



Favor with People

Luke 2:52 (NASB)

And Jesus **kept increasing** in wisdom and stature, and **in favor** with God and people.

Luke 2:52

- **NIV** - And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.
- **ESV** - And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.
- **BLB** - And Jesus continued to advance in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.
- **CEV** - Jesus became wise, and he grew strong. God was pleased with him and so were the people.
- **YLT** - and Jesus was advancing in wisdom, and in stature, and in favour with God and men.

Recap from 05.20.2021

Luke 2:52 (NIV)

52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

- 1) Growth in Wisdom. (intellectual)
- 2) Growth in Stature. (physical)
- 3) Growth in Favor with God. (spiritual)
- 4) Growth in Favor with man. (social)

Examine your growth pattern as a disciple

- How is your growth?
-1D, 2D, 3D, or 4D?
- What can you do to improve?
- How can we help/support?



10
**Biblical patterns on how
to
keep increasing
in favor with people.**

What is favor?

- **Dictionary Definition**

- approval, support, or liking for someone or something.
- an act of kindness beyond what is due or usual.

- **Favor can also be defined as**

“when some one is willing to invest their life, time, resources, credibility to help you achieve your goals”.

Therefore,

- Favor is a principle.
- Favor is a response.
- Favor could be miraculous (unmerited).
- Favor can be merited.

NB:

We are responsible for activating favor in our lives.

(1) Favor with God

- **Proverbs 16:7 (KJV)**

When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Definition

Enemy - a person who is actively opposed or hostile to someone or something.

Case Studies

- **#1 Esther**

Esther 2:1-18

- **#2 Daniel**

Daniel 1:8-21

- **#3 Joseph**

a) Genesis 39:1-7

b) Genesis 39:19-23

#1 Esther - Esther 2:1-18 (NIV)

1 Later when King Xerxes' fury had subsided, he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what he had decreed about her.

2 Then the king's personal attendants proposed, "Let a search be made for beautiful young virgins for the king.

3 Let the king appoint commissioners in every province of his realm to bring all these beautiful young women into the harem at the citadel of Susa. Let them be placed under **the care of Hegai**, the king's eunuch, who is in charge of the women; and let beauty treatments be given to them.

4 Then let the young woman who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti." This advice appealed to the king, and he followed it.

5 Now there was in the citadel of Susa a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named Mordecai son of Jair, the son of Shimei, the son of Kish,

6 who had been carried into exile from Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, among those taken captive with Jehoiachin king of Judah.

7 Mordecai had a **cousin** named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. This young woman, who was also known as Esther, had a lovely figure and was beautiful. Mordecai had taken her as his own daughter when her father and mother died.

8 When the king's order and edict had been proclaimed, many young women were brought to the citadel of Susa and put under the care of **Hegai**. Esther also was taken to the king's palace and **entrusted to Hegai**, who had charge of the harem.

9 **She pleased him and won his favor.** Immediately he provided her with her beauty treatments and special food. He assigned to her seven female attendants selected from the king's palace and moved her and her attendants into the best place in the harem.

10 Esther had not revealed her nationality and family background, because Mordecai had forbidden her to do so.

11 Every day he walked back and forth near the courtyard of the harem to find out how Esther was and what was happening to her.

12 Before a young woman's turn came to go into King Xerxes, she had to complete twelve months of beauty treatments prescribed for the women, six months with oil of myrrh and six with perfumes and cosmetics.

13 And this is how she would go to the king: Anything she wanted was given her to take with her from the harem to the king's palace.

14 In the evening she would go there and in the morning return to another part of the harem to the care of Shaashgaz, the king's eunuch who was in charge of the concubines. She would not return to the king unless he was pleased with her and summoned her by name.

15 When the turn came for Esther (the young woman Mordecai had adopted, the daughter of his uncle Abihail) to go to the king, she asked for nothing other than what Hegai, the king's eunuch who was in charge of the harem, suggested. And Esther won the favor of everyone who saw her.

16 She was taken to King Xerxes in the royal residence in the tenth month, the month of Tebeth, in the seventh year of his reign.

17 Now the king was attracted to Esther more than to any of the other women, and she won his favor and approval more than any of the other virgins. So he set a royal crown on her head and made her queen instead of Vashti.

18 And the king gave a great banquet, Esther's banquet, for all his nobles and officials. He proclaimed a holiday throughout the provinces and distributed gifts with royal liberality.

Meaning of name Hegai

In **Biblical Names** the meaning of the name **Hegai** is:

Meditation

Word

Groaning

Separation

Therefore, in order to win favor with man (kings included)...

(a) Do not go asking man's opinions. Rather, sit under the custody of the Word.

- Meditate on the Word.
- And immediately you will receive the suggestion of the Word.
- Implement it and see the results for yourself.

(b) Do not follow the prescribed method of the world.

(c) Become a carrier of God's presence - By continually dwelling with the Lord and allowing him to guide you.

Example #1 - Esther 2:15 (NIV)

... And Esther won the favor of everyone who saw her.

Example #2 - Genesis 39:3-4 (NIV)

When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD gave him success in everything he did,

Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned.

#2 Daniel - Daniel 1:8-21 (NLT)

8 But Daniel was determined not to defile himself by eating the food and wine given to them by the king. He asked the chief of staff for permission not to eat these unacceptable foods.

9 Now God had given the chief of staff both respect and affection for Daniel.

10 But he responded, “I am afraid of my lord the king, who has ordered that you eat this food and wine. If you become pale and thin compared to the other youths your age, I am afraid the king will have me beheaded.”

11 Daniel spoke with the attendant who had been appointed by the chief of staff to look after Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.

12 “Please test us for ten days on a diet of vegetables and water,” Daniel said.

13 “At the end of the ten days, see how we look compared to the other young men who are eating the king’s food. Then make your decision in light of what you see.”

14 The attendant agreed to Daniel’s suggestion and tested them for ten days.

15 At the end of the ten days, Daniel and his three friends looked healthier and better nourished than the young men who had been eating the food assigned by the king.

16 So after that, the attendant fed them only vegetables instead of the food and wine provided for the others.

17 God gave these four young men an unusual aptitude for understanding every aspect of literature and wisdom. And God gave Daniel the special ability to interpret the meanings of visions and dreams.

18 When the training period ordered by the king was completed, the chief of staff brought all the young men to King Nebuchadnezzar.

19 The king talked with them, and no one impressed him as much as Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. So they entered the royal service.

20 Whenever the king consulted them in any matter requiring wisdom and balanced judgment, he found them ten times more capable than any of the magicians and enchanters in his entire kingdom.

21 Daniel remained in the royal service until the first year of the reign of King Cyrus.

Noteworthy!

- Daniel is a great example of one who “continued to increase in favor with people”.

vs 21 - Daniel remained in the royal service until the first year of the reign of King Cyrus.

His strategy...

- He was determined to please God. To remain in favor with God.

#3a Joseph - Genesis 39:1-7 (NIV)

1 Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there.

2 The LORD was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master.

3 When his master **saw** that the LORD was with him and that the LORD gave him success in everything he did,

4 **Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant.** Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned.

5 From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the LORD blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the LORD was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field.

6 So Potiphar left everything he had in Joseph's care; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. Now Joseph was well-built and handsome,

7 and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"

#3b Joseph - Genesis 39:19-23 (NIV)

19 When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, “This is how your slave treated me,” he burned with anger.

20 Joseph’s master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined. But while Joseph was there in the prison,

21 the LORD was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden.

22 So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there.

23 The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph’s care, because the LORD was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.

Therefore,

- We can find favor with believers; unbelievers; kings; leaders; obscure men; children; etc. when we prioritize the Lord (find favor with the Lord).

Prayer points for today - 06/17/2021

- **Psalm 102:13 (NIV)**

You will arise and have compassion on Zion, for it is time to **show favor** to her; the appointed time has come.

- **Exodus 12:36 (NLT)**

The LORD caused the Egyptians to look favorably on the Israelites, and they gave the Israelites whatever they asked for. So they stripped the Egyptians of their wealth!

(2) Love and Faithfulness

- Proverbs 3:3-4 (NIV)

Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.

Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.

Love vs Trust

- “Love” is not necessarily proof of favor with man.
- “Trust” is proof of favor with man.
- “Entrust” is prove of favor with man.

(3) Obedience

- **Ephesians 6:1 (NIV)**

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

- **Ephesians 6:1 (AMP)**

Children, obey your parents in the Lord [that is, accept their guidance and discipline as His representatives], for this is right [for obedience teaches wisdom and self-discipline].

(4) Good Understanding (Judgment)

- Proverbs 13:15 (AMP)

Good understanding wins favor [from others], But the way of the unfaithful is hard [like barren, dry soil].

- Proverbs 13:15 (NIV)

Good judgment wins favor, but the way of the unfaithful leads to their destruction.

Noteworthy

- People like to be understood.
- People like to be understood in “context”.
- Critical spirit or mindset usually stems from misjudgment/
misunderstanding (culture, age, race, education, exposure, past/present experiences and more are all contributing factors).
- Good understanding will help us relate with people better and avoid judging them.
- Good judgment helps us wear the shoes of another person.

(5) Honor and Respect

- **Psalm 145:19 (Common English Bible)**

God shows favor to those who honor him, listening to their cries for help and saving them.

(5) Honor and Respect

- Mark 6:4-5 (NIV)

Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home.” He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them.

- There is not much we can gain from a person whom we despise; even when they attempt. Let's glean from Jesus' example.

Matthew 10:40-42 (NKJV)

40 “He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.

41 He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward.

42 And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold *water* in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.”

Therefore,

- How a person is received will determine what you get from them, including favor.

For Example:

- Receive a prophet in the name of a prophet...
- Trivialize, downplay, undermining the sacrifices of the spiritual investment of men.

Prayer points for today - 07/01/2021

- **Psalm 102:13 (NIV)**

You will arise and have compassion on Zion, for it is time to **show favor** to her; the appointed time has come.

- **Exodus 12:36 (NLT)**

The LORD caused the Egyptians to look favorably on the Israelites, and they gave the Israelites whatever they asked for. So they stripped the Egyptians of their wealth!

(6) a) Giving

- Proverbs 18:16

NIV

A gift opens the way and ushers the giver into the presence of the great.

NLT

Giving a gift can open doors; it gives access to important people!

(6) a) Giving

Gift, in this portion of scripture is the Hebrew word “**mattan**”. It is the same word used in ...

Genesis 34:12 (NIV)

Make the price for the bride and the gift I am to bring as great as you like, and I'll pay whatever you ask me. Only give me the young woman as my wife.”

(6) a) Giving

Numbers 18:11 (NIV)

“This also is yours: whatever is set aside from the gifts of all the wave offerings of the Israelites. I give this to you and your sons and daughters as your perpetual share. Everyone in your household who is ceremonially clean may eat it.

Proverbs 19:6 (NIV)

Many curry favor with a ruler, and everyone is the friend of one who gives gifts.

(6) a) Giving

Proverbs 21:14 (NIV)

A gift given in secret soothes anger, and a bribe concealed in the cloak pacifies great wrath.

So, when next you offer gifts to people, remember that the **quality** of your gift and the **quantity** of your gift will make room for you.

The Queen of Sheba had her way with King Solomon. Her gifts of great quality and quantity, made room for her (1 Kings 10).

(6) b) Giving

David and King Saul – 1 Samuel 16:14-18 (CEV)

David Plays the Harp for Saul

14 The Spirit of the LORD had left Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD was terrifying him.

15 “It’s an evil spirit from God that’s frightening you,” Saul’s officials told him.

16 “Your Majesty, let us go and look for someone who is good at playing the harp. He can play for you whenever the evil spirit from God bothers you, and you’ll feel better.”

17 “All right,” Saul answered. “Find me someone who is good at playing the harp and bring him here.”

18 “A man named Jesse who lives in Bethlehem has a son who can play the harp,” one official said. “He’s a brave warrior, he’s good-looking, he can speak well, and the LORD is with him.”

David and King Saul – 1 Samuel 16:19-23 (CEV)

19 Saul sent a message to Jesse: “Tell your son David to leave your sheep and come here to me.”

20 Jesse loaded a donkey with bread and a goatskin full of wine, then he told David to take the donkey and a young goat to Saul.

21 David went to Saul and started working for him. Saul liked him so much that he put David in charge of carrying his weapons.

22 Not long after this, Saul sent another message to Jesse: “I really like David. Please let him stay with me.”

23 Whenever the evil spirit from God bothered Saul, David would play his harp. Saul would relax and feel better, and the evil spirit would go away.

(6) b) Giving - Read Genesis 41

9 Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, “Today I am reminded of my shortcomings.

10 Pharaoh was once angry with his servants, and he imprisoned me and the chief baker in the house of the captain of the guard.

11 Each of us had **a dream** the same night, and each dream had **a meaning** of its own.

12 Now a young Hebrew was there with us, a servant of the captain of the guard. We told him our dreams, and he interpreted them for us, giving each man **the interpretation of his dream.**

13 And things turned out exactly as he interpreted them to us: I was restored to my position, and the other man was impaled.”

14 So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. When he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came before Pharaoh.

15 Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I had a dream, and no one can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that when you hear **a dream you can interpret it.**”

16 “I cannot do it,” Joseph replied to Pharaoh, “but God will give Pharaoh the answer he desires.”

7) Skill

Proverbs 22:29

NASB

- Do you see a person skilled in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before obscure people.

New King James Version

- Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before unknown men.

mahir: quick, prompt, ready, skilled

7) Skill

Integrity does not replace skill.

- **Psalm 78:72 (KJV)**

So he fed them according to the integrity of his heart; and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands.

Prayer points for today - 07/15/2021

- **Psalm 102:13 (NIV)**

You will arise and have compassion on Zion, for it is time to **show favor** to her; the appointed time has come.

- **Exodus 12:36 (NLT)**

The LORD caused the Egyptians to look favorably on the Israelites, and they gave the Israelites whatever they asked for. So they stripped the Egyptians of their wealth!

8) Ability to provide solutions... (solve problems)

- Mark 1: 35-39 (NIV)

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

Simon and his companions went to look for him,

and when they found him, they exclaimed: “Everyone is looking for you!”

Jesus replied, “Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages - so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.”

So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

8) Ability to provide solutions... (solve problems)

- On very rare occasions would you be sought because of YOU. Most often a person is sought because of what they have to offer.
- Our ability to provide solutions moves us from obscurity to notoriety.
- Our enemies will seek for us, if they perceive that they must benefit from our gifts.

8) Ability to provide solutions... (solve problems)

- Our ability to solve problems will bridge the age gap; race gap; accent gap, etc.

Scriptural Examples

- Joseph
- Daniel
- Etc.

• Isaiah 60:3 (NKJV)

The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising.

9) Integrity and Consistency

- kmk

10) Quality Relationships

- kmk

Prayer points for today - 07/29/2021

- **Psalm 102:13 (NIV)**

You will arise and have compassion on Zion, for it is time to **show favor** to her; the appointed time has come.

- **Exodus 12:36 (NLT)**

The LORD caused the Egyptians to look favorably on the Israelites, and they gave the Israelites whatever they asked for. So they stripped the Egyptians of their wealth!

Prayer

- Pray favor provoking prayers
- Don't worry about anything. Pray about everything.

Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT)

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.

Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

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