

Under Authority

Part I: Conceptualization of Authority

I. Overview of Authority

A. Definitions

1. Authority: Someone who is in command and has the ability to enforce. Comes from the Latin word _____ indicating that authority originates from a master, leader, or author.
2. Leadership: Is _____. The ability to influence someone or group of people to accomplish a goal or task.
3. Power: Influence in _____. Having someone or people accomplish a task.
 - a. Expert Power: the ability to influence others through relative _____ or _____ in a particular area(s).
 - b. Referent Power: the ability to influence due to the strength of the _____ between the leader and the follower(s).
 - c. Legitimate Power: derived from a person's organizational role or formal/official _____.
 - d. Reward Power: ability to influence others due to the control over desired resources.
 - e. Coercive Power: ability to influence others through _____ actions or _____ of something positive.

B. Jesus On Authority

1. What do you think amazed Jesus when the centurion told Him that he understood authority according to Matthew 8:5-13?

2. What authority did Jesus say He had in Mark 2:9-11?

3. How much authority was Jesus given according to Matthew 28:17-19?

4. What authority did the Father grant Jesus according to John 5:26-27?

5. What right and authority did Jesus said He had for His own life according to John 10:17-18?

6. What authority did the Father grant Jesus so that the Father may grant eternal life to all given to Jesus according to John 17:1-3?

C. Misuse of Authority

1. What examples have you seen of misused or abused authority?

2. What examples have you seen of dysfunctional organizations?

II. Spheres of Authority

A. Submission to the Government Authority

1. Who instituted the governing authorities according to Romans 13:1-3 and what will happen to those who resist them?

2. What must you do in order to be free from fear of the one in authority?

3. Who delegates their authority for society to function? _____

4. The purpose of the government is to _____ people.

5. When do you see abuse? _____

B. Church Authority

1. Who is the ultimate leader of the Church based on Ephesians 1:20-22?

2. Who are some of the different leaders of a church according to Ephesians 4:11?

3. When does church authority become unhealthy?

4. What is the purpose of church authority based on 2 Corinthians 10:7-9 and 2 Corinthians 13:9-11?

C. Family Authority

1. Who is the head of the family according to 1 Corinthians 11:3-4?

2. Why do family members walk away?

III. Use of Authority

A. Servant Based

1. What must a person do in God's kingdom if they want to be a great leader among his/her people according to Mark 10:35-43?

B. Spiritual Authority

1. What kind of authority did Jesus give His disciples according to Luke 9:1-3?

C. Surrendering to the Wrong Authority

1. What kind of authority do people or Christians give up that Jesus tells them they have according to Luke 10:18-20?
