

## DOING LIFE TOGETHER

10. Think about the examples we studied today—they showed us that Jesus' example of power and authority were often not at all what the culture expected power and authority to look like. What does it look like to embrace Jesus' counter-cultural example as you lead or hold authority over others in your workplaces, family, or ministries?

11. What does it look like to follow Jesus' example when those in authority over us misuse or abuse their power? What are some ways we can point one another towards Jesus' example when we feel this is happening to us?

### Prayer Requests

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January 17, 2016 Sermon Notes

The Abusive Side of Power

1 Kings 16 & 21

B\_\_\_\_\_ I C\_\_\_\_\_

1. The P\_\_\_\_\_ of K\_\_\_\_\_

1 Kings 16:29-33

- he had power
- he was evil
- he had spiritual influences

Spiritual influences are ignored to our p\_\_\_\_\_

2. An incident of a\_\_\_\_\_ power.

1 Kings 21:1-22

- The vineyard incident (v. 1-3)
- The King's response and rescue (v. 4-6)
- the seed of abusive power (v. 7-10)

3. A Word from God.

1 Kings 21:1-22

- He's back! Here comes the prophet.

Life warning: Misappropriated a \_\_\_\_\_  
can easily slide into a \_\_\_\_\_ and  
a \_\_\_\_\_ of power.

*What do I need to do with what I have heard today?*

## **GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK**

January 17, 2016

### **THINKING THINGS THROUGH**

1. In this week's sermon, we were challenged with the thought that misused authority can very quickly slide into arrogance and abuse of power. Think about the different areas of your life—the areas where you are in a position of authority. Have you ever felt the pull towards taking the easy way to resolve a problem, especially if you didn't have to deal with the consequences or how it impacted someone else later?

2. Have you ever been in a situation where someone in authority over you misuses their power? What did that feel like?

### **DIGGING DEEPER**

READ MATTHEW 26:31-35 & 69-75

3. What did Peter think about his devotion to Christ? Why do you think he was convinced that he would 'never fall away' (v. 33)?

4. Why did Peter so quickly deny Christ when he was surrounded by others? What was he expecting Jesus to do with Jesus' power and authority? How was that different from what Jesus did?

5. What is your gut instinct or response when it comes to resolving problems and conflict? What can you learn about Christ's example of holding authority with humility from Peter's story?

READ MATTHEW 26:14-16 & 47-50

6. What did Judas receive in return for his betrayal of Christ? What was his motivation for betraying Christ? How was this an abuse of his position or power?

7. Contrast the 'power' Judas showed with Jesus' reaction to his arrest. How might we learn from Jesus' example about what it means to use our power and authority rightly?

READ MATTHEW 26:6-13

8. What do you think motivated the woman to pour such valuable oil on Jesus' feet? Why do you think this woman approached Jesus with such humility? What could this outpouring of gratitude and devotion look like in our culture, or in your life?

9. Why does this woman's humble approach cause Jesus to favor her response and challenge the disciples (v. 10-13)? What does Jesus' affirmation of her outpouring tell us about the nature of power in God's kingdom?