



FGA Singapore
A two-part sermon series.

Following

The Outlier's Path to Influencing or How to increase your influence when you are not the most powerful person in the room.

#inspo #jesus #christianliving #followme #bible #heroes #spiritfilled #word #repost
#Godislove #testify #lifegoals #comeasyouare #foreverchanged #handsandfeet
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THE OUTLIER'S PATH TO INFLUENCING PART TWO INTRODUCTION

In Part 1 of the series, we looked at how seeking God's answers before our own positions us to be God's influencers. This week, we explore the premise of submission, and how it positions us for God's greater overarching strategy. When Potiphar's wife tempted Joseph, Joseph responded by saying, "How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God? (Genesis 39:9)" showing his complete submission to both God and his earthly master.

When it comes to honouring the authority that God has placed over us, we honour God by honouring our earthly authority, because behind every earthly authority is God's authority. Once we understand the principle of submission, God begins to work in our life, positioning us to partner Him in His redemptive plan and strengthening the core of our character.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Recall a time when you did not feel like honouring your earthly authority. How did you respond at the time and what would you have done differently?
2. In situations where you *are* the main authority, what has your experience been? Did you place yourself as the most important person in your environment instead of God? Reflect on how you can submit to God even when you are the earthly authority.
3. Why do you think we struggle so much with submission? List a few personal reasons that are applicable to you and your situation.
4. Read Genesis 39:1-10.

Do an inductive bible study (observations, interpretation and application). You can use the following as a guide.

- i. Posture your heart. Spend some time in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to be your teacher. Open your heart to the Lord to speak to you.

- ii. Read the passage aloud
 - iii. Ask some context questions of the passage:
 - What sort of writing is this? (a letter, a poem, a narrative etc?)
 - Are there any clues about the circumstances under which it was written?
 - What has happened so far in this particular book of the Bible?
 - iv. Some observation questions of the passage:
 - Are there any major sub-sections or breaks in the passage?
 - What is the main point or points?
 - What surprises are there?
 - What are the key words? What words or ideas are repeated?
 - v. Some meaning questions of the text:
 - How does this passage relate to other parts of the book?
 - How does the passage relate to Jesus?
 - What does this teach us about God?
 - How could we sum up the meaning of this passage in our own words?
 - vi. Some application questions of the passage:
 - How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?
 - Is there some attitude I need to change?
 - How does this passage call on me to change the way I live?
5. In light of the main point of this sermon, determine to make a conscious effort this week to honour God by honouring and submitting to your earthly authority. What are some steps you could take to put this into action? Share with your group and agree to hold each other accountable as you work on submission together.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Submission was the path that biblical figures such as David, Joseph and Esther took, and it ended up leading to outcomes they could never have orchestrated if they had not chosen to honour their earthly authorities. In this same manner, if we learn to let go and choose to honour those whom God has placed above us, this positioning of our hearts will in turn position us for His greater works. Instead of choosing to be insubordinate and gossip about those over us, even if they are in the wrong, let us decide to take the narrow road and serve, speak well of and support them, thus honouring God as well.

CHANGE YOUR MIND

Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discerning and wise as you are. You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command. Only as regards the throne will I be greater than you." (Genesis 41:39-40)