

1 ☐ Emulating the Authority of Christ

Phil. 2:1-8; Misc. Scriptures

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"We must deem Christ the perfect man to follow/emulate."

--Stuart Scott,

Author of *The Exemplary Husband*

4 ☐ I. The Christ-Like Use of Authority

5 ☐ A. A Man is Responsible to Christ

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1 Corinthians 11:3 (NLT)

But there is one thing I want you to know: A man is responsible to Christ, a woman is responsible to her husband, and Christ is responsible to God.

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1 Corinthians 11:3 (NASB)

But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ.

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We are accountable to Christ as to how we use His delegated authority.

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B. The Use of Authority is the Ability to Influence Others:

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• *When you use your delegated authority or influence, who do people think of?*

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Purposes of a man's authority

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- To help others see how God leads His people.
- To develop humility and obedience in all those concerned.
- To guide the family in righteousness.
- To give a sense of order and stability in the home.
- To provide what is needed for the family.
- To protect the family.
- To accomplish ministry for God more effectively.
- To help the family be a good witness to the world.

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Dr. Stuart Scott, *The Exemplary Husband*

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C. Whoever wishes to be great...

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Matthew 20:26-28 (NASB)

"It is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

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"The Gentile leaders dominate in dictatorial fashion, using carnal power and authority. Believers are to do the opposite—they lead by being servants and giving themselves away for others..."

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II. The Application of Authority

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A. Have this attitude...

(Phil. 2:1-8)

If we want to emulate Christ the axe must be laid to the root of pride in application.

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- *The application of authority means to regard others as more important...*

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- *“Husbands are nowhere directed in Scripture to force or manipulate their wives (or any one else for that matter) to be in submission to them through intimidation, threats and harsh treatment.”
–Pastor Ted Groves, Men’s Retreat 2006*

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- *“A man who does not take particular and tender care of his wife, and who then expects her to be fruitful and lovely, is not being a true husband at all; he is a dolt-the Greek word for this is probably meathead. A man must love his wife sacrificially and he must not expect anything but weeds unless he tends the garden with extraordinary care.”
–Pastor Doug Wilson, *Reforming Marriage**

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A man must be obedient to his Father’s will.

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Positively, love is patient with people and gracious to them with generosity. Negatively, love never envies, or brags, or is arrogant, since that is the opposite of selfless service to others. Never rude or overbearing, love never wants its own way, is not irritated or angered in personal offense, and finds no pleasure in someone else’s sin, even the sin of an enemy. On the positive side again, love is devoted to truth in everything. With regard to “all things” within God’s righteous and gracious will, love protects, believes, hopes, and endures what others reject.

--MacArthur Study Bible--

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There is nothing wimpy nor particularly feminine about love in action. Love in action is the expectations God has for His warriors.

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C. Be Imitators of God.

Ephesians 5:1-2 (NASB)

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

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“But in our own finite way we can and must imitate him; that is, we must copy his love.”

--Hendriksen-Kistemaker--

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Rottenest Apple Ever!

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“... if someone came into your home, what would they smell? Would they smell the excellent aroma of love being practiced and modeled or would it smell like something crawled under the refrigerator and died!

--Wilson--

25  **III. Emulating the Good Shepherd**

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- **Some men dwell on their authority too much. Authority is something that you exercise when you have to. I've heard it said that our perspective should not be that we love to rule, but that we rule to love.” --Dr. Stuart Scott, The Exemplary Husband**

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- **A flock of sheep, gentle and harmless, feeding in verdant pastures, under the care of a skillful, watchful, and tender shepherd, forms an emblem of believers brought back to the Shepherd of their souls. The greatest abundance is but a dry pasture to a wicked man, who relishes in it only what pleases the senses; but to a godly man, who by faith tastes the goodness of God in all his enjoyments, though he has but little of the world, it is a green pasture. --Matthew Henry, Puritan Pastor**