

Understanding Authority Part 4: Walking in Authority and Power

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Again, let's start with a recap on this series thus far: In our series in Authority, we've seen in the Bible that God and His Word are the ultimate authority in our lives. That there is an umbrella of positional authorities in our lives that God has established and they are for our provision and protection. He desires our submission to that end, that He may accomplish His will in and through our lives and that He may advance His Kingdom through us; Submission to God first, God-ordained authorities second. We can't truly walk in authority, unless we are walking under authority.

God wants every believer to walk in His power and authority, because He wants to reclaim what was lost in the Garden and we are a part of His spiritual army to fight with Him in these spiritual battles, in order to become victorious in this overarching spiritual war. And we are in a spiritual war.

Not every believer will necessarily walk in a lifetime of positional authority, but there will usually be seasons where we do lead in some level of positional authority: Home, Church, work, etc.

My friend, the Prophet-apostle, Robert Mearns, from Belfast, Ireland would often say: *"Everyone is a leader. You are either leading people closer to Jesus, or further away from Jesus by the way that you live your life."* You may not have an official title or leadership role, but you are a leader. How are you leading?

Where are you leading? To whom are you leading people in your sphere of influence? If you do have an official title and leadership role, are you leading the way Jesus said we should lead?

Jesus said the “greatest among you, will be servant of all.” Servant leadership is paramount in the Kingdom of God. Jesus said, *“I didn’t come to be served, but to serve.”* (**Matthew 20:28**). We lead with humility; we lead with love. We don’t lead to secure the top rung on the ladder, but rather hold the ladder at its base so that others may climb higher than us. May our ceiling be their floor.

Moses was also a great example of leadership with humility (**Numbers 12:3**). In Numbers 16, when Korah and others rebelled against Moses and Aaron and the Lord, he fell on his face in the midst of accusations. A great picture of what the word humility actually means: low to the ground. When Joshua complained about Eldad and Medad prophesying differently than the other elders were in **Numbers 11**, Moses rebuked Joshua and said, ***“Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, that the Lord would put His Spirit upon them!”*** (v.29)

The Prophet Jim Laffoon, from our campus ministry days, would often say, *“If you don’t understand your role, you will always abuse your relationships.”* **James 3:16** says, ***“For where Jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing.”*** God wants us to walk in positional authority modeling the examples we see in Scripture.

God also wants every believer to walk in true spiritual authority over all the power of the enemy (**Luke 10:19**). God has given us

everything that we need to live as “more than conquerors” and “overcomers” (**Romans 8:37/John 5:4-5**). We are seated in Christ in the heavenly realm, “*far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is named.*” (**Ephesians 1 & 2**). We are empowered by the Holy Spirit, in us and on us. We have the Word of God and the Name of Jesus. We have the power and authority of unity and agreement in prayer as His corporate Body.

Jesus has already won the spiritual war and He wants us to win the daily spiritual skirmishes and battles we face, by submitting to Him and His will for our lives.

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name...” -John 1:12 (emphasis mine)

Our Father is the King, and as His sons and daughters, we represent Him and carry the authority of the Kingdom wherever we go.

“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.” - Ephesians 1:19 (emphasis mine)

Authority is the right (**John 1:12**), power is the force (**Ephesians 1:19-20**). Authority controls the release of power (**Luke 10:19/Matthew 10:1**) Authority is in the name of Jesus (**Luke**

10:17). The Power is in and through the Holy Spirit. Faith is the “extension cord of Heaven” that releases authority and power.

The key is that we would *believe* what God has said in His Word; that authority and power are available for us to walk in, in the same way Jesus did and the same way that His disciples did. Faith is the currency of Heaven. Without faith, it is impossible to please Him (**Hebrews 11:6**) and whatever is not of faith is sin (**Romans 14:23**). At the end of the day, the enemy is going to come and tempt you with the same temptation that tripped up Eve and Adam in the Garden: “Did God say...?”

Remember, we are not only fighting to win spiritual battles that we face personally, or for our families, but we are fighting to win spiritual battles so that those in the world, who are hurting, lost, broken and dying may come to know Jesus!

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” -John 10:10

The abundant life, the inheritance (**Ephesians 1:19**) that God has for us, includes walking in His authority and power; and often times is actually accessed and realized through walking in authority and power!