

KEYS TO PROMOTION

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We are created for expansion and growth. Our God is a God of progress - He progresses steadily in His work and plan. He wants us His children to also progress continually. He uplifts and promotes his people daily to higher heights in life.

He wanted the earth filled with people, He created a couple first. And asked them to multiply and fill the earth. So gradually, the earth was being filled. He wanted spiritual children; He started a revolution with one man Jesus Christ. And today, billions of people have become His children. This He achieved progressively.

We too are born to grow - from childhood to manhood, from one level to another spiritually, financially, materially and socially. It is therefore very important that we learn how promotion and progress can come to us, rather than sit and pray with fasting that God promote us while we walk contrary to the rules of promotion and progress.

WHERE PROMOTION COMES FROM

Promotion comes from the LORD.

Ps 75:6-7

6 No one from the east or the west or from the desert can exalt a man. 7 But it is God who judges: He brings one down, he exalts another.

NIV

You don't need to know any man before promotion can come to you. If God says you will not be promoted, you won't be. If he says you are qualified for promotion, no one can stop the promotion. When it is time in God's sight for any man to move up, God will stir up the heart of those concerned, and it will be effected.

Prov 21:1

The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD; he directs it like a watercourse wherever he pleases.

NIV

Therefore, you must seek to please the Lord always. That is why the scripture says we should work for our employers as unto the Lord. Because He is the one that commands promotion.

THINGS YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT PROMOTION

1. Promotion is a favour from the Lord.
2. Promotion is not only a favour from the Lord, but a reward for hard work and commitment.
3. The pursuit of excellence will earn you promotion.
4. Until you are overqualified for your present position, you are not qualified for a promotion.
5. Promotion will not come to you because you have been long on one position as some assume, but will be given to you because of your productivity and commitment to your work and leadership.
6. Promotion is a reward and not a gift. There is nothing like the gift of promotion in the Bible. You must have done something to be rewarded.
7. Opposition to your promotion when merit you it will be resisted by God on your behalf because He hates injustice and loves righteousness.
8. Promotion that is merited is sweet and brings peace.
9. A promotion that is merited can not be denied. When there is an opposition, and the person being denied cries out to God for help, God will certainly fight for him or her.
10. Committed and faithful people always get promoted.
11. Attitudes and conduct to and at work are contributory factors to decisions in favour of or against promotion.
12. For God to approve the promotion of someone who has not laboured for a promotion is encouraging laziness. And God cannot encourage laziness.
13. Faithful application of the principles of God will earn you promotions.

KEYS TO PROMOTION

1. HUMILITY

Prov 15:33

33 The fear of the LORD teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor.

NIV

Prov 18:12

12 Before his downfall a man's heart is proud, but humility comes before honor.

NIV

Prov 22:4

4 Humility and the fear of the LORD bring wealth and honor and life.

NIV

Prov 29:23

23 A man's pride brings him low, but a man of lowly spirit gains honor.

NIV

James 4:6

6 But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

NIV

The humble are those who are not proud or assertive. They are the obedient to authority - God's authority (Word), parental authority, husband's authority, church authority, and governmental and administrative authority.

The humble are those who carry out the instructions of their boss to the latter. The humble are they who need not be instructed twice before they do what has been committed into their hands. The humble do not forget the assignment given to them. They always have it before their eyes daily to carry it out. They don't do eye service. They don't pretend to be busy the moment they sight their superior or boss.

The humble are diligent in their duties. They always put in their best in all that they do. They not only see themselves as working for a man or a company, but as working for God. In all the humble does, he puts in his or her best. The pursuit of excellence and the satisfaction of his superior is his goal in life. The humble earn their pay by their diligence.

If you are not under authority, no one will be under your authority. If you are rebellious, people will rebel against you. Remember, whatever you sow, you shall reap.

Submit to your leader, Pastor, husband, employer and boss. Do not do eye service. Humbly carry out their instructions. Submit and serve as unto the LORD.

2. FAITHFULNESS OR STEWARDSHIP

Luke 16:10-12

10 "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. 11 So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? 12 And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?"

NIV

Until you are overqualified for your present position, you will not move on to the next stage. You have to merit promotion before it can come. **Promotion is not based on how long you have been on one position, but faithfulness to your duty.** You must earn your promotion through hard work and commitment. The faithful are those who merit promotion. This calls for sincerity and dedication to your chosen career and your assignments.

If you are working for somebody, you must understand that your lifting lies in your ability to please your employer in the discharge of your duties. If you are found

faithful, you will be promoted. Your attitude to work matters a lot. The way and manner you handle customers and clients matter a lot to your employer. So if you are found faithful, you will be promoted. Your conduct in the office, your relationship with management, staff and customers is very important to your desire to be promoted.

Your willingness to go the extra mile will enhance your promotion. Always give extra to what services you were asked to render. Joseph did not only interpret the dream of Pharaoh, but gave counsel on how the great harvest could be preserved and used to sustain the nation during the severe famine. He was not asked to do that, but he did. And this was what opened the door for him, and compelled his promotion from a Hebrew slave/prisoner to Prime Minister in a land where he has served as slave and prisoner. Extra mile always pay off. Be a solution to someone's problem which you know you may not be paid for it. Someone may be taking note or watching. Just be nice even to your boss and colleagues. Don't be upset if you are asked to do something that is not in the original schedule of assignments given to you at employment. Joyfully serve. To be a master you have to be a servant first. To be lord, you have to be lorded over first. Just be a faithful steward.

People in this country calculate promotion by the number of years served. *"God puts down another, and lifts up another"*, reveals that promotion is based on merit. One may be demoted, stagnate or promoted depending on his input. Input to any organization determines the output of that organization into the life of that individual. ***"Whoever can be trusted with little" is qualified for "much"***.

To whom much is given, much is expected.

Luke 12:47-48

47 "That servant who knows his master's will and does not get ready or does not do what his master wants will be beaten with many blows. 48 But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.

NIV

Faithfulness is relative to responsibility. God expects you to be faithful to whatever assignment you have been entrusted with. You may work longer hours than your colleagues because your responsibility is higher than theirs. Never measure yourself with others, but focus on your assignment. Your commitment and faithfulness to your responsibility will provoke a promotion. If God is satisfied with your faithfulness, He will stir up your employers to promote you. If you are self employed, he will move you to a higher stage. Work hard. Prove yourself faithful.

A steward is a manager. You must see yourself as the manager of the resources of God our Father who has graciously blessed you with many gifts and abilities. It is therefore important that you do everything within your power to prove yourself a faithful manager of the resources of heaven. Manage the men and materials at your disposal well, and God will give you more. Manage the money or capital you are working with right now and God will give you more. The more faithful you are, the more he promotes you. The less faithful you are, the more you stagnate or experience setbacks. Stewardship is a necessity.

Eccl 9:10

10 Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.

NIV

Hard work will earn you the promotion you desire. Promotion is for the faithful. Be faithful and you will experience endless promotions.

CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD WORKER

2 Tim 2:15

15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

NIV

God expects all workers to be at their best at all times in order to be productive and make progress in life. This scripture though it speaks of ministry, it is also relevant to other kinds of work. Work is work. And we all need to know that we must work in such a way that we will be approved by our employer and even God. If your work is not approved, you will not be promoted. Therefore all must work to be approved in order to be promoted.

1. A good worker shows up for work every day. He rarely misses work, except on health grounds or something very important and unavoidable, and gets right back to the job as soon as possible.
2. A good worker comes ready to work and not just show presence and disappear or loaf around. He is prepared mentally and physically to work. If he has tools, he brings them to work and uses them. He uses his skills to benefit his employer. He is diligent in using tools and skills. He manages equipment as if it were his own. He takes good care of them.
3. A good worker is focused on his work. He knows that distraction or lack of discipline is not only unproductive, but can even be dangerous. Many have made terrible mistakes that cost them, injured themselves in the factory, made blunders and ruined a lot of materials and business because of distraction and indiscipline.

4. A good worker does not do eye service. There is no pretence in him as far as his job is concerned. He is always on his job. He does not play when he is supposed to be working. He is not an idler but a true worker.
5. A good worker does his best for his employer at all times, even when the work seems boring, is hard, or no one else is working.
6. A good worker usually expects to receive payment for his work. In the secular world, it is money, in God's kingdom; it is the eternal reward of a place in heaven, spiritual fruit and the present reward of God's blessings on the earth.
7. A good worker usually receives advancement as he applies himself to his work. In the secular world, it may be a new position or title, but in God's kingdom it is personal spiritual growth, equipping for service and greater power and authority in the things of God.
8. A good worker is always improving himself. He updates his knowledge of his job and profession. He attends relevant seminars and courses to upgrade himself. He doesn't wait for the company or employer to train him, he trains himself because he has a vision to be relevant and make progress in life. Keep upgrading to be relevant, promotable and get a higher job.
9. A good worker sharpens and develops his skills to enable him be more productive in his service.

CONCLUSION

Put in your best to be the best and you will get the best position there is. Your input will always determine what you get out of your employer. Your service is always observed. Never forget that. Promotion will come when you have proved yourself faithful. When you have become overqualified for your present position you will be promoted.

