

# WEEKLY SERMON

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## Service is Perfect Freedom

And so Boris Johnson has become our new Prime Minister.

It's interesting that we live in a country where you get to be called a minister – or a servant – when you reach the highest positions in government.

We could say that Boris Johnson has just been appointed as the chief servant in the United Kingdom.

Of course, first and foremost, Mr Johnson is the servant of the Queen. She has charged and entrusted him with the responsibility of leading the government on her behalf.

But our new Prime Minister must also see himself as the servant of the British people; he has been given power in order to do good for us.

It's very easy for a human being to go wrong when he or she gets into a position of authority. History is awash with examples of leaders who failed to understand that power is an opportunity for service; instead they selfishly grasped at the chance to bully and take advantage of the powerless and, at the same time, gain a stash of money.

Many harsh things have been said and written about the effectiveness of Mr Johnson's predecessor at Number 10, but no-one has ever accused Mrs May of being self-serving. She seems to have had a servant heart throughout her time in office and for that she must be admired and thanked.

As Christian people our prayer for Mr Johnson is that he would also have a servant heart throughout his time in office. We pray that his priorities and decisions will be shaped more by the word 'Minister' than the word 'Prime'.

More than that, we pray that Mr Johnson would find the time and the inclination to consider the example of Jesus as he faces the daunting challenges of his role.

In the Bible it says: "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10: v45).

Jesus came into the world with all power and authority of God himself but that power and authority was devoted to the good of the powerless.

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