

**I. ME**

- A. Welcome/Online/ So what about...

**II. WE**

- A. Abuse of power/authority is one of the most enraging things.
- B. Worst Type of Boss v. Best type of Boss
- C. Politicians

**D. A title doesn't entitle you to anything.**

- E. Learned this when I thought I wouldn't have to do early morning Elders' meetings...

**F. In God's Kingdom... Authority gives you the power to serve.**

- G. Nobody knew this better than David...

**III. GOD (2 Sam 5:1-3)**

**A. Background**

1. David (15) anointed next king
2. Waits and serves current king Saul
3. Kills Goliath- becomes hero of nation.
4. Saul gets jealous... begins years of trying to kill him
5. David becomes first Robin Hood... protecting the common people while the king tries to kill him.
6. Refuses to kill Saul
7. Saul is killed in battle with the Philistines.
8. David kills the doer and mourns.

9. His own tribe -Judah- makes him their king... now is the time!

10. No one else follows... Saul's military commander (Abner) makes Saul's son, Ish-Bosheth, king of the rest of other 11 tribes of Israel.

11. Begins a tribal civil war.

12. Abner gets mad at Ish-Bosheth defects to David... gets killed by Joab (b/c Abner killed Joab's brother)... great stuff.

13. Finally two of Ish-Bosheth's men betray him...

14. I'll read the rest for you... **2 Sam. 4:7-12**

15. There are now no challengers left to David's rule.

- a. He has all the cards... military might/people/loyalty/feared by philistines.
- b. No such thing as abuse of power/authority.
- c. His word is law. Life and Death

**B. 2 Sam 5:1a** (... to David at Hebron)

1. Every leader who sided with Ish-Bosheth is coming to grovel
2. It's been 15 years since he was anointed the next king...
3. He's spent that whole time fighting the enemies of Israel/ trying to stay alive while the king hunted him, and these are the people who refused to help him, and tried to have a different king.
4. So they come to suck up...

### C. V. 1

1. "Look we're Israelites too... we're all brothers man."

### D. V. 2

1. "You were the one who protected us."
2. "God said you'd be our king."
3. Appeals to the Shepherd heart.
4. "David, you have all the power. You are obviously the one who is supposed to be king. We are completely at your mercy. Please have total rule over us!"

### E. What would you/I do?

1. You're going to pay. Kill the leaders.
2. You owe me. What are you going to do to make up for all of this?
3. What's the salary?
4. **What you do with authority reveals who you really are.**
5. What David does next is unprecedented and is one of the reasons he has gone down in history as Israel's greatest king.

### F. **V. 3a** (...at Hebron)

1. Made a covenant... a promise
2. You do this and I will do this.
3. HE didn't have to promise them anything!
4. He has total authority. They rejected him and supported the people who were trying to kill him.
5. He has the authority to do whatever he wants... and he uses it to serve them.
6. "As your king... here is what I will do FOR you."
7. When David finally had the authority he was waiting for... he used it to serve those under him.
8. Completely abnormal to every other example from the ancient world.
9. Why did he do it?

### G. V. 3

1. "Before the LORD"
2. He cared more about God's Kingdom than his own.
  - a. And he knew in God's Kingdom Authority gives you the power to serve.
3. David knew that even a king is under the authority of God.
4. He knew the source of his power... the one who had promised it and orchestrated all of the events that led up to this moment.
5. **It takes courage to serve when you should be served.**
  - a. What if they see me as weak?
  - b. What if they take advantage?
  - c. What if I do more than my fair share?
6. David had the courage to trust all of that to the God who gave him the title and authority in the first place.

### **7. If it's in God's hands you don't have to hang on to it.**

### H. Sum it up

1. David proved he was the rightful king, God's chosen authority by how he served when he was finally given the crown.
2. He didn't use his title, power, or authority to get revenge or make himself look great... he used it to serve and it made him great.

#### IV. YOU

##### A. Story of another King

1. John 13:12-17

2. You are never more like Jesus than when you are serving those under your authority.

##### B. That's great Jon. But I don't have any authority.

1. You might not have a title... but **you have influence.**

- a. Kids
- b. Friends/Neighbors
- c. Colleagues
- d. Family/In-laws

2. If you have breath... you have influence

- a. That influence has been given to you by God on purpose for a purpose.
- b. What are you going to do with it?
- c. Will you use it to get what you want or will you use it to serve?
  - 1) I'm the parent so what I want goes OR I'm the parent so it's my responsibility to put your needs above my wants.
  - 2) I have my life together so I shouldn't have to deal with your drama OR I have my life together so I can help carry some of your load.

**C. The more you use your influence to get... the less influence you will have.**

**D. The more you use your influence to give... the more influence you will have.**

##### E. With whom do you have influence?

1. Who has God put in your sphere of influence?
2. Do you trust God enough to serve them even if they should be serving you?

##### F. How can you serve them?

1. Use what you have been given for the benefit of those you have been given.

##### G. In God's Kingdom... Authority gives you the power to serve.

1. Regular Organizational Chart

2. Jesus' Kingdom Organizational Chart

#### V. WE

A. What if every boss saw their title/authority as a commission to serve those under them.

B. What if every teacher in your kids school saw their authority as an opportunity to nurture and serve the needs of their kids?

C. What if every parent in your neighborhood put their kids needs above their wants and used their influence to lovingly raise their kids?

D. What kind of influence do you think you would have with your boss or colleagues or even spouse if they knew that your goal was to use whatever authority you had to make their life better?

E. If Jesus-Followers really put this into practice people might think we're weird for believing God died and rose again... but they'd be breaking down the doors to work for them, to have their kids in their classes, to live next-door to them.

F. Let's be for our neighbors and our families. Let's be for Salem.

**H. Defy the ordinary- Serve with authority.**