

1 **Legitimate Authority in God's Kingdom**

2 **Legitimate authority in God's kingdom flows from obedient service.**

- *"One day, as Jesus was teaching the people in the temple and preaching the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes with the elders came up and said to him, "Tell us by what authority you do these things, or who it is that gave you this authority:"" (Luke 20:1-2, ESV)*

3 **In God's Kingdom position does not equal legitimate authority.**

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4 **Legitimate authority does not need to grasp for or focus on maintaining control.**

- *"He answered them, "I also will ask you a question. Now tell me, was the baptism of John from heaven or from man?"" (Luke 20:3-4, ESV)*

5 **Misuse of legitimate positions of authority in God's kingdom has ugly and tragic results.**

- *"But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.' And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others." When they heard this, they said, "Surely not!"" (Luke 20:14-16, ESV)*

6 **God's authority cannot be successfully challenged.**

- *"But he looked directly at them and said, "What then is this that is written: " 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone'? Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." (Luke 20:17-18, ESV)*