

Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through

The title of this devotion is also the subtitle of the Vacation Bible School that Prince of Peace/Principe de Paz will host next week.

The logo for Rocky Railway VBS shows a train billowing smoke from the smokestack as it charges up a mountainside. You can almost see that the train is in motion as it powerfully climbs the rocky terrain. It is a visual reminder that with Jesus' power, we too can meet and eclipse any obstacle. The train can go nowhere without the engine to pull it. This reminds me of part of the song "Jesus Loves Me" where we sing "They are weak, but He is strong". This is a very appropriate lesson for our kiddos as most of us struggled to one degree or another during the pandemic. Things that made life hard for our kids are no match for the power of our King!

Let's not fool ourselves and think that this message is just for kids. I know personally- I am tired. I am still not healthy after my bout with Covid, and I am frustrated by many of the things in the world that are part of the "new normal". I have spent too many foolish hours trying to figure things out on my own. I am spent and I realize that my "power" gets me nowhere.

"Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through" is more than a catchy VBS theme- it is our reality. As Christ followers, we always start with the knowledge that our "power" is never enough. We are sinners, hopelessly doomed to a punishment for our imperfection. It is in this hopeless state that Jesus meets us. He is the one who came to this earth to show us how to live for Him and then paid the ransom to free us from the power of our sin. Jesus' Power is the ONLY thing that Pulls Us Through!

This rescue from sin gives us power and hope. We can look at things that anger, sadden or frustrate us and realize that we have little or no power to change them. But Jesus' power, the power that changed our fate from hopeless to a guarantee of life with Him forever, is a reality in this world. We can and will change the world with his power. We have almost 70 children (as of the moment I write this) registered for VBS and I expect to see their lives change in the coming week. They will be drawn closer to Jesus through his power working boldly through the more than 50 volunteers who will share their love for God with the children in VBS each day. Jesus' power is changing us and it is changing our neighborhood and community. Thank you, Jesus, for your awesome power!

Lord Jesus, I am so powerless and thank you that I am saved by your grace. Spur me on to acts of love and kindness to show your powerful love to the world. Amen

~ Eric Gerken | Director of Family & Youth Ministry