then He came back to life so that we could live with Him in Heaven if we believe in Him in our heart. If you want to know more about how to let Jesus in your heart, please talk with me before you leave.

#### Review Questions

1. What did Jesus say we need to do when we ask God to do something? (We need to trust Him and believe that He can do it.)
2. What do we need to do if we are angry with someone? (Forgive them.)
3. Did the religious leaders believe that Jesus’ power came from God? (No)
4. How did Jesus respond to their question? (He asked them a question they would not answer.)

#### Prayer Time

Thank God for the privilege of prayer. Ask Him to help us have the faith to believe that He can do anything for us.

#### Life Application

Jesus was able to stand strong when people did not like Him. When we are following Jesus and obeying what the Bible says, sometimes other people may not agree with what we do. We need to stay close to God. He can help us know what to say when people ask us what we believe.

Read Romans 12:1-2 to find out how to be more like Christ and less like the world. It starts by letting Christ change the way we think.

Planning for Lesson 38  
Parable of the Tenants  
Mark 12:1-12

## **Preschool Lesson for Jesus' Power Is from God**

Good to see you boys and girls! Our story today starts off with Jesus and His disciples walking to Jerusalem. Suddenly Peter saw something! He saw a tree that was dying. Earlier, Jesus had told the tree that it would not grow any more fruit.

Peter said to Jesus, "Hey, that was the tree you said would not make any more fruit!" Jesus wanted to teach His friends something important. He told them to trust God when they pray. He said if they would believe that God hears them, then He would answer them. He used the tree as an example of what can happen when you trust God with what you pray about.

This is important for us to remember, too. God hears everything we say to Him. He will answer our prayers in the way that is best for us.

When Jesus and the disciples arrived in Jerusalem, they went straight to the church. Some leaders that worked in the church came to see Jesus. Why do you think they wanted to see Jesus? They had a question to ask Him. They were wanting to trick Jesus into saying something they could use against Him. Those leaders did not like Jesus. They had been looking for reasons to kill Jesus. They did not want to learn about God's love.

Jesus knew this was a trick. So He did not answer their question, but instead asked them a question. When they heard Jesus' question, they too, decided not to answer.

Sometimes people do not like it when we do things for Jesus. What is important to remember is that God is pleased when we make choices that show we love Him.

## **Hands-on Activities for Jesus' Power Is from God**

Emphasize the importance of prayer. Make up a Scavenger Hunt. Give children clues like “Go to the place where we sing songs to God.” When they get there, they will hunt for a note, maybe inside a plastic egg. Inside the egg is a prayer request. Stop and pray for that request and then lead them to another place in the church to find another clue.

Play “Follow the Leader” or “Simon Says”. Share with the children that when they follow the rules, do what the leader says and does, then they are doing good. Obeying what God says in the Bible and doing the things Jesus would do pleases Him.

Bring leaves that are still green and others that are withered and dead. Discuss the fig tree that Jesus caused to dry up and die. Then make leaf rubbings by putting the leaves under a piece of paper and coloring over them. It makes neat designs!

Sing “My God is So Big,” and talk about the words. Emphasize the part that says, “The mountains are His.” Talk about how Jesus can do anything—even move mountains! Sometimes the mountains He moves are problems in our lives that He helps us with.

**Jesus knew that  
the Father had  
given him power  
over  
everything.  
John 13:3**



Jesus knew that the Father  
had given him power over  
everything and that he had  
come from God and was  
going back to God.

John 13:3



# Word Search

## Jesus' Power is From God

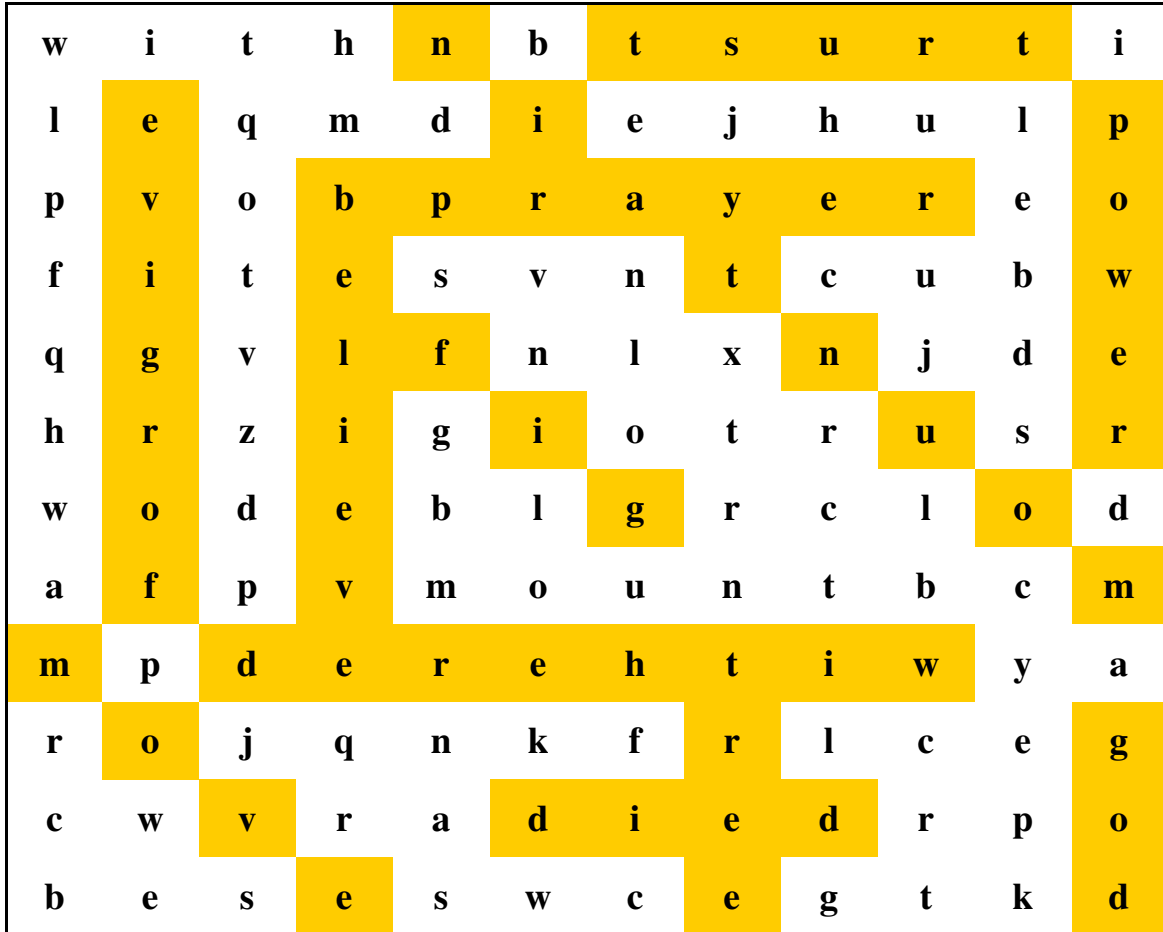
w	i	t	h	n	b	t	s	u	r	t	i
l	e	q	m	d	i	e	j	h	u	l	p
p	v	o	b	p	r	a	y	e	r	e	o
f	i	t	e	s	v	n	t	c	u	b	w
q	g	v	l	f	n	l	x	n	j	d	e
h	r	z	i	g	i	o	t	r	u	s	r
w	o	d	e	b	l	g	r	c	l	o	d
a	f	p	v	m	o	u	n	t	b	c	m
m	p	d	e	r	e	h	t	i	w	y	a
r	o	j	q	n	k	f	r	l	c	e	g
c	w	v	r	a	d	i	e	d	r	p	o
b	e	s	e	s	w	c	e	g	t	k	d

<b>fig</b>	<b>tree</b>	<b>withered</b>
<b>died</b>	<b>power</b>	<b>prayer</b>
<b>believe</b>	<b>mountain</b>	<b>move</b>
<b>forgive</b>	<b>trust</b>	<b>God</b>



# Word Search

## Jesus' Power is From God



<b>fig</b>	<b>tree</b>	<b>withered</b>
<b>died</b>	<b>power</b>	<b>prayer</b>
<b>believe</b>	<b>mountain</b>	<b>move</b>
<b>forgive</b>	<b>trust</b>	<b>God</b>

Jesus said that when we pray,  
we have to  
b\_\_l\_\_eve that  
God will answer our prayer.

**JESUS'**

POWER

COMES FROM  
**GOD.**

