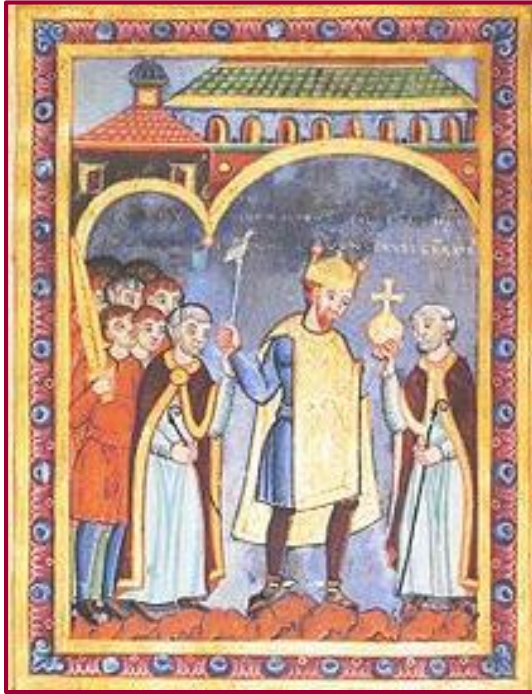


A King Learns Obedience

In the 11th century, King Henry III of Bavaria grew tired of court life and the pressures of being a monarch.



He made application to Prior Richard at a local monastery, asking to be accepted as a contemplative and spend the rest of his life in a monastery.

“Your Majesty,” said Prior Richard, “do you understand that the pledge here is one of obedience? That will be hard because you have been a king.”

“I understand,” said Henry. “The rest of my life will be obedient to you, as Christ leads you.”

“Then I will tell you what to do,” said Prior Richard. “Go back to your throne and serve faithfully in the place where God has put you.”

When King Henry died, a statement was written: “The king learned to rule by being obedient.”

The story is instructive for us in Life Care and Century Park.

Merriam-Webster defines obedient as: “Submissive to the restraint or command of authority ... willing to do what someone tells you to do or to follow a law, rule, etc.”

Whether you realize it or not, God has put you in the place where you are. Wherever that may be, we are called to serve faithfully.

All of us must practice obedience to someone or something – such as a supervisor, policies and procedures, our mission statement, and the patients, residents and families who come our way.

Ultimately, of course, we must be obedient to God, who created us with a purpose in mind for each of us. Following His will brings us inner peace and joy.

Just as King Henry learned, we can lead by being obedient.

If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land (Isaiah 1:19 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter