

# The Favor Formula

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Speaker: **James Bronner**

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James Bronner: Favor, favor, favor. When God favors, no man can stop you.

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(Music Playing: 00:00:19 - 00:00:47)

Female: And now for 8235, The Favor Formula.

James Bronner: Welcome to Brothers of the Word because brother, you need the Word.

I thank you for tuning in today to Brothers of the Word and if you need extra favor in your life, then you need to straight tuned in because we're going to be talking about favor today. Raise your hand in this place if you want an increase of favor in your personal life. Amen. I think, that's about everybody in here. Anybody who doesn't have the hand up, may have some shoulder problems today, they need extra favor in their lives.

Well, I'm going to tell you today how to get increase in the favor of God upon your life. I'm going to have to move very fast because this really almost needs to be a series, but I got to get it in one message because pastor will be back next week. So, I've got to tell you everything I got to tell you right now. This isn't going to be a feel-good message where you'll shout and go home unchanged. But I'll tell you, if you'll apply the principles that I'll give you today, your life will go to another level. Favor, it increased.

Now, I speak today from the subject of, The Favor Formula, the favor formula. First, I'm going to give you three ways God gives you favor from His end. Then, I'm going to give you three ways to increase the favor of God on your life with things you need to do from your end.

As a model of this message from the scriptures, I'm going to use the life of the character in the Bible of Joseph. I believe his life exemplifies favor. Probably clearer than any other character. Starting at Genesis 39. I don't have time for you to turn that, but you all are familiar with this passage. Starting at Verse 1, it says, "And Joseph was brought down to Egypt; and Potiphar,

an officer of Pharaoh, captain of the guard, an Egyptian, brought him of the hands of the Ishmaelites, which had brought him down thither. And the Lord was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian. And his master saw that the Lord was with him, and that the Lord made all that he did to prosper in his hand. And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him. And he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand. And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer over his house and over all that he had, that the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the Lord was upon all that he had in the house and in the field. And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and he knew not all he had, save the bread which he did eat. And Joseph was a goodly person, and well favored."

Turn to your neighbor and say, "That's some real favor right there." Turn to the other side and say, "That's some real favor right there." From God's end, I'm going to give you three ways that favor will come upon your life. The first way, is that of revelation. And this is through dreams, through ideas, through instructions, through even the interpretation of dreams or prophecies. And this requires spending time with God to learn His voice and to receive instruction from Him.

You may ask, "How do I get ideas out of God?" the answer is, the same way that you get them out of man. Folks, I spent the most time with Him who I talk to the most, they get the most ideas out of me. I talked to pastor the most of any of my friends and pastor pulls the most stuff out of me. And when he calls me with a problem or a situation or an idea that he'd has it just automatic for me, ideas will begin to flow and I will give him ideas to help with those projects and plans. What if you spent time with God and you told Him your plans and problems and you just waited patiently in His presence without saying anything just to see what His comments were on the situation. Here's a broader point for you.

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"The wiser your counselor is, the wiser your counsel will be." Let me repeat that, "The wiser your counselor is, the wiser your counsel will be." And this may sound simple and obvious, but you'll be surprised how many people tell their business to fools.

They talk about problems and give them situation and they've gone through some stuff worse than what they're telling them about and they don't have their lives together in that area and these are the people that we tell our problems to.

And I try to surround myself who have more experience and more knowledge on a certain area that I want to grow in and increase in. So, just observe how much time you spend getting counsel from God and also, observe the wisdom of your friends that you talk to on a regular basis and that you hang around.

Here's another related brother point. "Those who have the least success in an area will offer the most advise in that area." I don't know why it works like that and I don't know why God created a human being like that. It's like, you want to tell everybody when you don't have success in it. You want to tell everybody how to do it.

I was on a talk show with a person talking about relationships. They might have had degrees and stuff and during the break, I asked him, "How many years have you been married?" He said, "Well, I've been in this third marriage for two years now." And they give an anti-city advise on relationships. And folks who have the most success in the area are typically the busiest and you almost have to pry the wisdom out of them.

The person who's talked to me the most about how to raise my seven children and given me the most advise, you know, he only has one child and he didn't have raised him. So, I just kind of listen and nod my head. I just let it go and one end, come out the other, and I don't try to argue with him because somebody told me that if you argue with a fool long enough after a while you won't be able to figure out who the fool is. Now, that's nothing about in here that I'm talking about.

I want to give you a testimony in this area of revelation of how God favored our business just in this area of revelation. With Bronner Brothers, we've been in business over 60 years and our longest running most profitable product was brought to us by the revelation of a prophet of God. He brought us the product, Super Gro and has been one of our longest running profitable products. So, just by Word of the Lord, stepping into your situation, a revelation, an idea can come to you that will change your entire life.

The number two way that God favors your life is through placement and this is having you in the right position and around the right people. And this requires trust in Him because every new position that you go into requires giving up the old and the new position will not always look like a promotion. Know sometimes God will have to get you fired on the job wanted and it will look like a cursing to push you in the entrepreneurship or to push you in an area that He wants you to go. You have to get in an uncomfortable position so that you'll make change.

We've all heard statement, "It's not what you know, but it's who you know." Well, you may not know the person that can take you to the next level. But I tell you this, God knows them. And He can get the hook up, He can connect you with that person that has the resources whether the resource be the knowledge, whether it be money or influence that you need to get to the next level. Even meeting a spouse. Did you know you need to be on the right place or the right time? Some other people might be, "Woo, I wish I would have been like that when I met mine."

Timing and location are key. Now, I'm getting to many laughs on that, but I would advise you all not to laugh too long on that one. Our pressure is not be for God to bless the position we're in now, but rather to get us into a position of where He is blessing. For us to be at the right place at the right time to meet the right people. To invest our time and energy into the right projects. If God is not blessing what you're doing right now, you need to stop and pray about it. And make sure that area that you're struggling with is in the Will of God.

Right now. I'll give you a second testimony related to this favor area of placement being at the right place, right time around the right people. In the company that pastor and I own. Our sales manager he went out to try to get us into a drugstore chain and we've only been in health food stores, this is the first drugstore chain. And when he went out and flew out to this other city to meet with him. He had a schedule 20 minutes to make his presentation. After he got off the plane and got in his taxi to go to the headquarters to meet with them, a snowstorm hit the city.

When he got to the offices and met with the guy, he said that, “We only have our 20-minute block.” But by an act of God the airport has been closed, every other appointment after you has been cancelled for the day. So, take all of the time that you need in a 20-minute appointment written in by man. When God wrote it and he changed it to an hour and 20 minutes and we got into the chain just because of an act of God. That may have seemed like a curse to some, but we knew the favor of God was upon us and He turned around what they had scheduled in man’s time and placed it in God’s timing.

The third area that God will favor your life in, is the of increase, increasing. This is one we’re very familiar with. Sometimes God doesn’t give us a new revelation or don’t take us to a new place necessarily. He just increases us right where we are. We’re like checks in the mail unexpected and increase in us on our jobs right where we are. With that increase, you need increased skill on the inside to properly handle the increase on the outside. If you go from making \$30,000 a year to making a \$100,000 a year, you need increased knowledge on how to manage that. If you go from making a \$100,000 a year to making a million dollars a year, you need increased level of skill in managing that. If this church goes from hundreds of members to thousands of members, we need an increased level of organization to handle ten-fold increase.

My wife and I have seven children. We have to have an increased level of organization in our home and efficiency that we did when we just had one little on running around. To give you a testimony in this area of increase to bring it home for you. That same business, we went to our largest distributor of our product and had a meeting and for a period, we saw sales are dropping and the sales were dropping because they saw the favor upon our product and they said, “This product is moving so well. Let us make a store brand copy of it and lower the price and get our salespeople to push our own product instead of them getting all of the money.”

The company representative met with our salesperson and he said, “Sir, I just want to know what you all are doing over there?” Because he said, “We’ve tried two different formulations of the product. We placed this product out two separate times with all of our multimillion-dollar labs and all of our multimillion-dollar manufacturing facilities and for some reason

we can't explain by all of our mathematical, statistical calculations, all of our marketing PHD. We cannot explain why our product is not moving like your product? And they tried to copy everything on the label, they tried to copy formula, but they didn't see us praying over every batch of product. They didn't see us going in the warehouse and touching every box. And said, "Lord, bless it oh Lord. We dedicate this product to you oh Lord. We thank you for every penny of profit oh, Lord that comes in it." They didn't see us laying hand on the better products. I saying, "Lord, bless every vitamin and mineral in earth in it oh, Lord. Anoint it oh, Lord for the healing that people where feeling something that they were missing, that they couldn't analyze through their equipment." And they had to discontinue both of their product lines. No matter how much research and money they put it into and I tell you--favor, favor, favor. When God favors you, man can't stop you.

I got to move on. Next, I'm going to give you three ways to increase the favor of God on your life from things that you can do on your end. Now, that was three I just gave you with things God does. These are things that you have control over that you must do. I know, I'm going to step on a lot of people's doctrine right now, but there's a common saying that we have and the church, pretty much all of churches that you hear that, "Favor isn't fair."

But you know that's not a scripture in the Bible. It's a common saying, but you got to understand the difference on what people's saying versus what God says, there is a difference. If you base your life on what people say, you're going to get different results based in it than what God said. No matter how much it tickles your ear, no matter how good it sounds to you, if God didn't say it, that's a different foundation.

Now, what the Bible actually does say in Matthew 25-23 is that, "When you're faithful over little, God will make you ruler over much." That is favor and it's not haphazardly given according to the Word. From my experience with watching favor being poured on folks, favor is fair. Now, it may not seem fair to the world when they see things happen all of a sudden. It doesn't seem fair when you don't know all of the details of the heart of this person. You don't know the history of where they come from.

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You don't know the crap that is going into it, you don't what God has seen in there. I agree it doesn't seem fair looking at it, but I tell you, we serve a just and a fair God and His favor is fair. When you know the whole story and not only is that true of everyone that I know personally and have ever known in my life that walked in favor, but every character of the Bible as well that had walked in favor the same can be said. None of them were perfect, t, they all had flaws in the scripture. But there were elements in each of them that made God pay attention to them and cause favor to come upon them.

Abraham had faith that was unparalleled and he told his children's children the way of the Lord. David had a heart after God's own heart and he watched over real sheep in excellence. Samson, he lived by the Nazarite vow to separate himself to the Lord. Moses he was the meekest man on all of the face of the earth. The disciples all dropped what they were doing, they left their careers, they left wives and children, families and houses to go at the drop of a hat and a beckon of a call to follow Jesus.

And you might say, "Well that's because Jesus called them." And no, everybody he called didn't go. He spoke to the rich, young ruler and said, "Sell everything you have and give it to the poor. Come and follow me as a disciple." He looked at all he had and looked at his (00:16:22) "No, I can't do that." He couldn't give up his possession. Not all that he called did go. The disciples answered the call and (00:16:30) to follow Jesus.

We all know in the church of Brother (00:16:34) financial blessing that favor was poured on him. But I tell you, people that don't know him may just looked like a lot hit him all of a sudden. But we who know him understand what God saw in him. First of all, he had been faithful (00:16:48) as long as I have known him. Second of all, he was teaching the finance class. He was sowing seeds into others' lives, helping them increase their money free of charge. He never grumbled about it. He operated his class in excellence for years and he was imparting financial blessings into others. He was faithful to his wife and his children. God saw something in him. He may look haphazard but I tell you, favor is a fact.

I don't know one person nor have I ever known one that walks in the visible favor of God as I woke as a long-term state that when I look over their personal life, I couldn't see why they have favor. Now, don't misunderstand me. There are people in the world that they will get big things and they don't have things in their life to line up in God's word that it looks like God's, favor but not all favor is God's favor.

There are different kinds of favor. You have man's favor. Even the devil has favor and there are some things in life that just come dollar for dollar for regular earthly working effort. But I'm talking about the one that is mentioned as an instant supernatural favor that is not just dollar for dollar off of what you did. I'm talking about a supernatural favor from God. How many of you know that even with man's favor and the devil's favor that they have strings attached to their favor. You will call somebody up and say, "I need your help man, do me a favor." Did you know that's going to have some strings attached? Sometimes you rather do stuff yourself. You'll say, "I don't want to owe him. I don't want the strings attached."

Also, man's and the devil's favor are not always what they seem from the outside. You can look at the number of celebrities and rock stars that have to use drugs and get married three and four and five times in order to find love. It's not all that it seems from the outside. From our end, favor comes through at least three ways. Number one, is obedience to God's Word and this is both the written and the spoken. The logos and the rammer and integrity are automatically in this because if you follow His Word, you have to walk in integrity.

I was out this past week and I took my daughters to the Children's Museum and as we were getting ready to park, I said, "This parking is high." It was \$10 and I got tempted. A lady walked up to me and had our parking ticket. I was about to pay in the machine she said, "You don't have to put your in that. Just use my ticket. I'm on the way out." And the devil tried to tempt me there and the spirit had a quicken me and say, "This \$10 was your daughters watching you breaking integrity will be worth multiple times in penalty than you just paying." And I said, "Ma'am, no thank you. I've got it. I'm going to pay for my own parking." And I paid and showed my daughters that example of walking in integrity.

The number two way that you need to do from your end and the number two thing, is the constable of faith. Joseph, he believed what God showed him in dreams even when he didn't understand how it would happen, even when he knows it would anger other people when he told them about it. He believed what God said and you must be able to see the vision. The only two that went into the promise land from Egypt were Joshua and Caleb. But they were the only two that could see the vision and believe God. The third thing that you have to do from your end and this is where I'll spend the most time because this is the one that you hear the least.

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You're familiar with obedience and faithful life. The third one is excellence in your work. Excellence in your work. Joseph could be trusted so well nobody had to check on him. That he could send him out into the fields and he didn't have to check on Joseph. He actually sends him out the check on his brother because he was trustworthy.

And all through Joseph's life, he had a pattern of excellence. He was excellent working for his father, he was excellent working for Potiphar. He went to jail and was excellent working for the jailer. He was excellent working for pharaoh, he was excellent in every position of his life. He wasn't just waiting on God to do something. He was doing to the best of his ability what he could do with the gift that God had given him.

And on your job, you have a track performing your job. Like the boss who was watching you all day long and notice the difference that will tell you if you operate in excellence or not. Sometimes our boss goes on vacation, we are whole different employee than we are when they're there. The world doesn't respect how you talk about God on your job or in your business, but they resent excellence in your work.

Let me give you a brother point, "The more attention you put on developing your level of excellence in an area, the more attention others, including God will pay to that area." Excellence is maximizing what God has given you to the best of your ability. Here's a brother point; "When you give God all you have, soon you'll find, you have more." Let me repeat that;

“When you give God all you have, soon you’ll find you have more.”

You aren’t born with excellence in anything. You have to cultivate excellence through focus and practice. The greatest golfer in the world wasn’t born playing golf excellent. Or the greatest basketball player in the world wasn’t born shooting a basketball excellent. Now, C. Elijah may tell you, “He was born with it.” But no, I remember, he had to go to basketball camp growing up, he developed those skills. Don’t let them bamboozle you on that. But they took the talent that they were born with and focused on becoming the best they could through diligent practice until they became excellent.

What do you think the best golfer in the world does on days he didn’t have tournaments? Or the best basketball player in the world does on days that he doesn’t have a game? I can tell you what they’re doing, they’re practicing and they have more excuse than any other person in the world on why not to practice because they can wake up and say, “I don’t feel like practicing today. I’m the best in the world. There’s nobody better, undisputed.” They have the best excuse not to practice. Their skill is better than anybody else in the world, but they practice more than anybody else. So, if they practice and they are the best, what must we do hone our skills to use them in excellence for the kingdom?

And I started working out four times a week some months ago and after two months of doing this in one week, three people grabbed my arm and talked about how much more muscular it felt. I didn’t tell them I had been working out. My brother Larry back there was one he didn’t know I had been working out. He helped me up the step one morning and he grabbed my arm. He said, “Brother James, you’ve been working out.”

So, when I paid attention to detail, when I put into practice others begin to notice and pay attention to it. Five-star hotels aren’t rated five-star just because they put the most money into the hotel, but it is because they pay the most attention to detail and accept nothing below excellent in all their steps. Whatever you want to increase in your life, begin practicing it until you are excellent at it and watch increase in favor happen in that area.

I was at a function last week and was listening to a four-star general talk to a college student and he told him that, “He could do whatever he wanted with his time and his money now.” And he said, “The reason that he could is because, he did what he needed to do when he needed to do it when he was in school and in the military.” He said that, “He was never the smartest guy. Never had the highest IQ. Those around him are much smarter.” But he said, “Nobody ever outworked.” He said, “When given an equivalent task I would work hard. I would get up early and study longer than all of them.” And he became a four-star general. He said that, “He used his time wisely and now he has the freedom to go and do what he wants with his time.”

He or she who is faithful over a little will be made ruler over much. If you want more money, begin to focus in on managing the little you have now with excellence and watch how much increase you have in a year from now. If you want more free time in your life, manage your current 24 hours in excellence for a year and see how your time increases after that year. If you want more love begin to handle your current relationships in excellence and watch in a year from now how much more love you’ll have.

One of the tips that older guys will tell younger guys is, “Look at the way your girl treats her father” or women will tell younger women, “Look at the way your guy will treat his mother and when they treat them well” they say, “This will be a reflection of how they’ll treat you.”

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So, when you handle your existing relationship in excellence it has the potential of getting you an additional relationship and increasing your love. If you want more talent begin practicing that gift for an extra 30 minutes a day and watch in just one month how much more talent you’ll have in that area. Can I get an Amen brother Ivan?

If you want to be the boss on your job, begin doing your job like the boss is watching you all day long and if you want to be the boss begin to manage yourself with the mentality that I’m going to show how good of a boss I’m going to be. Make yourself your

first employee, show how well you can manage yourself that employee in that position. Manage that well, increase will come.

If you want to be a leader in society, start with the household God has given you and lead them in excellence. We've gotten away from that today but back in Bible days, first Timothy 3 says, "In order to be a leader over God's children, you have to have your own house in order first."

God doesn't even want to trust you with his children if your children are out of whack.". Now, I didn't say that, the Bible said that. If you want better kids, begin studying better parenting for a year and watch the increase in your children. If you want better health, begin to handle your current state of health in excellence with diet, exercise and rest. If you want more wisdom try using the wisdom you have right now in excellence for a year and watch your wisdom level.

Before you go to another level of wisdom just don't do stuff you know stupid right now. Most of the stuff that get us in trouble, we knew that was stupid when we did it. We can't come back and say, "I wish I would have known. I shouldn't have been going 90 miles an hour on the way to work." We knew that stuff was wrong. We knew it wasn't in wisdom.

So, use your current level of wisdom for a year. Operate and then you'll watch wisdom increase in your life. If you want more forgiveness from others and in your own heart, take the people that you're holding something against right now and go home and begin to call them one by one on the phone and say, "I'm trying to get some things right in my heart. It wasn't your fault, but some things happen and I was holding something against you in my heart and just want to let you know, I'm letting it go today and I forgive you."

Start with what you already have and you will see others begin forgiving you and forgiveness will lift in your heart. If you want more anointing on your life, which is the presence of the Lord upon you, begin spending more time in His presence alone in prayer and worship and watch your anointing increase when you're not alone.

Even when I talk to my own children, I told them that I will reward them not based on their birth order, not based on

whether they are boy or girl, but I will entrust them with position, resources and opportunity based on how well they handle the task that they are given. I will judge them on the same three traits that Joseph had; obedience, faith and excellence.

And I can relate to God as a loving Father myself. I love all of my children the same and I provide for all of their needs the same. All of them are well fed, they're all well clothed, they're all well-educated, they all have a good roof over their heads. But when it comes to some extra things in life that they ask for, when it comes to increase above their regular need of life, they are rewarded based upon their ability to handle it. When report cards come, they don't know they'll get amount of money. They are rewarded based on the level of effort and the results shown. And I'll tell you even something else that I started this year, that God does also. This year, I told my kids I'm going to try something different to see how it works. I've been giving them a certain amount for As and Bs, but I told them, "If all seven of them make only As and Bs then, I will double their existing scale for that semester that I had to use."

So, they can get on one accord and help each other out and they learn and improve themselves together, everybody will get double. So, they used to get \$20 for an A everybody will get \$40 for an A. God increases the favor of a group when all of the members of their group are doing what they're supposed to do.

Whenever a revival has broken out in the church, you can go back and look at the track record, you will see prayer went on for a long hour in that minutes. You'll see fasting went on among the members of that congregation. You will see that they were honoring God with their time and money throughout that congregation and God move in their midst. But we will hear about revival and go and see, but we miss what came before the revival.

When the children of Israel obeyed God as a group, they conquered every nation that they came in contact with. So, as we increase our level of obedience, faith and excellence as a body, it will increase the level of favor over our lives individually and over the body of Christ as a whole.

And as I conclude this message, I just want to give you even an example of it at a young age. You got to know that I must do this, but I'm going to ask Juan Dallas would you just come up quickly, come up quickly, come up quickly. I just want you out to hear this. Sometimes we need to see an example. And this is a young man that I met. He goes to my children's school and he has some awesome discipline in his life.

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He reads 10 pages everyday of self-improvement books. I didn't say, comic books, I didn't say fiction books, but books that will make him a better person. How old are you? He's 11 years old. 11 years old and he reads 10 pages every day and doing this little thing every day, I've seen the favor of God upon his life and I even told my son, Joseph. I said, "Grab on to one and stay connected with him throughout your life because I saw excellence in him."

And even when I saw these traits, I went to my kids' school for a function because he was operating excellence at small things at a young age, they got ready to call out the character award for the entire class. Who got that award one? He did. Integrity award. He got the integrity award. Well, he didn't preach unto his school about everything the Ark of Salvation was teaching them at Sunday school, he demonstrated integrity in the way that he acts in class and on the halls.

And he went into one of the toughest schools in the city and made straight As. So, God has something great planned for his life. And I just wanted to use him as an example that even at a young age of 10 and 11 years old, if you follow the principles in this message that even in your school, even in your neighborhood and your circle of friends increase in favor will come and it will work for you in any ages. Thank you so much.

And everywhere he goes he gets favor. The Sunday school teacher made reference to him. He says, "Something special about this young man." He says, "He's the only kid that brings a notebook and take notes in Sunday school. So, I just prophesize great things over Mr. Juan."

James Bronner: Well, God bless you and I thank you today for joining us at Brothers of the Word. You can go to [BrothersoftheWord.com](http://BrothersoftheWord.com)

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