



CoJourners Training Series : Level 1

Week 2: Unstoppable Strength

Purpose:

To help us see that the strength we need to share Christ with others comes from the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

Preparation:

1. Print out copies of "Heart Inspiration" cards from last week in case any of your group members forget to bring them or were unable to attend the previous week's study.

Plan:

1. **Review** last week's action points. Ask how it went. This week you will cover the last two "Heart Inspiration" cards of the CoJourners Equipment Pack, **Unstoppable** and **Inner Strength**.
2. **Read** the second paragraph from the Unstoppable card
3. **Discuss** the two "discuss" questions from the Unstoppable Card
 - What stops us from witnessing today? Why?
 - How easy is it to stop you?
4. **Discuss** the two discussion questions from the Inner Strength card
 - Read Acts 4:31. What is the relationship between the filling of the Spirit and boldness?
 - Why do we need boldness to be God's witnesses today?
5. **Action Plan**
 1. Pray as a group. Ask God to make each of you unstoppable in your witness for Christ.
 2. Each day this week, continue to pray that prayer individually in your personal devotional times.
 3. Pray for five friends, that you would get an opportunity to share the gospel with them. But be alert to opportunities to share with others as well.

Next Week: Your group will be equipped to be an "Explorer" as you interact friends and classmates.

Unstoppable

COJOURNERS № 1.3 | MOTIVATION

The Great Commission begins with these words from Jesus: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:18, 19).

2 The early believers understood the implications of Jesus having "all authority." They were unstoppable. When the local authorities commanded them to quit talking about Jesus, they replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:19, 20).

To be accurate, history reveals one way the lower authorities did stop those acting under Jesus' command. They killed them. First it was Stephen (Acts 7:57-60). Then it was James (Acts 12:2). They were followed by countless others

who were killed because of their faith in Christ. It became so common that *martus*, the Greek word for witness, began to bear the meaning of one who would give his life for what he believed and testified to. *Martus* is the root from which we get the English word martyr.

3 **Discuss**

- What stops us from witnessing today? Why?
- How easy is it to stop you?

Action Plan
Re-read the passages above. Each day this week, ask God to make you unstoppable in your witness.

Summary
Understanding Christ's authority makes us unstoppable in witness.

Inner Strength

COJOURNERS № 1.4 | MOTIVATION

Is it dangerous to be a witness for Christ? Is there risk involved? It varies from situation to situation and from culture to culture. But in many lands, believers expose themselves to ostracism, punishment, imprisonment, and even death by their witness.

There are risks even in societies where there is freedom of religion and the free exchange of ideas.

Social pressures and cultural norms create emotional and relational risks for the believer who shares the gospel with others.

How do we overcome our fears? Sound teaching and practical training can help, but God has done something more. He has given us his Spirit, and with his Spirit comes power and boldness. Jesus' last words to his followers were, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on

you; and you will be my witnesses ...to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8, NIV).

4 **Discuss**

- Read Acts 4:31. What is the relationship between the filling of the Spirit and boldness?
- Why do we need boldness to be God's witnesses today?

Action Plan
Obtain a copy of the booklet *Satisfied?* from a Campus Crusade staff member. Make sure you understand and are experiencing the filling of the Spirit as explained in the booklet. Each day this week, ask God to fill you with his Spirit, making you a bold witness for Christ.

Summary
The power of the Spirit gives us the inner strength to witness.