

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BEING IN POWER

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2nd kings 4:1-7

Lend, help, give, assist, perform, aid, loan and counsel are the burdens people in power are forced to carry. The thought of being powerful is inspiring. The vision of being powerful is liberating. However, the **REALITY** of being powerful can be draining.

Most people do not realize the responsibility a person carries when they are in a powerful position. When people see other individuals in powerful positions they admire the control they have. They marvel at their salary. They envy their influence.

They are amazed at their status. However, they do not consider the responsibility they have to God and to the people who are under them. With every blessing there is a burden. The bigger the blessing, greater the burden.

A burden is a heavy oppressive load. Anything that is oppressive can be troubling, discomforting, grievous or intense. A powerful person carries the weight of discomfort on their shoulders on a **DAILY** basis.

HERE'S WHAT I MEAN

- The owner of a business goes through the discomfort of trying to grow and stabilize his business in the midst of an uncertain market.
- The president of the United State of America endures the discomfort of being in the spotlight continuously because of his stature.
- The star of a professional basketball team endures the discomfort of taking the blame when the team loses because of his talent.

After analyzing these examples, a commonality is being shared. When you are a powerful person your greatest responsibility is to **SERVE!** Serving is a daunting task. It is emotionally draining, physically exhausting and mentally tiring.

When you are always serving you are always **GIVING**. The act of giving is a blessing from God. However, it is also a burden to carry. When you are mandated to give most of the time it is **VERY RARE** to find people who will give to you.

Anyone who has been blessed to be in a position of power can testify to this. When you are in a position of power you will **ALWAYS** give more than you will receive. Powerful people give more help than they receive.

Powerful people lend more resources than they receive. Powerful people give more wise counsel than they receive. Powerful people loan more money than they receive.

2nd kings 4:1-7 says, *“The wife of a man from the groups of prophets said to Elisha, “Your servant, my husband is dead. You know he honored the Lord. But now the man he owes money to is coming to take my two boys as his slaves!” Elisha answered, “How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?”*

The woman said, “I don’t have anything there except a pot of oil.” Then Elisha said, “Go and get empty jars from all your neighbors. Don’t ask for just a few. Then go into your house

and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and set the full one aside.”

So she left Elisha and shut the door behind her and her sons. As they brought the jars to her, she poured out the oil. When the jars were all full, she said to her son, “Bring me another jar.” Then the oil stopped flowing. She went and told Elisha. And the prophet said to her, “Go, sell the oil and pay what you owe. You and your sons can live on what is left.”

Elisha, being a powerful man of God, helped the woman who had less. He did **NOT** volunteer his services. He was sought out. This woman could not give Elijah what he gave her. She could not give him equal compensation for his abilities. He had to give more than he received.

Even though the burden of being powerful is great. The blessing is **GREATER**. The blessing does not come from men. It comes from God. When you give to people who cannot give you equal or more to what you gave them God will give unto you what is greater than what you gave.

Luke 6:38 says, *“Give, and you will receive. You will be given much. Pressed down, shaken together, and running over, it will spill into your lap. The way you give to others is the way God will give to you.”*

Is the responsibility of being powerful great? Yes it is. However, is the blessing greater? Yes it is. Do not get discouraged when people are not giving you what you gave them.

Do not get frustrated when you are giving more than you are receiving. If you stay faithful, God will give you more than you gave. What you did for men will not compare to what God will do for you.

**PEOPLE STAY IN POWER BECAUSE THEY WILL
ALWAYS GET BACK MORE FROM GOD THAN
THEY GAVE TO MEN.**

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