

Whom Should You Put Incharge?

“After the wall had been rebuilt and I had set the doors in place, the gatekeepers and the singers and the Levites were appointed. I put in charge of the city my brother Hanani, along with Hananiah the commander of the citadel. He was a man of integrity and feared God more than most do.” (Nehemiah7:1-2)

Whom do you put incharge over your property and belongings while you are away? Everyone one of us is facing or had been exposed to this situation where we have to put someone in charge of our property or belonging. The property could be our business; a small shop, office, clinic, hospital, supermarket, factory, etc. The belongings could be our family and household, or our ministry in the church. We may say, “Lets put in charge the one who has a good experience in that particular field so that he can manage the work properly. He must be well qualified in order for him to understand his position and role.” Opinions may agree with these things mentioned or others may not be convinced, and want to add more of the qualifications. But, as we ponder on the above question let us check our answers with the points mentioned in the word of God:

The above passage for this message is from the book of Nehemiah. Nehemiah was the leader and governor whom God had chosen to rebuild the wall of the city.*After he finished rebuilding the walls and set the doors in place and had appointed the gatekeepers, singers, and priests, he also needed to put incharge someone over the whole city so that he could move and do other work. Here, we have to notice that Nehemiah finished the work first and had made everything in place before he delegated the responsibility to others. It is therefore appropriate that before we ask someone to be incharge of anything. Let us hand over to him after we have completely arranged everything and explained every details, not just leaving an incharge blind about what is to be done and to be taken care of. Let us consider what and how Nehemiah chose a leader for the great responsibility.

1. I put my brother incharge: The meaning of ‘my brother’ here is not only a relative, but a brother who shares the same belief, the same focus or mission and vision. In the church, a brother to us is the one who believes that Jesus Christ died on the cross for his sins and rose up from death. He inherits eternal life because he accepted Jesus as personal Lord and Saviour. The relationship to a brother is developed while being near to each other. He understands you well and can grasp what you want for him. The value of the brother is that you know Him very well by having intimacy with him. You know all the details of his life and you have tested his love to God and to the people, and you have proven his faithfulness. To be incharge means that the chosen brother will be responsible in everything. But he should be in regular contact with the one who assigned him and he should listen his instruction, to follow him and not to rebel against him. But the out going leader Nehemiah, should also give some freedom to his successor. He must back him up with prayer and counsel and He must trust him as well.

2. He was a man of integrity: Nehemiah has chosen Hanani to be in charge not only because he is his brother, but because he was a man of integrity. He was proven to be an honest man, reliable and truthful to his words and his deeds. Anyone, whatever is his qualification or experience, should not be in charge if his integrity is questionable. Since a man who lacks integrity could be acting in two faces and would be double minded. A man of integrity leads with honor and he will be a living example for other. People will follow him and will do like him. He will be the light for others and not a stumbling block. His life should be holy, away from immorality and not controlled by the work of the flesh. Otherwise he will dictate and insist his ways on the work and he will seek his own interest and follow his own desire.

3. Feared God more than most do: Let us not put incharge the one who fears us rather than fearing God. The one who fears God will do the work faithfully even if we are not there, because he is not serving man but serving the Lord. He will do his work faithfully. He will care for the property that God has put in his hand. He will provide the best for the people who are under his hand, and he will serve them with love and care. He will bring justice because he is a righteous man. He will judge according to the truth and he will not show favoritism. He who fears God will not put the personal benefit first but to push forward the plan that brings prosperity for all. The one who fears God will not be lazy but actively diligent; his rest will be while he is working, and his strength will come from God who is watching over him. **“Who then is faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put incharge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns.” (Matthew24:45-46)** The one who fears God is not a coward. Hence, it is inappropriate to choose the coward to be incharge. He who fears God will receive courage from the Lord because he is righteous and has great faith in God. The Lord will go before him against the enemy. In his troubles he will shout and say: **“The Lord is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear? The Lord is my stronghold of my life of whom shall I be afraid? (Psalm27:1-3)** Even a man lacks training and experience if he fears God he would be wiser than teachers or kings. **“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.” (Proverbs 9:10)**A man who fears God is humble before God and man. His humbleness will drive him towards seeking and obeying God’s word, and going to right person whom he can ask and find the answer. He will be wise and God will always be with him. **“For the Lord gives wisdom, and from His mouth come knowledge and understanding.” (Proverbs2:6)**The word of God declares that Hanani was a man of integrity and feared God more than most men do. Infront of us, we may find more than one Hanani and we have to choose the one who is more qualified and another person to be with him. Hanani was assigned along with Hananiah, the commander of the citadel. If this is the case, the chosen incharge will bear fruit and give good report about the things entrusted to him.

My dear and beloved: As you battle to answer the question, who is to be incharge, don’t rely on what you desire and what you believe. Choose honestly according to the word of God. Pray for your wise decision and choice. And may God richly bless you, in Jesus name, Amen!

My Prayer: *Father God I put in your hand my present situation lead me to the right person whom I need to put incharge, answer me please in Jesus name Amen.*

**Please read the text from your own Bible.*