

DEVOTIONAL SERIES
HE'S MY POWER
MAJOR BRIAN BISHOP



My wife (Glenda) and I were commissioned in 1990 as “Witnesses for Jesus.” For those that know something of the Training College (Seminary) Salvation Army experience, at the onset of that period of learning and preparation, a sessional name and Scripture verse are claimed. The verse for us was literally etched in the glass of the former THQ chapel at 2130 Bayview Avenue: *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth”* (Acts 1:8 NIV). From the moment of our pastoral ministry, we claimed these words which to this day inspire and empower us for ministry and life – the good, the difficult, as well as times of perplexity. I believe Acts 1:8 proclaims the essence of this song (*He’s My Power*), a power to live by and a power to minister/lead from.

Throughout our years of ministry, there have been many occasions of weariness and fatigue. Perhaps you’ve had similar experiences where you’ve said, “I’m tired all the time,” or “I can’t get it all done.” In fact, “I’m sick and tired of being sick and tired.”

What I’ve recognized is that when I’m in that state, it has everything to do with having a power shortage – it’s those times that I’m not plugged in to God’s power. Paul says it like this, *“I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me”* (Philippians 4:13 GNT), or the more familiar translation says, *“I can do all things through him who gives me strength.”*

What are the “all conditions”? With God’s help, you have the power to handle fear when you’re taking ministry risks, the power to handle stress when you’re under pressure, the power to handle loneliness when you’re lonely, the power to handle rejection when you’re following God’s purpose, the power to handle health crises when the doctor’s report is concerning, the power to handle relationship struggles. As you ponder the words of the bridge and chorus, may you claim the reality of His presence and power!

**I CAN'T DO THIS WITHOUT YOU,
DON'T WANT TO DO THIS WITHOUT YOU.
I HAVE NO POWER WITHOUT YOU,
YOU'RE MY LORD.**

**HE'S MY POWER, THE ONE WHO LIFTS ME UP.
HE'S MY PORTION, THE ONE WHO FILLS MY CUP.
IN MY WEAKNESS AND MY NEED, I FIND POWER ON MY KNEES.
HE'S MY POWER.**