

The Secret of Jesus

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I. Introduction. Text: John 5:18-20.

II. The healing of the cripple.

A. Men were amazed at this miracle of Jesus.

B. The priests looked upon Jesus with disdain however because they saw Him as a renegade.

C. Jesus clearly conveyed His deity to the people.

III. Jesus' response to the priests suggests the secret to power.

A. There must be recognition of the total fallacy of self-sufficiency.

1. There is hollowness without this secret.

2. The Son can do nothing of His own accord.

a. Jesus meant that the power the Father gave Him was never exercised for His own benefit.

b. God gives His power to those who will not use it for their own benefit.

c. Jesus obeyed the inner impulse that He knew was of the Father.

d. Every impulse must be in line with the Scripture.

3. The paralytic needed outside help and Jesus sensed this need from within.

B. The New Covenant recognizes that everything comes from God and nothing from man.

1. Jesus is modeling our relationship with Him.

2. The power of God is to be employed to meet any human need.

3. Words are insignificant in themselves, but with the power of God, they are lined with insight.

4. Believers will do greater works than Jesus will.

a. The creative Father loves the Son, and He loves to communicate to the Son inventive ways to do things.

b. Jesus loves to communicate to use creative ways to do things also.

5. The Father reveals Himself to Jesus, and the believer sees Jesus.

6. God's power is released only as we use it for the glory of God.
7. Every manifestation of God's power will awaken a sense of awe that makes people marvel.
8. God wants many children that are like His Son. (Romans 8:29)
 - a. God is going to change us.
 - b. We will learn how to function according to the Word of God.

Application questions:

1. Why do we often struggle to renounce self-sufficiency in our daily lives?

2. How have you seen the New Covenant at work in individuals in a powerful way?

3. What does it mean that the believer will do greater works than Jesus will? How can you manifest this in your own personal life? Explain.
