



# I GIVE YOU AUTHORITY

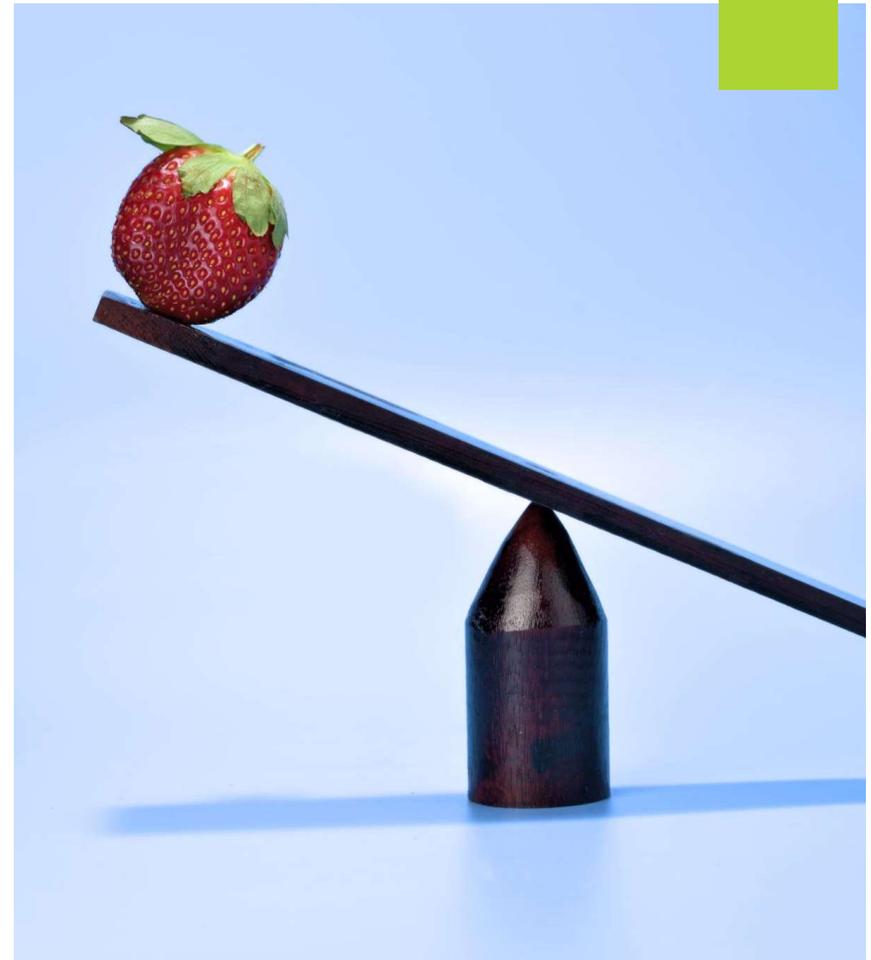
WEEK 1 – CHAPTERS 1 & 2

BASED ON DR. KRAFT'S BOOK, I GIVE YOU AUTHORITY

## And what is the Fruit (that's singular) from Galatians 5?

Galatians 5: 22-23 - The Living  
Bible (TLB)

“<sup>22</sup>But when the Holy Spirit  
controls our lives he will produce  
this kind of fruit in us: love, joy,  
peace, patience, kindness,  
goodness,  
faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness and  
self-control; and here there is no  
conflict with Jewish laws.”



## Galatians 13 – 15 (The Message)

“Paul: It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows. For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That's an act of true freedom. If you bite and ravage each other, watch out - in no time you will be annihilating each other and where will your precious freedom be then?”



# How Did Jesus Use His Authority?

- ▶ Jesus used His authority and power wrapped in love. He wants His power to be used for the sake of the powerless. The orphans .... the widows .... the poor .... the oppressed.
  - Often the same person might fit all 4 categories!
- ▶ No power on demand. No using it to prove Himself to skeptics.
- ▶ But, oh! How He used it for the hurting, the sick, the demonically oppressed. He was full of compassion and showed God's love by healing and setting captives free.

# We'd Better Do the Same as Jesus!



We must demonstrate the character of Jesus in the way we use authority.



If it is not loving, it is not Jesus.



We are to exercise authority in humility.



We are to exercise this delegated authority with the same kind of security as Jesus.



We know who we are, who God is and what the source of the authority is.



That should set us free from the spirit of control, demand, abuse!

# Truly Ordained Authority . . .

. . . always emanates from service!

- ▶ That upside-down Kingdom where leadership is found in becoming the servant of all. We are talking about voluntary submission - a cross-life.
- ▶ Mark 10:45 - He did not come to be served but came to serve and to give his life to redeem many people.
- ▶ This is maturity. The Gentle Protector. The elder in the community concerned about the wellbeing of all - and willing to sacrifice to see others walk in freedom!

# Is there a guideline about when and where we exercise authority?

- ▶ It seems Jesus healed anywhere and everywhere. Mostly out of the temple.
- ▶ Mostly people came to Him in need. His reputation preceded Him. People heard that He had power and they came looking for Him to make them whole - to “sozo” them.
- ▶ If He is our model, then we should be ready to minister in power and authority at any time, at any place and to anyone. Most people, even in the church, are not given the opportunity to receive prayer, and are not in the habit of asking for it.
- ▶ What a gift and privilege to pray for someone! If people hear about a healing and know you pray, they'll come!
- ▶ Remember - it is up to God to bring results!

# Kinds of Authority

- ▶ Status authority - head of family, church, state, teacher; Often the world grants authority to people of wealth, prominence, schooling, "idol status".
- ▶ Authority over creation - we all have some of that.
- ▶ God-ordained and God-sustained authority - or personal intimacy authority. Directly from God. Does not relate to "status". Marked by compassion and power. Fellowship with him is crucial - that ability to hang close to the vine. We hear what God wants us to do and then we go out and do that good God work - just as Jesus did. Remember that we can do no thing without Him!

# What is “Towel Authority”?

Submission - talk about turning a worldview upside down! We submit and we get free??

In the spiritual realm, submission puts one under the authority of the spirit being to whom we submit. Then we receive whatever that being's character dictates.

Submission to satan = captivity

**Submission to God = freedom**

We are expected to use our freedom to clothe ourselves in humility! Surrender with grace is empowerment.

# What do Paul and Peter say about servants and gifts?

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"The one thing required of such servants is that they be faithful to their master." Paul - 1 Cor. 4:2

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"Each one as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God." Peter - 1 Peter 4:10

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So how does this apply to all the good gifts God has given each of us?

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What about the authority of the Father and the power of the Holy Spirit that He has put within us?

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Do these parables and statements apply to us in all areas of our giftings?

# Satan and his demons know our gifts

- ▶ Satan's goal - to keep God's people living lives less than what He created for us to be.
- ▶ Satan knows he lost his position when Jesus defeated the grave.
- ▶ He knows we have authority over him.
- ▶ He will do everything possible to keep us from knowing and walking with it. Once we do, he loses!
- ▶ What an awesome privilege and responsibility to use our gifts, the authority and power to advance God's Kingdom. We need to learn the rules of using that authority and power in the spiritual realm!

# Misuse of Authority

When people given it are exalted.

When those without power are hurt.

When Scripture is mishandled.

When people are led away from God.

When God's work is opposed.

When authority is counterfeited.

# How Did Jesus Teach?

- ▶ Jesus taught His followers by having them follow Him and learn.
- ▶ What about Luke 9 – the Apostles?
- ▶ And Luke 10 – the 70 who were sent out?

Are there differences in the assignments?  
In the outcomes?

# What About Charles Kraft's statement?

"An important part of responsibility is to not neglect it. I wonder how often we have neglected the authority Jesus has given us by not applying His power to illness, weather, poverty or other life situations that He expects us, as His agents, to deal with? I wonder how many people Jesus heals directly because we do not participate? Worse yet, how many go unhealed because we who have been commissioned to operate in Jesus' authority and power have neglected our responsibility?"