



The Best Number Two

We have all been taught and told that for us to be of value we have to be the **number one—the CEO, President, Boss, and Senior Pastor or Director**. Nothing can be further from the truth!

Very few people are content as being a number two or in a support role. Many have bought into the idea that we all are leaders, which is not necessarily accurate. We all have a place in the body but we all cannot be heads.

It is better to be an excellent number two than a number one that sucks and is average. An excellent number two is better than an average number one. Don't be average!

It is crucial that we understand our place in that season and quit trying to advance just for the sake of open opportunities. We will end up doing a poor job, fired, or even unhappy if we do what God has not called us to do.

- We have an anointing to be where and do what God has called us to do. You do not have an anointing to do another person's role or call that God did not call you to. Find your place where you fit, are called, and settle down or else you will not be fruitful.
- A lot of strife and problems arise from a lack of contentment with the position we are in especially as number two or in a position that is not the very top (number one). Many fights in ministry and business come from a place where one individual is not content with the role they have been called into and want to be number one.
- **Best man at a wedding**

A best man in a wedding is brought on to support the groom, not to take his wife. The role of the best man in a wedding is not to kiss the bride or touch her. However much the best man has the desire to kiss a woman, the bride is not her. That is not his role. That is not his place. Once he takes on a place that is not his, he is removed from that role. He does not know his role.

- Example:

I had an assistant I will call Alexander the Coopersmith; He was an excellent number two and he thrived in it. He was a good guy in this role, however, if he woke up and tried to step into a role, he was not been invited into to be number one, he would be removed. Why? He was not hired to be number one. That is not his role or place.

- If you try to be number one in a season you are called and anointed to be number two, and you will be removed.

Example of playing soccer:

I used to play soccer and I was pretty good at it although I was never a striker or forward that was tasked with scoring goals. Occasionally, I did score, but I delighted and concentrated on creating opportunities, frustrating the opponent, and stealing the ball from them so that we can create opportunities and score. I enjoyed that role and in no way did I feel that this was not good, or that I was not making a difference. Guess what? I had no desire of being a striker or forward, why, I was a content midfielder (number two role) and I thrived in that position. When I tried to be a striker or forward, I was worse than average. It was pitiful—really bad.

I only flourished in my role, not some else's. Any assist ball possession from the opponent was considered a goal to me. It was fulfilling.

A. The Body

1 Corinthians 12:12 *For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are **one body**: so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 14 **For the body is not one member, but many.** 15 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 17 **If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling?** 18 But now hath God **set** the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. 19 And if they were all one member, where were the body? 20 But now are they many members, yet but one body. 21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. 22 **Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary:** 23 And those members of the body, which we think to be less honorable, upon these we bestow more abundant honor; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. 24 For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honor to that part which lacked: 25 That there should be no schism in*

the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. 26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it. 27 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

Three key things this passage communicates:

- Unity in the body
 - Value each member plays in the body.
 - Each member has different functions and roles.
- a) Note that this says that the **body is one, not two**. We do not have two bodies. We are one body of Christ of which Jesus Himself is the head.
- i) An organization or ministry is also one body which has a head. Everyone is not the head. Anything with two heads is a monster.
- b) This body is one but has **many members or parts. All these members of parts have a part to play**. One part does not do the part of another, nor does it envy the part of the other. Every part is relevant in its functionality.
- i) An organization or ministry has many parts or departments which all focus on different things they must function in. All these parts of the organization or ministry are still part of the one body, the organization. An organization cannot function independently of other parts. All the other parts have a role to play as other parts.
- c) It is God that **SETS** us in the body and our role in it. We need to embrace that role and thrive in it. *But now hath God **set** the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. (1 Corinthians 12:18)*
- i) We should not be the ones to set ourselves in any role of the body. God does that.

ii) **Marriage:**

God set the husband in a marriage to be the head or number one, not the wife. The wife is valuable and important, but her place in the marriage is not number one but number two. She is not anointed to be the head and if she steps into that place, she perverts (**Ahab and Jezebel**) the order God created and it does not release life, but frustration, problems, and issues.

She can still be the best number two God created her to be in the context of a marriage, but she can be number one in the context of a workplace,

business, or in the corporate world and if the husband works with her and she is his boss, then she is the number one and he is the number two, but as soon as she gets home, that changes.

A wife will be number two for life as long as she is still married to that man. **She is and will be a number two for life only within the confines of that marriage.**

- d) Because one is not on the top of the food chain does not mean that they are not important, nor should they desire to be something else or not associate themselves with the body.
 - i) All these parts have a critical role or else there would be no body. A body comprises all these parts that do certain things.
 - ii) One part cannot say to another I do not need you. As a body, each part needs the other. We need the eyes to see, the ears to hear, and the nose to smell.
 - iii) ***If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing?***
- e) *Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary:*
 - i) Even those parts or members of the body that seems irrelevant are still relevant.
- f) Because we are all one body, and we all have crucial parts we play. We need to care for each other. We need to suffer with each other and rejoice with each other. God does not want division in the body.

Example: Job Interview

There was a time that I applied for a job but before I was hired by my boss Pastor Rick to work under him, he asked me a question along the lines of *if I was content with a non-number one role.*

My answer I believe played a part in my getting that job. I told him that I had played a supportive role in many places including sports and I loved it. God gave me the contentment to serve in such a role.

B. Moses and Aaron

Some people are called to be “**Aarons**” while some are called to be a “**Moses**”.

Exodus 17:11-12 *And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. [12] But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.*

- a) Aaron sucked at being number one as Moses went up the mountain to speak with God. He was left in charge and people made a golden calf (Exodus 32:15-32).
 - i) Aaron was a terrible number one. HE was below average, and he was not a leader. People led Aaron; he did not lead them.
- b) We need to discover God's will for us and be content with it. Be content in the center of God's will.
- c) **We will fail, suck at being anything other than what God called us to do. This could be the reason some folks are still average.**
- d) No one is better than you at being you. No one is better than you when you arrange yourself in line with God's will for your life.

C. Ambition?

- a) Ambition is not symbolic of God's will for us. You can grow and rise within the confines of God's will for your life even though you were a number two.
- b) Advancing for sake of opportunity will destroy people that rise to places and positions they do not belong or were not created to occupy.
 - i) Manchester United Assistant Coach was excellent as a number two to Sir Alex Ferguson but completely sucked as a number one. Some people make better assistants or number twos than number ones. This is a reality of life and also in the Kingdom of God.
- c) Many people do not know that there is a limit to how far high Gods wants them to go.
 - i) **There is a ceiling that God has set for us to rise to, therefore we cannot just have ambitions outside God's will.**
- d) Being a number two or even a three does not mean you are not relevant. We need all the body.

- i) All the body is very valuable, and each part has a part to play.

D. Your identity is not:

It is not our position, gifting, talent, call that makes us **valuable**. Our identity ought to be in who we are in Christ, not in things and skill sets we possess. It is not what you do that makes you **valuable**, but **who you are in Christ and your character**.

- a) What you do
- b) Your job or position
- c) Your profession

- i) **We need to separate who we are from what we do.**
- ii) **We need to separate who we are from our physical appearance.**

- d) Family heritage
- e) Sex
- f) Skin color
- g) Country of origin
- h) Achievements and your

- a) What you do is not insignificant. No matter how others may have treated you or thought of you.
 - i) Give it your all as unto the Lord.
 - ii) Be faithful and be consistent.
 - iii) Until you settle into what God has called you to do at least in this season, you will not have the level of excellence that we need and you will not do things with excellence and as unto the Lord, not unto men (Colossians 3:17, 22-25).

E. Do not promote yourself

- a) Promotion comes from the Lord.
 - i) Psalm 75:6 *For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.*
 - ii) Promotion is not always financial. It is more than that.

F. Entrepreneur or Support staff

One thing that I have learned is that not everyone is called by the Lord to be an entrepreneur. Some people are called to help the entrepreneur in a managerial or COO role for instance. We need to find our place and fit in.

- a) Not everyone is called to be the **CEO, President, and Senior Pastor or the Director.**
- b) Fulfilling God's will for your life is tied to being in a role or position of what God has called you to do, not whatever you desire and aspire for.
- c) Opportunities to get into higher roles and positions could come but you need to ensure that is God's will for you. I also must say that some roles are simply for a season and then one grows into another higher role.
- d) You are the best person at doing and being in the role of what God called you to do. No one is better than you if you are doing what He has called you to do.

G. Sports

I have seen this work best in sports for instance Soccer. The best soccer players in the world do not become the best by playing multiple positions. If one is a striker, he is not leaving his daily life aspiring to be a defender. He knows he is a striker, and he serves in that role or position and he becomes the best at it. If he played multiple positions, he would become very average. They are the best position 1, position 2, and position 9s and this makes a difference in the team. Everyone cannot be a number 4 or position 10 or else the team falls apart. They are the best striker, midfielders, and defenders and they are content with that. This a huge lesson to learn and apply to our daily lives.

When I used to play soccer, I was a midfielder, and I was content in that role. I never wanted to be a striker who scores goals and gets all the attention. I knew my role was to create those chances for the striker which I enjoyed doing and I also thrived at it.

In conclusion, **we need to be open to a change of seasons. Sometimes, seasons change where a number two can become a number one, or a number one steps down and support another number one.** And for some, they will be number two's all their lives. The bottom line is we have to hear from the Lord and be secure in Him and in that thing that God has called us into.