

## THE BENEFITS OF SUBMISSION

Why is it easier for people to rebel against their authorities than to submit to them? Why is it more natural for us to see the flaws of our leaders than to appreciate their strengths? Why are we so concerned about our rights to oppose and be heard, rather than our responsibility to listen and support the decisions of our bosses?

I believe this rebellious nature is what we inherited from Adam, who ate from the forbidden tree not because the fruit was irresistible, but because he thought that by eating it he would become like God (as the serpent suggested). To Adam, it meant he would become co-owner of the garden and which would in effect, free him from the authority of the Lord.

When I was younger, I was quick to oppose my bosses and eager to point out their flaws. I was very slow to listen but would demand that I speak out and that they should consider my views. I thought then that I was doing other people a favor, fighting for those who had no courage to say the things in their hearts. Although feeling ko astig ako, I realize now that my old nature did not benefit me in any way. Instead, it had brought me a lot of grief.

It has only been 10 years since I understood the benefits of submitting to authority. Never akong sumipsip sa boss ko kasi I do not like going out of my way just to please anyone. But when I started to humble myself and supported the decisions of those above me, or my authorities, I noticed that they gave me more favor. While I still speak out if I feel something is wrong, I do not do this to show that I am better. Instead I do it with the intention of protecting my authorities.

Ikaw ba, when you oppose your authorities and keep looking at their flaws, what benefits do you get? Di ba parati lang sumasama ang loob mo? And when your boss senses that you dislike him or her, di ba hindi ka niya binibigyan ng more opportunities kasi baka ikasama mo lang? And do you like working with people who are rebellious? Hindi, di ba? So huwag mo rin gawin iyon sa boss mo. Tingnan mo, if you learn to become submissive like Jesus was to His Father, you will gain a lot of favor from men and, most importantly, from God.