# The Role of the Assistant Pastor

Philippians 2:19-22
Jerry Ferrso

**Observations about Being Second Man:**

First: It is not an easy position to fill.

 a. EGO

 b. Putting aside our own agenda

 c. Our success is dependent greatly upon our Leader.

Second: It may be the position you should fill.

**Avoid a Position-Oriented Approach to Life:**

1. We are free from the pull of ego.

2. Our motives become pure.

3. Our decisions will be based upon God’s will, not ours.

4. We will be fruitful because we are in the right place/position.

5. We will be content but not complacent.

* Being in a Second position I must understand and embrace my role. This position is not any less important than the position of a

Sr. Pastor in God’s eyes. This Second position is God’s calling upon my life and I must receive it wholeheartedly. Assisting the Sr. Pastor to fulfill the vision that God has given to him is not in any way diminishing my value for the cause of Christ.

**1. The Pastor’s Vision must be Recognized**

1. You must Acknowledge that the Pastor’s Vision has come from the Lord.

2. You must Know the Pastor’s Vision.

a. Listening to the Pastor in meetings

b. Listening to the Pastor’s preaching

c. Through prayer

d. By spending time with your Pastor

e. Asking appropriate questions

3. You must Understand the Pastor’s Vision.

a. Understand the importance of the vision

b. Understand the ramifications of the vision

c. Understand my role in seeing the vision become a reality

4. You must pray for Wisdom in how you’re going to answer questions about the Pastor’s Vision.

a. People will ask staff questions that they will never ask the Pastor

b. Remember what you say will be repeated

c. Be extremely supportive of the direction that the Pastor is going

**2. The Pastor’s Vision must be Received**

1. Each staff member must fully Embrace the Vision of the Pastor.

2. My embracement is a Spiritual process.

a. God has given this vision to my Pastor

b. God has led me to be part of this staff to accomplish God’s will through my Pastor

c. God has gifted me to be an active player on this team

d. I must accept (Whole Heartedly) the role that my Pastor assigns to me

e. My embracement of this vision will include not only my actions but also my attitude

**3. The Pastor’s Vision must be Reciprocated**

1. The Pastor cannot be the only one Voicing the vision.

2. Each staff member plays an important Role in communicating the vision to those in their realm of influence.

3. Church members tend to Measure themselves up to the Lowest staff member.

**4. The Pastor’s Vision must be Reflected**

1. The vision is reflected through my Excitement.

2. The vision is reflected through my Participation.

3. The vision is reflected through my Spirit.

**5. The Pastor’s Vision must be Re-evaluated**

Speaker’s notes (The pastor lives with the vision and the burden of it…staff members we tend to own it and then through time the passion diminishes).

1. We need to Evaluate our heart for the vision.

2. We need to Embrace the vision continually.

3. We need to share our Excitement for the vision.

**6. The Pastor’s Vision will involve personal Resolve**

1. Stay personally Committed to the vision.

2. Stay personally Connected in fulfilling the vision.

**7. The Pastor’s Vision will require Reassurance**

1. The Pastor will need your Love.

2. The Pastor will need your Loyalty.

3. The Pastor will need your Longevity.

4. The Pastor will need your Labor.

**Ten Practical Ways to be a Blessing to Your Pastor**

1. Embrace your calling as a Second Man.

2Thessalonians 1:11

Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:

2Timothy 1:9

Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

1Peter 1:10

Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

2. Elevate the Pastor before the People.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you;

13 And to esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

3. Excitement must be demonstrated regarding the Direction of the church.

1 Samuel 14:6-7

And Jonathan said to the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that the LORD will work for us: for there is no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few.

7 And his armourbearer said unto him, Do all that is in thine heart: turn thee; behold, I am with thee according to thy heart.

4. Express your love and appreciation Often.

2Timothy 1:16

The Lord give mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain:

5. Execute your tasks with Diligence.

Colossians 3:23-24

Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:

23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

6. Evaluate your personal Fruitfulness.

John 15:16

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

7. Embody the right Spirit to other staff members.

2 Samuel 23:15-16

And David longed, and said, Oh that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate!

16 And the three mighty men brake through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David: nevertheless he would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto the LORD.

8. Edify your Pastor by remembering special Occasions.

Hebrews 13:7

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

9. Engage yourself in the Pastor’s Vision.

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10. Encourage your Pastor by random Acts of love.

1 Corinthians 16:15-18

I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,)

16 That ye submit yourselves unto such, and to every one that helpeth with us, and laboureth.

17 I am glad of the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus: for that which was lacking on your part they have supplied.

18 For they have refreshed my spirit and yours: therefore acknowledge ye them that are such.