Introduction: Open with displays of power.

Engage group members by discussing how some animals use certain displays in order to defend their territory. If you’ve seen your own pets show something similarly, describe it. As a group, take this simple quiz noting the different ways the animals might display their power:

https://play.howstuffworks.com/quiz/can-you-identify-these-aggressive-territorial-animals

Then ask, “How about humans? How do we display our territorial nature and authority?”

Explain that over the next four sessions, we will examine how Jesus revealed His power through teaching, miracles, and displays of authority during His earthly ministry.

Point 1: Capture the imagination with a movie clip.

After discussing Mark 1:21-28, use the second paragraph on page 99 in the DDG to connect Jesus’ authority and power over demons with His deity as the eternal Son of God. Say something like, “We’re not exactly sure what happened when Jesus commanded the demon out of the man, but there’s a movie clip that helps give us an idea.”

Show the following clip from The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers, “You Have No Power Here” (4 minutes, 59 seconds):
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_mPE9gcQJo

As a group, discuss the similarities between how Gandalf interacted with King Théoden and Jesus ministered to the demon-possessed man. (Some of the similarities should be obvious.) Highlight the moment when Théoden says, “You have no power here” that Gandalf reveals his true identity that in turn gave him the power to remove the evil spell on Théoden.
**Point 2: Draw an analogy from pictures.**

Before focusing Point 2, point out that there are certain sights around the world that stand as the iconic symbol for that area. Express the following instruction in your own words: “Let’s see how well we can do at identifying some of the most famous sights pertaining to the area of the world they represent. When we see a photo, we’ll try to identify where it’s from.”

Use the photos at the following website containing ten famous landmarks from around the world: [https://www.kids-world-travel-guide.com/top-10-famous-landmarks.html](https://www.kids-world-travel-guide.com/top-10-famous-landmarks.html)

After the activity, raise the following question: “Is seeing the Eiffel Tower or the Great Wall of China the same thing as visiting Paris or China?” Then use the commentary the Leader Guide for Point 2 (pages 110-111) to reveal that Jesus’ miracles were just a snapshot of His immense power and authority.

**Conclusion: Describe the purpose of compassion.**

To conclude the session, point out that the power revealed by Jesus served the purpose of advancing the kingdom of God and should also be the impetus for our compassion in sharing the gospel with others. Say something like this: “When we show compassion to others, we reveal that Jesus is our power and our purpose.”

Share some of the ideas from the following blog post “How Can We Increase Our Compassion for Others?”: [https://www.crosswalk.com/blogs/john-shore/increasing-your-compassion.html](https://www.crosswalk.com/blogs/john-shore/increasing-your-compassion.html)

Then ask the following questions:

- How are you revealing Jesus to others through your own compassion?
- How can we each be more compassionate this week?
Teaching Tip of the Week

Many believers fall in one of two camps concerning miracles in our world today: A) “Everything is a miracle”; or B) “Miracles don’t take place anymore.” Help students grasp the miracles of Jesus appropriately: they proved that Jesus was the Son of God. We are not to worship miracles in themselves or pursue interest in the miracles of Jesus as our ultimate goal apart from the desire of knowing Him better.