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Featuring **ONEKA McCLELLAN**

## Chapter 8

# Crowned to Lead

In this powerful chapter, Pastor Oneka speaks of the incredible story of Elijah and Elisha from:

## 2 Kings 2

To recap: As Elijah's mentee, Elisha requested a double share (or portion) of Elijah's spirit and to become his successor. Elisha replied that he would receive his request as long as he was present when Elijah was taken away. As Pastor Oneka beautifully put it,

**" keep your eyes on me and keep your eyes on God's presence."**

And as Elisha was faithful to follow these instructions; he was there to pick up the mantle, the representation of God's power and authority.

As women, the words "power" and "authority" have brought angst to many as we work to define what it means to walk them out in this day and age. This confusion is a brilliant move of the enemy, used to silence many would-be mighty warriors into the surrender of weary silence.

**What is your reaction to the words "power" and "authority"?**



**What are some ways you feel equipped and sure about how you are to walk out power and authority as a Daughter of Christ?**

**What are some ways you perhaps struggle to walk out these words?**

Each of us has been given a mantle to pick up. Sometimes our mission in life is clear cut and we know exactly where we're headed. Others of us are in a season that feels monotonous and mundane. Nothing to really point to that feels like a mantle of authority and power. Still, others are content to pay the bills, hang out with a good group of girlfriends, and wait for life to discover us. It's so easy to forget that no matter what season we are in, there is purpose everywhere.

**Who is someone you really look up to?**

**Whose life reflects that of a mantle carrier?**

**Why?**

**How does this person's life challenge you to take up the mantle yourself?**

Pastor Oneka talks about stewarding the presence of God in our lives. I couldn't love this more. I have the dearest and best friend, Janal who is a lover of the Holy Spirit like no one else I've ever met. She stewards His presence so well that you can't be with her without experiencing Him. This kind of walk isn't something from a passive prayer life or a quick flip through the Word. This is an, on-your-knees, seeking- His-face constantly kind of walk.

This friendship has hands down been a wonderful source of challenge for me. Before Janal, I loved people, loved God deeply, and loved His word, but cultivating a life around stewarding His presence was not my norm. Her walk has changed my walk.

**Now I'm making choices each day to transition to a life that cultivates and stewards His beautiful presence.**

**Look at your group of friends carefully.**

Do you have a "Janal" in your life who is actively cultivating a life around the stewardship of His presence?

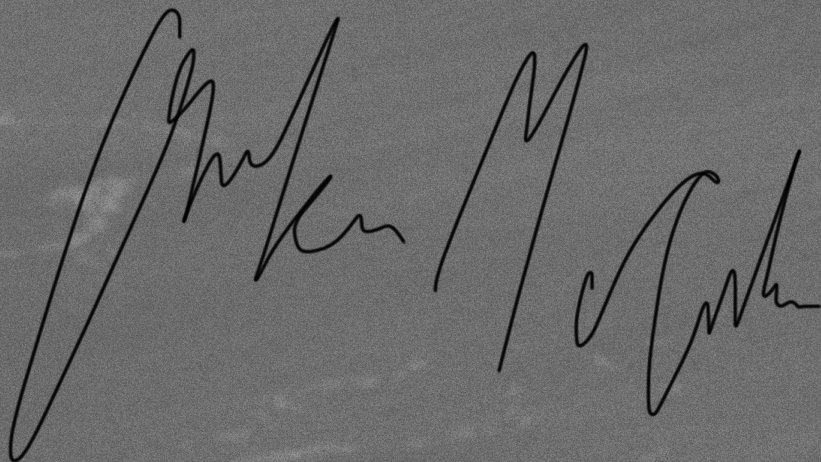
**How can you put yourself in closer proximity to this person or people like this?**

As a wife to the most wonderful man, a mama to two of the most precious kids, and a business owner, I can honestly say that stewarding His presence is the single most important thing that I have learned on my journey as a Daughter of Christ. Because everything in life is affected for better or worse by how intentional I am to steward. The way I wife, the way I mother, the way I friend, the way I serve/lead, the way I pray, the way I run my business, the way I heal and grow ... all of it.

**How are you cultivating your life around stewarding His presence?**

**How are you carrying your mantle?**

love,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amber M. Carter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.