

24 July



### Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Gospel of John – week 11



### Let's hear your story

1. How many years did the man struggle with his infirmity in v.5? **(38.)**.
2. How did Jesus heal the man according to v.8? **(Jesus said to him; "rise, take up your bed and walk.")**.
3. What can we learn from Jesus in v.8? **(Jesus exercised His authority through His words; see Mark 1:23 – 25; Luke 7:12 – 15, and 8:24.)**.
4. Did Jesus keep His authority to Himself? **(No, He gave us authority in His name; see Genesis 1:26 – 28; Mark 16:15 – 18; Matt.28:18 – 20.)**.



### Let's go deeper

5. According to Jesus' teachings in Mark 11:23 and Luke 17:6, how should we exercise our authority? **(Through our words.)**.
6. Why is Matthew 8:8 – 10, a great example of authority? **(The centurion understood that authority is the right to command.)**.
7. Did the disciples of Jesus demonstrate His authority, while He was still with them? **(Yes, see Matthew 10:1, 8; Luke 10:17 – 19.)**.
8. Did the early church demonstrate their God-given authority? **(Yes, see Acts 3:6 – 8; 9:36- 40.)**.



### Let's apply this

**9. 2 Cor. 10:4 – 5;** For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

We fight a real enemy, the devil, and the battle is in our minds. The devil can only influence people who surrender their thoughts and actions to him.

Train your mind to identify and reject the lies of the enemy, and to believe God's Word. Train your mind to speak God's life-giving Word in every situation. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead and guide your thoughts.

### SUMMARY:

**Gospel of John:** Week 11 (The authority of Jesus' words)

**Read:** John 5:1 – 29

In John 5, we read of Jesus' incredible power and authority released through His spoken words. Jesus simply spoke the words in v.11; "rise, take up your bed and walk," to a man who had an infirmity of 38 years. Jesus simply spoke the words, and the man was healed. Jesus gave us the same authority. From Genesis 1 it was always God's desire that we would exercise His authority through our words.

Mankind was given unlimited authority on this earth:  
See Genesis 1:26 – 28; Psalms 8:4 – 8 and Psalms 115:16.

Mankind gave that authority to satan when he submitted to him: See Luke 4:5 – 6.

Satan's motivation was to take mankind's authority, and destroy God's Kingdom so that he could receive worship. Satan wanted to be like God: See Isaiah 14:12 – 17.

Once God gave mankind authority, He could not take it back: See Psalms 89:34.

For God to have authority over satan on the earth, He needed to become a man: See John 5:27.

Satan lost his authority to Jesus, and Jesus gave it back to us, restoring mankind's identity, authority and purpose: See Matthew 10:1, 8; 28:18 – 20; Luke 10:17 – 19 and Colossians 2:9 – 10, 15.

Satan has no more spiritual power over us, his only weapon is lies and deception: See Romans 6:16; 1 Peter 5:8 and Ephesians 6:12.

The battle is in our minds: See 2 Corinthians 10:4 – 5.

**Authority is the right to command:** See Mathew 8:8 – 10.

Mankind was created to rule, through his words: See Genesis 2:15, 19 – 20; Mark 11:23; Luke 17:6.

**Jesus exercised His authority through His words:**

Over sickness: See John 5:5, 8 – 9. Over death: See Luke 7:12, 14 – 15.  
Over demons: See Mark 1:23 – 25. Over nature: See Luke 8:24.

Jesus gave us that same authority in His name: See Mark 16:15 – 18.  
The early church walked in their God-given authority: See Acts 3:6 – 8; 9:36 – 40.