

CASE STUDY

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WHEN FAVOR MEETS CONVICTION

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE PERSON WHO OPENED THE DOOR ASKS FOR A YES YOU CANNOT GIVE?



She hadn't applied for the leadership position. A senior authority figure had previously selected her for one leadership assignment. Only months later, that same leader appointed her to a position with significantly broader organizational responsibility. *She had been chosen.*



She knew she was favored. She entered the new assignment and began doing exactly what she had been appointed to do—strengthening systems, improving practices, addressing longstanding problems, and building confidence among the people the department served. The response was encouraging. Employees and organizational leaders noticed the changes. Positive feedback spread.



But something else began changing too. The relationship with the very person who had appointed her became increasingly contentious. It was difficult to understand. *She was succeeding in a position she hadn't pursued, doing the work she had specifically been selected to do.*



Then came a consequential request. She was asked to approve an expenditure using designated funds she was responsible for helping safeguard. Recent events within the organization had made financial stewardship an area requiring particular care.



She examined the request. And she could not support it. Her signature would mean more than compliance. It would communicate that she had exercised her professional judgment and was willing to place her approval behind the expenditure. *She wasn't.*



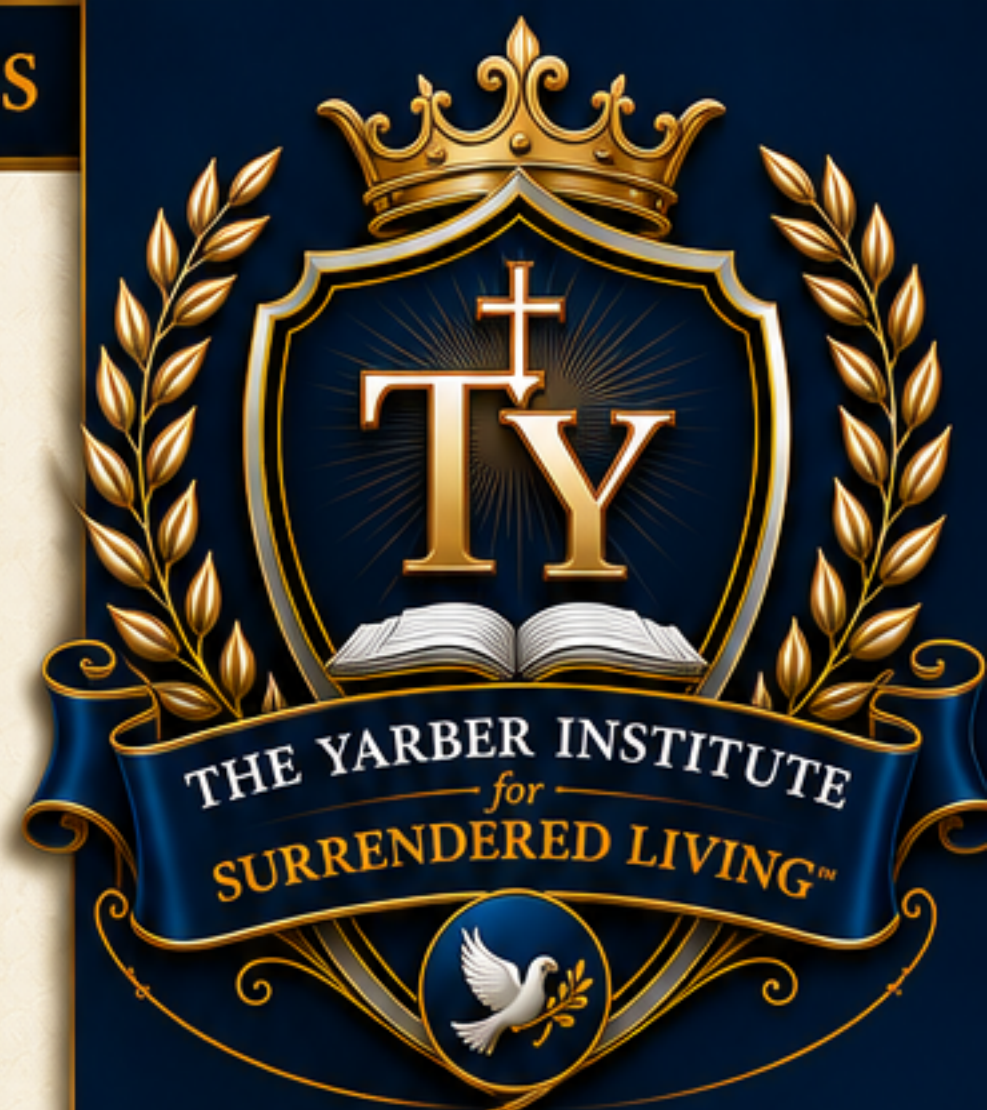
The person asking wasn't a stranger. This was the leader who had opened doors for her. Selected her. Elevated her. Favored her. Saying no could cost something. *But saying yes could cost something too.*



She refused to sign. And suddenly the question wasn't merely about an expenditure. *It was about allegiance.*



She refused. What happened afterward would reveal that much more than a signature had been under scrutiny. *But that part of the story comes later.*



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WHAT WAS GOD DOING?

Perhaps God allowed favor to open the door. But perhaps He never intended favor to become the reason she compromised once she walked through it.

GRATITUDE DOES NOT REQUIRE COMPROMISE.

You can appreciate the person who opened a door without giving that person ownership of your convictions.

Human favor can create opportunity. It cannot become your master.

Perhaps God was asking:

"If the person who helped elevate you asks for something your conscience cannot support, who ultimately owns your yes?"

REFLECTION

- Have I confused gratitude with obligation?
- Would I make the same decision if saying no could cost me the favor that helped bring me here?
- Who has final authority over my yes?
- If God used someone to open the door, have I accidentally begun believing I need that person to keep it open?

SURRENDER TO GOD DOESN'T ALWAYS LOOK PASSIVE.

Sometimes surrender sounds like:

"I CAN'T SIGN THAT."

COMING OCTOBER 2026

WHEN THE BATTLEFIELD IS A SCHOOL BUILDING

An Educator's Guide to Spiritual Warfare, Workplace Mobbing, and Victory Through Christ Purpose. Resilience. Divine Redirection.

GOD NEVER WASTES A SURRENDERED LIFE.

