

The Believer and Delegated Authority Part 3

(Two perspectives)

Perspective #1

Welcome everyone!

I hope this message finds you well! I wanted to share some thoughts and reflections on the topic of "The Believer and Delegated Authority."

It's been quite the journey for me, and I thought it might resonate with you too.

When I first got married, I wasn't a believer. Life felt overwhelming, and I didn't have the tools—spiritually or otherwise—to handle the challenges that came my way.

Early in our marriage, my wife Cheryl's dad had a heart attack, and shortly after, her mom passed away.

I felt helpless during those times. I didn't know how to protect or support my family in a deeper, spiritual sense.

But then, everything changed. God stepped into my life. He loved me, trained me, and equipped me with spiritual tools—His Word, the Holy Spirit, wisdom, and even the authority to stand firm in faith.

He taught me how to fight battles in the spirit realm and to advance His kingdom.

The place where Cheryl's mom passed away became the very spot where I now study God's Word. It's like a seed was planted in my life during that season of loss, and it began to grow.

That seed has continued to grow over the years. I've faced battles—some tough ones. From my daughter's lawn mower accident to my son's dog bite, my other daughter's zip line injury, and even Cheryl's back surgery, each situation pushed me closer to God.

These events deepened my understanding of prayer, study, and the need to exercise spiritual authority.

They taught me that while not everything is about spiritual authority, it plays a crucial role in our safety and well-being as believers.

Here's the thing: bad things will happen in life. That's just part of living in a broken world.

But instead of letting those moments discourage us, they should fuel our determination to pray more, study more, and stand firm in the authority God has given us.

If we want godly change in our lives, we have to do things God's way.

Understanding delegated authority is just the beginning. Developing it takes time, patience, and faith.

And utilizing it—actually putting it into practice—is where the real growth happens. It reminds me of when I learned to bake bread (yes, I bake wheat bread!).

At first, I understood the **basic ingredients**, tools, recipes. But developing the skill took hands-on practice, trial and error, and learning from mistakes.

Utilizing it meant figuring out who liked it, how to package it, and so on. It's a process.

The same goes for spiritual authority. There will be opposition—doubts, fears, distractions—but determination is key. It's about deciding firmly that this matters and sticking with it no matter what.

Two qualities that help with this are **determination** and **decisiveness**. Think of the **wolverine**—a small but fierce animal that takes on predators twice its size without hesitation.

Or consider **Caleb** from the Bible, who boldly declared that Israel could take possession of the Promised Land despite the challenges.

And then there's **Paul**, who finished his race with faith and determination.

Our determination to grow in understanding and using our delegated authority comes down to how much we value it.

If we see it as essential—if we truly grasp how much power and protection God has entrusted us with—it will drive us to learn more and do more.

So, let's not take this lightly. Let's press forward with determination and faith, knowing that God has equipped us for every battle we face.

Perspective #2

The Believer and Delegated Authority: A Journey of Faith and Growth

Introduction

The concept of delegated authority is a cornerstone in the life of a believer, shaping their ability to navigate the spiritual realm with confidence and purpose.

This journey often begins with personal trials, spiritual awakening, and a deepened understanding of God's power and grace.

For many, this path is marked by challenges that test their faith and determination, ultimately leading to growth in prayer, study, and the exercise of spiritual authority.

This teaching explores the importance of delegated authority in the believer's life and the steps required to understand, develop, and utilize it effectively.

A Seed Planted Through Trials

Life's challenges often serve as the catalyst for spiritual awakening. My own journey began with a series of personal losses and hardships early in my marriage.

I was not a believer at the time, and I felt utterly powerless to protect my family or provide spiritual support during these difficult moments.

The passing of my wife's parents left me feeling helpless, devoid of spiritual weapons or inheritance. Yet, it was in this place of vulnerability that God began His transformative work in my life.

Through His love and guidance, I was trained, equipped, and empowered. God gave me His Word—a sword—and the name above all names, Jesus Christ.

He filled me with the Holy Spirit, granting me wisdom, understanding, and knowledge. Slowly, I learned to wield my delegated authority and engage in spiritual warfare to advance His kingdom.

What began as a seed planted during a time of sorrow grew into a deeper commitment to prayer, study, and exercising authority over darkness.

The Role of Adversity in Strengthening Faith

The trials we face often serve to strengthen our reliance on God and our determination to grow spiritually.

In my own life, several significant events tested my faith and underscored the importance of prayer and spiritual authority:

- My eldest daughter suffered a severe injury when her fingertip was clipped off in a lawn mower accident.
- My son endured a traumatic dog attack that required plastic surgery.
- My youngest daughter experienced a devastating zipline accident that resulted in multiple surgeries.
- My wife underwent major back surgery and endured significant pain during her recovery.

Each of these events deepened my understanding of the power of prayer and the necessity of exercising spiritual authority.

These experiences taught me that while not everything hinges on spiritual authority, it is an essential aspect of a believer's life, especially when it comes to safeguarding loved ones and overcoming adversity.

Understanding Delegated Authority

Delegated authority is a gift from God that allows believers to operate in His power and fulfill His purposes on earth.

However, understanding this concept requires intentional effort and study.

It is not enough to merely acknowledge its existence; believers must actively seek to comprehend its principles through Scripture and prayer.

The Bible provides numerous examples of individuals who operated in delegated authority.

Caleb's unwavering faith in **Numbers 13:30** demonstrates his determination to trust God's promises despite opposition.

Similarly, **Paul's** declaration in **2 Timothy 4:7-8** reflects his steadfast commitment to fulfilling his divine mission.

These examples remind us that understanding delegated authority begins with a firm foundation in God's Word and a willingness to trust His guidance.

Developing Spiritual Authority

Once we understand the concept of delegated authority, the next step is development. This process requires time, patience, faith, and consistent practice.

Just as learning a new skill involves trial and error, developing spiritual authority involves stepping out in faith and applying what we have learned.

For example, I liken this process to learning how to bake bread—a skill I began developing decades ago.

Initially, I understood the basic steps: gathering ingredients, using tools, and following a recipe. However, true mastery came through hands-on experience, trial and error, and learning from mistakes.

Similarly, developing spiritual authority requires believers to engage actively with their faith, seek God's guidance, and remain persistent even when faced with challenges.

Utilizing Delegated Authority

Understanding and developing spiritual authority are crucial, but they must ultimately lead to utilization.

To truly make an impact, believers must actively apply their authority in their daily lives.

This involves discerning when and how to use it, as well as recognizing opportunities to advance God's kingdom.

Utilizing delegated authority requires humility—a willingness to rely on God rather than our own strength.

James 4:6 reminds us that “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” By humbling ourselves before the Lord (**James 4:10**), we position ourselves to be exalted by Him and equipped for His work.

Recognizing that opposition will arise, we must remain steadfast in our determination to overcome obstacles and fulfill our calling.

The Importance of Determination

Determination is a key quality that enables believers to persevere in their journey of faith.

As evidenced by **Caleb's** bold declaration in **Numbers 13:30**—“Let us go up at once and occupy it; for we are well able to overcome it”—determination stems from a deep conviction in God's promises.

Similarly, **Paul's** words in **2 Timothy 4:7-8** reflect his unwavering resolve to finish the race and keep the faith.

Our determination to understand, develop, and utilize delegated authority is directly proportional to the value we place on it.

If we view this subject as essential to our spiritual growth and safety, we will prioritize it in our lives. Conversely, if we take it lightly, we risk neglecting a vital aspect of our faith.

Practical Steps for Growth

To grow in our understanding and application of delegated authority, we must adopt a proactive approach:

- 1. Commit to Prayer and Study:** Regularly engage with God's Word and seek His guidance through prayer. This will deepen your understanding of His promises and equip you with the knowledge needed to exercise authority effectively.
- 2. Cultivate Humility:** Acknowledge your dependence on God and resist the temptation to rely on your own strength. Humility positions you to receive His grace and wisdom.
- 3. Embrace Determination:** Recognize the importance of delegated authority and commit to developing it despite challenges. Let your determination be fueled by your desire for godly change in your life.
- 4. Learn from Examples:** Study biblical figures like **Caleb** and **Paul** who demonstrated unwavering faith and determination. Their testimonies can inspire you to persevere in your own journey.
- 5. Take Action:** Actively apply what you have learned by engaging in prayer, standing against darkness, and advancing God's kingdom in your sphere of influence.

Conclusion

Delegated authority is an essential part of the believer's life—a gift from God that empowers us to navigate the spiritual realm with confidence and purpose.

Understanding, developing, and utilizing this authority requires intentional effort, humility, and determination.

Through prayer, study, and reliance on God's guidance, we can grow in our ability to exercise this authority effectively.

As we face challenges and adversities in life, let us remember that these moments are opportunities for growth.

By placing value on delegated authority and committing ourselves to its development, we can fulfill our divine calling and advance God's kingdom on earth.

Let us move forward with **courage, determination, and faith**, trusting that God will equip us for every good work He has prepared for us.

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