

Authority

Part 2

Prayer

Dear Father God, thank you for putting people of authority in our lives. Thank you for loving us so much that you put people in place to help us along this journey we call life. We ask that you give us the wisdom, understanding and knowledge to be obedient to authority and to always give respect to those in charge over us. We want to be an example to the world so those who don't know you will come to know you, because they see you in us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Real Life App

Wasn't that skit awesome? How many could relate to the girl who didn't know everyone has an authority over them? I am sure at one time I thought that but as I got older, I realized, *everyone* has to answer to someone. And here's the cool thing. Do you know who set up that *whole authority* thing? Does anyone know? Yes that's right! God. God the ultimate authority. God put authority in our lives, why? To harass us? Some would think so. To make our lives difficult? Some would agree. To ruin our lives? Some would say yes. But God put authority in our lives to *guide* us. To help us. To keep us from harm.

Let's look at this in a family tree form. (*if you are able to have a white board to chart this on that would be great, otherwise have the girls draw it out on a sheet of paper*). God is at the top. This, mankind, is *His* creation. *He* put all this in place. Okay. So who would be next? Ok. Who would go here? The government. Here we can branch off into two. What do you think the two would be? Ok one would be parents, and the other? Right. Those working under the government such as the president and judges, etc. So we will call those government officials. Under the officials where would that go? Right! Government workers such as police officers, firemen, etc. What about this branch, parents? Kids, yes, but this is going to get messy. Because the mom answers to the dad. The dad answers to whom? God. So you see how this keeps going and going.

So let's recap. Is there anyone who doesn't have someone over them? That's right! No one except??? God! And then under God are all the heavenly beings and then it all filters down from there. Would you girls say that we need to be obedient only to those authorities we *think* we need to be obedient to or should we obey all authority? What about the authorities who can be jerks? Yes. We have to be obedient. Can anyone tell me why? Because Ephesians 6:1-9 nails it down for you. Verse 1 - 4 addresses children, verse 2 addresses workers. But where are the moms and dads? Ephesians 5: 22-33. God spells it all out for us.

There is no way we can get around being obedient and submitting to authority. You are never going

to give God a *good enough* reason for not doing *exactly* what He has instructed you to do. Now here is something very interesting I want you girls to write down and I really want you to meditate on it and let it get down deep into your spirits, because if you will, this will forever change your lives. Are you ready? Ok. If you cannot be obedient to someone you *can* see, you will not be obedient to someone [God] who you *can't* see. And I have one more for you. Ready? Your relationship with people [horizontal] is in directly proportion with your relationship with God [vertical]. Pretty awesome huh?

It's true though and I'll prove it to you. How many of you have gotten into a scuffle with your parents on a Sunday morning before church? Most of us. And what happened when you got to church? You had a poopy attitude and you *definitely* didn't want to hear from pastor, teachers or anyone else who was going to tell you to get your act together or straighten up your attitude. Therefore, if you weren't going to listen to them, how would you *ever* hear God, who most of the time uses people to speak to you? That's deep. So think about those two things. Write them on a card; put it in your bible. Write one on a piece of paper and put it on your mirror in your bedroom. Those two statements will change your life, if you will let them. Remember *all* authority is from God. Obey and submit accordingly, knowing who placed them in those positions.

Lifeline

KEY SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 5:10 (NLT) – Carefully determine what pleases the Lord.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE: Romans 13:1 (NLT) - Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God.

Motivational

Wanda decides which authority she *thinks* she has to be obedient to.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-X8Wwx7k8cI&feature=results_video&playnext=1&list=PL394EF7F69DA1308D