

## Accountability Part 4

We closed off Accountability Part 3 with a prayer that you will be accountable to God and Man in this year. In 1 Peter 5:1-4, Peter encouraged leaders to be faithful as shepherds not just out of sense of duty but because they are willing as an act of service. Peter's emphasis is on serving people not position held over others. It is my perspective that for a leader to be accountable s/he must see her/himself as a servant that needs to give an account to whom s/he serves about her/his activities when people can see her/him or when no one is watching.

In order for us to be accountable we need to have around us few peers who can ask us about the good we have done, what we are struggling with that displeases God and whether we are truthful in all we do or relationships we are in. For example, many of us made New Year Resolutions and fail to keep them because we do not have accountability partners. Would you consider asking a couple of people to become your accountability partners in respect of your New Year Resolutions? You may just ask them to ask you regularly how you are really doing to keep your resolution, what are your challenges and what you think you need to do to be faithful to what you desire for yourself. You will be amazed that you will be better off than if you do not have people who check-in with you on your life goals.

The need for peer accountability can be applied to our workplace issues also.

For example, as employees and leaders, we create performance goals/resolutions to improve our service delivery and leadership and expect to have check-in with our supervising managers. Instead of waiting for quarterly reviews by supervising managers, we may consider having people outside our workplace we can be accountable to as to how we are striving to improve. We are likely able to state our struggles, weaknesses and challenges with such individuals because they are not likely to use it against us in the workplace as some supervisors with ulterior motives may do. A third person perspective opens us up to various possibilities and can be a mirror for us.

Believers just like leaders are not free from the responsibility of serving others. If you find another person who needs to develop accountability, it is because God wants you to make an impact on their lives. Help them in a gentle godly way to become accountable. Remember none of us is immune from getting off course in life. We are all ultimately accountable to God and we need others to help us stay the course.

Be accountable and help others to be accountable.