# THE FORMATION OF A MAN OF GOD



Shaped in the Hidden Places,
Prepared for the Purposes of God

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# Introduction

The formation of a man of God is not an instant event but a transformative journey that takes place over time. It is a process filled with service, submission, faithfulness, trials, and ultimate surrender to God's will. Through each stage, God refines and shapes a man's character, purpose, and spirit, aligning him with the divine vision that God has ordained for his life. This book explores the critical elements that contribute to this spiritual formation, providing insight into the qualities that define a man who walks closely with God.

From the beginning of time, God has been calling men to follow Him, moulding them into leaders, servants, and warriors for His kingdom. We see this pattern throughout Scripture—whether in the life of David, who learned obedience and leadership while tending sheep, or Moses, whose courage and humility were forged during years in the wilderness. These men were not born with all the qualities necessary for their calling; rather, they were shaped through experiences that taught them to rely on God, submit to His authority, and develop resilience through hardship.

The purpose of this book is to guide and encourage those who are on the path of becoming men of God. It is not merely about the outward actions of leadership or ministry but about the inner transformation that must take place. The world defines success through power, influence, and achievement, but in God's kingdom, greatness is marked by humility, service, and alignment with His will.

We will walk through the key stages of this formation—service, submission to authority, resilience through trials, faithfulness in the small things, dependence on God, and ultimately, a life aligned with His vision. Each stage is necessary for the full development of a man who desires to fulfil his divine calling. As you journey through these pages, you will gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be formed into a man after God's own heart.

It is my hope that this book will not only provide insight but also inspire you to fully embrace the process of formation, trusting that God is working in every stage to mould you into the man He has called you to be. Your formation is not in vain; it is preparing you for a life of impact, purpose, and eternal significance.

Welcome to the journey of becoming—The Formation of a Man of God.



Chapter 1:

# A Journey Begins –

*Embracing the Call to Serve*

Every man who walks the path of becoming a man of God begins at the same place: in service. While many might envision their calling as leading to positions of power and authority, the reality of God's kingdom is that true greatness is found in humility and service. Jesus set this example when He said, "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve" (Mark 10:45). In God's eyes, service is not merely a stepping stone to something greater—it is the very foundation upon which a life of significance is built.

Service is the arena in which a man is shaped, refined, and prepared for the higher purposes that God has in store. It is here that humility is learned, faithfulness is tested, and character is developed. The journey of becoming a man of God does not begin on a platform of influence or behind a pulpit—it begins in the unnoticed, uncelebrated acts of service to others.

## The Biblical Pattern of Service

Throughout Scripture, we see this principle illustrated time and again. Before Joshua ever led the Israelites into the Promised Land, he served Moses faith-

fully. His role as Moses' servant (Exodus 24:13) was not one of glamour or recognition. He stood in the shadows, observing, learning, and following the man whom God had chosen to lead Israel. It was in these years of service that Joshua's faith, obedience, and leadership were shaped, preparing him for his eventual role as the one who would lead Israel into their inheritance.

Similarly, Elisha's journey began in service to Elijah. Elisha is remembered for the incredible miracles he performed and for the double portion of Elijah's spirit that he received. But before he was known as a great prophet, he was known as Elijah's servant, the one who poured water on his hands (2 Kings 3:11). His willingness to serve paved the way for him to inherit the mantle of leadership from Elijah. Service, in its simplest form, was the foundation upon which his prophetic ministry was built.

David, too, learned this lesson early in life. Before he became king, before the anointing oil had even dried on his head, David served King Saul. He played the harp to soothe Saul's troubled spirit (1 Samuel 16:23). Even when Saul became envious and sought to kill him, David's heart of service did not waver. He refused to raise his hand against the Lord's anointed, choosing instead to remain faithful to the role God had placed him in, trusting that God's timing would bring about the fulfilment of His promises.

### Service as Training for Leadership

It is in the hidden places of service that God shapes the hearts of those He will one day use in leadership. The world often equates leadership with power, status, and influence. But in God's kingdom, leadership is rooted in humility and servanthood. Jesus taught this truth when He said, "Whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave" (Matthew 20:26-27).

Joshua's service to Moses prepared him to lead with courage and faith. Elisha's service to Elijah prepared him to carry the mantle of prophetic authority. David's service to Saul prepared him to lead with a heart of integrity and compassion. In each case, service was not just preparation—it was a key part of their development into the leaders God had called them to be.

## Learning Obedience through Service

One of the most important lessons learned in service is obedience. In the small, often unnoticed tasks, God teaches a man to obey even when it doesn't make sense or when it's difficult. David's obedience in serving Saul, even as Saul tried to take his life, is a profound example of trusting God's authority over human circumstances. David knew he had been chosen by God, yet he did not force his way into the role of king. Instead, he waited on God's timing, remaining obedient to the call of service until God Himself elevated him.

True obedience is often tested in the quiet moments of service when no one is watching. It's easy to be obedient when there is a promise of immediate reward or recognition, but the heart of a servant learns obedience in the hidden and humble tasks, where the only audience is God.

## Faithfulness in the Small Things

Another critical aspect of service is learning to be faithful in the small things. Jesus said, "He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much" (Luke 16:10). It is in the everyday responsibilities, the overlooked tasks, that a man of God learns faithfulness. God does not rush His process of development. He knows that the man who can be trusted with the small tasks can also be trusted with greater responsibilities.

Faithfulness in service shapes character. It teaches perseverance and dependability. Joshua faithfully followed Moses for years before he was given the

responsibility of leading Israel into the Promised Land. David tended sheep, fought off lions and bears, and served King Saul before he ever wore the crown of Israel. Elisha poured water on Elijah's hands before he ever performed miracles. Their willingness to serve in the small things prepared them for the greater tasks God had in store.

## Service as the Foundation of Growth

Ultimately, service is not just the beginning of the journey—it is the heart of the journey. It is in serving others that a man of God is refined and prepared for leadership. God's kingdom operates on the principle of sowing and reaping. When a man sows in service, he reaps in growth, maturity, and influence. The greater his heart to serve, the greater his capacity to lead.

The development of a man of God is a process, and it begins with a heart that is willing to serve. Through service, a man learns to trust God's timing, to be faithful in the small things, and to remain obedient even in the face of difficulty. The men God used throughout Scripture were not those who sought positions of power, but those who were willing to serve. And it is through service that God continues to develop men today.



Chapter 2:

# The Hidden Strength of Submission

As essential as service is in the development of a man of God, the journey continues through a profound understanding of submission to authority. Submission, in the eyes of the world, often appears as weakness, a relinquishing of control. But in the kingdom of God, submission is a place of strength, honour, and divine alignment. It is through submission that a man learns not only to recognise authority but also to grow under it, positioning himself to receive the full backing of heaven.

The lives of biblical figures like David and Elisha show us the hidden power of submission and how this principle plays a pivotal role in shaping the character and destiny of those God calls. True submission is not about forced obedience or passive compliance; it's about reverence, honour, and the deep recognition of God's structure and order.

## David: Submission in the Midst of Conflict

No one better exemplifies submission than David. Even after being anointed by the prophet Samuel as the next king of Israel, David continued to serve and submit to King Saul's authority. It was not merely an act of loyalty but a profound recognition that Saul was still God's anointed leader. Despite the