

29 January 2023

Use your authority!

¹One day as Jesus was teaching the people in the temple courts and proclaiming the gospel, the chief priests and scribes, together with the elders, came up to Him. ²“Tell us,” they said, “by what authority are You doing these things, and who gave You this authority?”
³“I will also ask you a question,” Jesus replied. “Tell Me: ⁴John’s baptism—was it from heaven, or from men?”
⁵They deliberated among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ He will ask, ‘Why did you not believe him?’ ⁶But if we say, ‘From men,’ all the people will stone us, for they are convinced that John was a prophet.”
⁷So they answered that they did not know where it was from.
⁸And Jesus replied, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.”

Luke 20:1-8

Jesus, and we, have authority to speak
Jesus has all authority
Jesus has been given authority
Jesus has innate authority
Jesus has Calvary authority
Jesus has eternal authority
We have delegated authority

Jesus, and we, usually face ‘push-back’
Satan has some authority, Eph.2:1-2
The world has some authority, Eph.6:12

Jesus, and we, are part of God’s history
We have our Master’s authority, Mk.13:34
We know the world is wrong, Acts 5:29

Jesus, and we, face arrogant ignorance
Satan has blinded unbelievers, 2Cor.4:4
Satan need not fool believers, 2Cor.2:11

Jesus, and we, continue to be strong
Do not crumble before opposition, Gal.2:5
We do not have to fight every battle

My prayer priorities for this week

S 29 Steve & Jenni
M 30 Lorna T. other past members
T 31 Moses & Sharon, Elizabeth, Ruth, Joseph
W 1 Val A. Lorraine B
T 2 Stuart & Kaye
F 3 Clarence & Irene
S 4 Jim C. Lerida C.
S 5 Robert & Dianne

Thought starters with no wrong answers

1. When was a time when you felt powerful or authoritative? What was it about that time that made you feel in control?
2. Jesus taught with authority (Luke 4:32). What makes for an authoritative teacher?
3. What does Jesus have authority to do (John 17:2, John 5:27)?
4. Is authority attractive?
5. How do you stop authority from expanding to becoming abuse, or from weakening to become opinion?
6. Jesus ended up not engaging with the priests. Can a non-answer ever be a sign of strength?

Tithes and offerings (Target: \$2,700 per week)

At the bank, LifeChurch Panania. BSB: 034 866. Account: 005 008 757.
Online, LifeChurch Panania. BSB: 704 922. Account: 005 008 757.

Donations to mission in Myanmar (Target: \$1,000 per month)

Account name: LifeChurch Panania. BSB: 032 260. Account: 422732.