

# What is Lordship?

## Our Series: "Who's Boss in My Downstream World?"

November 12 - What is Lordship?

November 19 - Why is Lordship Necessary?

November 26 - The Surprises of Lordship

December 3 - The Signs of Lordship

Introduction:

*"The greatest challenge facing the church today is to reassert the Lordship of Christ."* - Chuck Colson

## A Religious Enigma

Out of all the church members in North America:

____% cannot be found	____% never attend church
____% never pray when alone	____% never read the Bible alone
____% never give to church	____% never give to world missions
____% never serve at church	____% never join a small group
____% have never won one person to Christ, yet...	
____% think that they will go to heaven!	

## What is Lordship?

### 1. Accepting the Sovereignty of God.

*"A man with leprosy came and knelt before Him and said, 'Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.'"* - Matthew 8:2

Sovereign: "one who possesses and exercises supreme authority over an individual or group... an acknowledged leader... a controlling influence."

### 2. Placing God First in Your Life.

<sup>36</sup>"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" <sup>37</sup>Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." <sup>38</sup>This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup>And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' <sup>40</sup>All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." - Matthew 22:36-40

### 3. Accepting Responsibility and Accountability.

*"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them... <sup>18</sup>But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money... <sup>26</sup>His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? <sup>27</sup>Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. <sup>28</sup>' 'Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents.'"* - Matthew 25:14-30

Observations from the story of the talents:

1. God has entrusted blessings to us. (v. 14)
2. God gifts are not equally given. (v. 15)
3. People respond differently to what God has given them. (16ff)
4. All of us will be accountable for how we used these blessings. (v. 19)
5. All of us will be rewarded for how we developed God's blessings. (v. 14)

## Lessons Learned from this Story of Lordship:

1. Our responsibility is clear! \_  
*Develop the gifts God has given us!*
2. Our accountability is certain!  
*Someday we will give an account to God for what we have done with what He gave us!*

### 4. Doing the Will of God.

*"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."* - Matthew 7:21-27

New Year's Resolution: Seek to Know = Learning.

Act to Show = Lordship.

### 5. Personal Obedience Regardless of the Cost.

*"The third time He said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' He said, 'Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.' Jesus said, 'Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup>I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.'"* - John 21:17-18

## A Lordship Checklist

circle one

- |   |     |    |
|---|-----|----|
| 1. Do I accept God's complete sovereignty and ownership of my life?                         | yes | no |
| 2. Is God first in every area of my life?   | yes | no |
| 3. Am I ready to give an account to God today, concerning my management of His possessions? | yes | no |
| 4. Am I right now doing everything I know is right?   | yes | no |
| 5. Have I personally settled this Lordship issue?   | yes | no |

If not now... then when? \_\_\_\_\_.

### Lordship Law # 1

God is either Lord of all or not Lord at all!

**For Next Week:**

## Why Is Lordship Necessary?

Read Luke 9:57-62

1. What's your favourite excuse for not doing something?
2. How does Jesus respond to the excuses offered by these prospective followers?
  - In your own words, what do each of Jesus' sayings mean?
  - What's His point?
3. If Jesus were to say to you, "Follow me -- today," and you were to use one of your favourite excuses for putting things off, what would happen?

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### What is Lordship?

#### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

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