

If you are not faithful now, your position can be taken by someone else.

May the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of Life, be praised. Welcome as we study the Bible, God's Word the lamp that guides our feet and the light for our path.

Today we will learn about the *consequences of being unfaithful in God's work*. There is a difference in how people serve God. Each person is called to serve according to the gift God has given them. But if someone is given a gift and either fails to use it or misuses it, there are serious consequences and one major consequence is that their position can be taken and given to someone else who will be faithful.

What many people do not realize is this: God never removes a person's gift, but He *can remove the ministry or opportunity to*

use that gift faithfully. In other words, the grace God gave someone to serve Him can be given to another who will bear greater fruit. The gift may remain with the person, but its purpose will no longer be fulfilled as God intended.

Saul A King Whose Position Was Taken

In the Bible, we see the example of King Saul. God Himself anointed Saul, and the Spirit of God came powerfully upon him so that he would be king over Israel. But even though God elevated him, Saul did not use his position faithfully. He disobeyed God's command and followed his own way instead of obeying God's Word. As a result, God removed Saul's position as king.

In Scripture:

1 Samuel 15:24-29 (NIV)

24 Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned. I violated the Lord's command ... I was afraid of the men and so I gave in to them.

25 Now I beg you, forgive my sin ... so that I may worship the

Lord.”

26 But Samuel said, “I will not go back with you. You have rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord has rejected you as king over Israel!” ...

28 Samuel said to him, “The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today and has given it to one of your neighbors to one better than you.

29 He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a human being, that he should change his mind.” (*Biblia*)

Saul *admits* his sin, but his disobedience was a deliberate choice. God withdrew his kingdom and gave it to someone *better* which we know was David.

Solomon A Wise King Who Lost God’s Favor

Solomon, known for his wisdom, served God faithfully for many years. But later in life, he turned his heart toward idolatry and disobedience. Because of this, God declared that He would take the kingdom from Solomon and give it to another. Notice the direct words of God:

1 Kings 11:11 (NIV)

“So the Lord said to Solomon, ‘Since this is your attitude and you have not kept my covenant and my decrees ... I will most certainly tear the kingdom away from you and give it to one of your subordinates.’” ([YouVersion](#) | [The Bible App](#) | [Bible.com](#))

Because Solomon turned away from God, the kingdom was taken from him. God still showed mercy not removing everything from Solomon in his lifetime but the primary role he once had was reassigned.

Judas A Disciple Who Lost His Calling

Even in the New Testament, we see that someone entrusted with ministry can *lose their place*. Judas Iscariot was a disciple of Jesus, given a role among the Twelve. But he betrayed the Lord and opened the door to evil through his unfaithfulness.

After Judas’ betrayal and death, the early church recognized that

his position needed to be filled. Peter stood up and said they must choose a replacement who had been with them from the beginning of Jesus' ministry:

Acts 1:15-26 (NIV)

... *"Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time ... to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs."*

...

26 *Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles. (Christianity.com)*

This shows that when someone abandons or misuses what God entrusted to them, *God has others ready to step in.*

God Has Many Who Will Serve Him Faithfully

In the Old Testament, the prophet Elijah felt isolated. He complained that all God's prophets had been killed and that he alone was left. But God answered him:

Romans 11:4 (NIV)

“And what was God’s answer to him? ‘I have reserved for myself seven thousand who have not bowed the knee to Baal.’” (Bible Hub)

God reminded Elijah that there were thousands still faithful to Him that he was not alone and that God always has others who will serve Him faithfully.

A Message for Us Today

So today, if you feel called by God whether to preach, teach, lead worship, minister to others, or serve in any capacity listen carefully:

Faithfulness matters. Don’t despise what God has entrusted to you.

God is not dependent on any one person. He has many faithful

servants ready to do His work.

If you refuse to serve faithfully, God can and will give your role to someone else who will.

Do *not* think that you are indispensable before God. He saw Solomon, Saul, Judas, and many others. He held them accountable for how they used their gift and calling. The same principle applies today.

May the Lord help us remain faithful to Him in every way.

May we serve with humility, obedience, and devotion.
May our lives reflect His grace until Jesus Christ returns.

The Lord bless you.

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