

Series: Walking in Spiritual Authority (Week 2)

Date: September 18, 2025

Presenter: Pastor Donell M. Winder

Lesson Title: Jesus, the Model of Authority

Anchor Scripture: Matthew 7:28–29 (NLT) – *“When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, for he taught with real authority—quite unlike their teachers of religious law.”*

Big Idea

Jesus is both the source and the model of spiritual authority. His authority was rooted in His identity as the beloved Son of God, revealed in His teaching, demonstrated in His power over darkness, expressed in His healing, and confirmed in His resurrection. We are called to mirror this same authority in our daily lives.

Key Insights

- **Authority Rooted in Identity:** Before performing miracles, Jesus’ authority was affirmed at His baptism (Matthew 3:16–17). True authority flows from knowing who we are in Christ, not from titles or accomplishments.
- **Authority in Teaching:** Jesus’ words carried power to transform because they aligned with the Father’s will (Matthew 7:28–29). Spirit-breathed words carry authority to convict, instruct, and change lives.
- **Authority Over Darkness:** Jesus commanded demons, and they obeyed without debate (Mark 1:23–27). Authority is not argued but demonstrated in the name of Jesus.
- **Authority in Healing:** Healing revealed the Father’s heart of compassion and confirmed Kingdom authority (Matthew 8:5–13; Mark 2:9–12).
- **Authority Confirmed in Resurrection:** Jesus’ victory over death sealed His authority forever (Philippians 2:9–11; Colossians 2:15). His resurrection empowers us to live in victory.

Application

1. **Rest in Identity:** Our authority flows from being sons and daughters of God.
2. **Speak with Conviction:** Words aligned with God’s Word carry transforming authority.
3. **Confront Darkness:** Do not debate with the enemy; stand boldly in Jesus’ name.
4. **Pray for Healing:** Extend compassion and faith, trusting God’s authority to restore.
5. **Live with Resurrection Boldness:** Because Christ reigns, we walk in His victory daily.

Closing Thought

Jesus is not only our Savior but also our model of authority. The same Spirit that raised Him from the dead now dwells in us, empowering us to represent His Kingdom. Authority is not fragile or conditional—it is inherited and sustained through Christ. The question is not if we have it, but whether we will walk in it with boldness and alignment.