



Stewarding Authority: A Study on Men and Power



Explore how men can steward authority well, resisting the temptation to abuse or idolize power through biblical insights and reflection.

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Introduction

Men and the Temptation of Power

Throughout history, the role of men as leaders, providers, and protectors has often been intertwined with authority and power. Yet, with authority comes the challenge of wielding it wisely and humbly. The Bible provides deep insights into how men can steward power without falling into the traps of pride, abuse, or idolatry. This 7-day study invites you to explore Scripture that addresses the temptation of power and to reflect on biblical examples of men who succeeded or failed under its influence.

Why focus on this? Power in itself is not inherently evil, but it becomes dangerous when it shifts a man's heart away from God and towards self. As we dive into this study, we'll observe how true strength is found in servanthood, humility, and reliance on God. The Bible shows that God calls men to lead with integrity and love, guarding their hearts against arrogance and selfish ambition.

Each day's devotional will guide you to understand Scripture's teaching on authority, provide practical encouragement, and challenge you to reflect deeply about your own areas of influence. Whether in family, church, workplace, or community, this study invites you to steward your God-given roles faithfully and as a reflection of God's righteous kingdom.



Embrace this journey with an open heart, eager to learn how to resist the temptation of power and to lead as God intends — with humility, justice, and love. Let's begin!





Day 1: Power and Responsibility



Day 1: 📖 Power and Responsibility

Your Verse

Luke 12:48 - "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked."

Supporting Scriptures

- *James 3:1 - "Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly."*
- *1 Peter 4:10 - "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."*



Day 1: 📖 Power and Responsibility

Devotional: Power Demands Faithful Stewardship

Power carries with it great responsibility. Luke 12:48 reminds us that those entrusted with much—whether gifts, authority, or influence—will face greater accountability. For men, this means the roles and authority given come with a high calling to act justly and serve humbly.

Temptation often creeps when power is mistaken for personal privilege rather than sacred trust. Many men struggle when they forget that authority is a stewardship from God, not a license for self-exaltation. The accountability is sobering: how we lead, influence, and serve matters deeply before God.

James warns that leaders face stricter judgment, underscoring the gravity of teaching, guiding, and overseeing others. But it's not about fear; it's about faithfulness—using our influence wisely as 1 Peter reminds us.

So, consider the power or authority in your life. Have you viewed it as a burden or a blessing? Are you stewarding it with care and humility? Remember, your leadership reflects God's grace and should point others to His love and righteousness, not to yourself.



Day 1: 📖 Power and Responsibility

Reflect and Apply

1. How do you currently view the power or authority you hold?

2. Do you feel the weight of responsibility that comes with your influence?

3. In what ways can you improve your stewardship of authority to honor God?



Day 1: 📖 Power and Responsibility

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time when you had to make a difficult decision as a leader. How did you handle the responsibility?

2. Identify the areas in your life where you hold authority. How might God be calling you to steward them differently?

3. Reflect on any temptations you've experienced related to power. How did you respond, and what could you change?



Day 1: 🏛️ Power and Responsibility

Prayer for Today

Lord, today I recognize that with the authority You've given me comes great responsibility. Help me to steward my power wisely and humbly, not for selfish gain but to serve others and glorify You. Keep my heart sensitive to Your guidance and my feet steady in integrity. Teach me to lead as You would, with love and justice, and protect me from pride or misuse of the trust You have placed in me. *May my influence reflect Your grace and truth.* Amen. 🙏





Day 2: Humility Over Pride



Day 2:  Humility Over Pride

Your Verse

Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Philippians 2:3 - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."*
- *Micah 6:8 - "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."*



Day 2:  Humility Over Pride

Devotional: Choosing Humility to Guard Your Heart

One of the greatest pitfalls for men in power is pride. Proverbs starkly warns that pride leads to destruction. This is not merely a caution but a reality seen throughout Scripture and history. When a man elevates himself above others or above God, his fall is near.

Humility is the antidote to pride's poison. Philippians teaches us to put others first, to lead not by asserting dominance but through selfless service. Micah further reminds us that walking humbly with God is the foundation for a righteous life.

Choosing humility over pride does not diminish a man's strength; instead, it aligns him with God's kingdom and purpose. Humble leaders inspire trust, foster unity, and reflect Christ's heart. This day invites you to examine your heart for pride disguised as power and to ask God for a humble spirit that seeks to serve rather than to be served.



Reflect and Apply

1. Are there areas in your life where pride influences your decisions or actions?

2. How can adopting humility change the way you exercise authority?

3. What practical steps can you take to value others above yourself in leadership?



Day 2:  Humility Over Pride

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a situation where humility helped you or someone else avoid a mistake related to pride.

2. Consider the people you lead or influence. How can you show greater respect and value toward them?

3. List ways you can cultivate humility daily in your personal and spiritual life.



Day 2: 🛡️ Humility Over Pride

Prayer for Today

Father, I ask You to humble my heart today. Remove any pride or selfishness that may cloud my judgment or leadership. Teach me to value others above myself and to walk closely with You in humility. May my actions reflect Your mercy and justice, drawing others to Your love. Keep me grounded in Your truth and free from the danger of arrogance. *Help me to lead as Christ did—with a servant's heart.* Amen. 🙏💙🛡️





Day 3: 🔥 The Danger of Idolatry



Day 3: 🔥 The Danger of Idolatry

Your Verse

Exodus 20:3 - "You shall have no other gods before me."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Matthew 6:24 - "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other."*
- *Psalms 62:10 - "Do not trust in oppression or put vain hope in stolen goods; though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them."*



Day 3: 🔥 The Danger of Idolatry

Devotional: Guard Against Idolizing Power

Power, influence, and success can easily become idols. God's very first commandment reminds us that no one and nothing should take His place in our hearts. For men, the temptation is real to idolize power—letting it define identity, worth, and purpose.

Jesus made clear the impossibility of serving two masters. When power or status becomes our god, our loyalty to God is divided. This slips into idolatry, leading to spiritual ruin and distorted leadership.

Psalm 62 warns about trusting in oppression or wealth, highlighting how easy it is to set our hearts on what is temporary. This day challenges you to examine what you most value and warns against letting authority or success steal your devotion from God.

When we place God first, power is rightly placed as a tool to serve His kingdom and His people, not a means for self-glorification.



Reflect and Apply

1. Is there anything in your life competing with God for your devotion?

2. How might power or success be tempting you to idolize them?

3. What practical actions can help you keep God first in your heart?



Day 3: 🔥 The Danger of Idolatry

Journaling Prompts

1. Reflect on moments when you felt tempted to put something ahead of God. What was it and how did you respond?

2. Write about the ways you can remind yourself daily to keep God first in your life.

3. Consider your current commitments: are they drawing you closer to God or pulling your focus elsewhere?



Day 3: 🔥 The Danger of Idolatry

Prayer for Today

Lord, help me to keep You above all else. Protect my heart from idolizing power, success, or influence. Align my desires with Your will so I serve You faithfully above all things. Teach me to love You supremely and to use whatever authority I have for Your glory alone. *May I never lose sight of Your sovereignty in my life.* Amen. 🙏🔥👑





Day 4: 🕊️ Servant Leadership



Your Verse

Mark 10:45 - "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Supporting Scriptures

- *John 13:14-15 - "Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you."*
- *Philippians 2:5-7 - "In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus... he took the very nature of a servant."*



Day 4: 🕊️ Servant Leadership

Devotional: Leading with a Servant's Heart

True leadership is modeled perfectly by Jesus — servant leadership. Mark reveals that Christ came not to be served but to serve, giving His life for others. This radical model flips worldly ideas of power upside down.

Jesus exemplified humility and self-sacrifice. John recounts Jesus washing His disciples' feet—a task reserved for servants—teaching that leaders are called to serve others in love and humility.

Paul encourages believers to adopt Christ's mindset, embodying servanthood in relationships with others. For men in positions of authority, embracing servant leadership means putting the needs, growth, and wellbeing of those led above personal ambition.

This invites us to reflect: how can I lead as Jesus did? Are my actions motivated by service, or selfish gain? The way of the servant is the way to true power in God's kingdom.



Reflect and Apply

1. How does Jesus' example of servant leadership challenge your view of authority?

2. What are ways you can demonstrate humble service to those you lead?

3. Are there places where pride hinders your ability to serve others fully?



Journaling Prompts

1. Recall a leader who exemplified servant leadership. What qualities stood out?

2. Write about how you can serve those around you this week.

3. Identify any obstacles you face in leading with humility and seek God's guidance to overcome them.



Day 4: 🕊️ Servant Leadership

Prayer for Today

Jesus, teach me to lead as You lead. Give me a servant's heart that values others above self and desires to serve, not be served. Help me reflect Your humility and love in all my relationships and responsibilities. May my leadership point others to Your grace and truth. *Use me as Your servant, Lord, in all I do.* Amen. 🙏🕊️❤️





Day 5: ✂️ Resisting Abuse of Authority



Day 5: 🦋 Resisting Abuse of Authority

Your Verse

Ephesians 6:9 - "And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Colossians 4:1 - "Masters, provide your slaves with what is right and fair, because you know that you also have a Master in heaven."*
- *2 Timothy 2:24-25 - "The Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone... correcting his opponents with gentleness."*



Day 5: 🦋 Resisting Abuse of Authority

Devotional: Leading Justly Without Abuse

Authority given to men must never become a tool for abuse or oppression. Paul instructs earthly masters to treat those under their authority with fairness and respect, reminding them ultimately they serve a higher Master in heaven. This sets a divine standard for how power must be exercised.

Temptation to misuse authority can be subtle but dangerous. It may manifest in intimidation, favoritism, harshness, or neglect. The Scriptures warn leaders to be kind, gentle, and just, reflecting God's character.

Men called to lead bear a responsibility not only to act justly but to protect those they serve from harm or injustice. Reflecting on these teachings, ask yourself: am I guarding against abusing my authority in word or deed? How am I ensuring fairness and kindness in my leadership?

True stewardship means leadership is exercised under God's watchful eye with humility and grace.



Reflect and Apply

1. Are there ways you might unintentionally abuse authority? How can you address them?

2. How do you ensure fairness and kindness in your role as a leader?

3. What does it mean to you that we ultimately answer to God about how we lead?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time when you witnessed unfair treatment by a leader. How did it affect others?

2. Reflect on how you can cultivate a leadership style based on kindness and justice.

3. List steps you can take to hold yourself accountable in the exercise of your authority.



Day 5: 🦋 Resisting Abuse of Authority

Prayer for Today

God, guard my heart against abusing the authority You've given me. Help me to lead justly, treating those entrusted to my care with kindness, fairness, and respect. Remind me daily that I answer ultimately to You, the true Master. Empower me to reflect Your character as I serve. *Keep me humble and gentle in my leadership.* Amen. 🙏 🦋 🤝





Day 6: The Heart of a Godly Man



Day 6: 🌿 The Heart of a Godly Man

Your Verse

1 Samuel 16:7 - "But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.'"

Supporting Scriptures

- *Psalm 78:72 - "And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them."*
- *Micah 7:8 - "Do not gloat over me, my enemy! Though I have fallen, I will rise. Though I sit in darkness, the LORD will be my light."*



Day 6: 🌿 The Heart of a Godly Man

Devotional: Focusing on the Heart, Not Appearance

God values the heart over outward appearances or titles. Samuel learned that God looks beyond external factors to the heart's condition. For men, developing a heart aligned with God is the foundation for godly leadership and stewardship of power.

David is a prime example—he led with integrity and skill, despite personal flaws. His heart for God enabled him to shepherd his people effectively, trusting God even through dark seasons.

This day invites you to reflect on your heart's posture. Are you cultivating integrity, humility, courage, and dependence on God? Power and position mean little if the heart is misaligned.

Ask God to search your heart, transform it, and make it strong yet tender, ready to lead and serve as He desires.



Day 6: 🌿 The Heart of a Godly Man

Reflect and Apply

1. What does it mean for God to look at your heart in your role as a man and leader?

2. How can you cultivate integrity and humility in your heart daily?

3. In what ways does God’s light guide you through difficult seasons of leadership?



Day 6:  The Heart of a Godly Man

Journaling Prompts

1. Reflect on qualities of a godly heart you see in biblical leaders. How can you embody these traits?

2. Write about a challenge that tested your integrity. How did your heart respond?

3. Seek God's guidance in identifying any heart issues that need healing or strengthening.



Day 6: 🌿 The Heart of a Godly Man

Prayer for Today

Lord, I pray that You would examine my heart today. Help me align my desires, attitudes, and actions with Your will. Teach me integrity, courage, and humility as I lead and serve. May my heart be soft to Your guidance and strong in faith, reflecting Your light in all things. *Shape me into the godly man You created me to be.* Amen. 🙏🌿❤️





Day 7: 🏆 Leading by God's Strength



Day 7: 🏆 Leading by God's Strength

Your Verse

Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Isaiah 40:29 - "He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak."*
- *2 Corinthians 12:9 - "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses..."*



Day 7: 🏆 Leading by God's Strength

Devotional: Empowered by God's Strength Alone

Ultimately, a man's ability to steward authority well depends on God's strength, not his own. Paul declares that he can do all things through Christ who empowers him. This truth is foundational for resisting the temptation to rely on self-power or human wisdom.

Isaiah assures that God renews the strength of the weary; strength and power come from Him. Paul further reveals that God's grace suffices in our weakness, transforming vulnerabilities into testimony.

This final day calls you to depend on God wholeheartedly. No matter how much authority or power you hold, true leadership flows from God's sustaining strength.

Commit your leadership and influence into His hands. Trust that as you rely on His power and grace, you will be equipped to serve, lead, and honor Him well.



Reflect and Apply

1. How do you rely on God's strength in your leadership today?

2. What areas of weakness can you surrender to God for His power to be made perfect?

3. How does trusting God affect your view and use of authority?



Day 7: 🏆 Leading by God's Strength

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about times you felt weak but experienced God's strength sustaining you.

2. Reflect on the ways you can daily invite God's empowerment in your leadership.

3. Pray and journal a commitment to depend fully on God's grace and strength moving forward.



Day 7: 🏆 Leading by God's Strength

Prayer for Today

Father, I acknowledge my weakness and surrender my leadership to You. Empower me with Your strength to steward authority well and serve faithfully. Fill me with Your grace that I might lead with humility and courage. May Your power be evident in my life, glorifying You in all I do. *I trust in You alone to equip and sustain me.* Amen. 🙏🏆💪

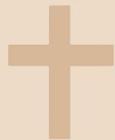




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