



**Playing Second Fiddle or Adding Harmony?  
Glorifying God in a Support Role**

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Big question: When my calling is not about my own success, but another's, am I playing second fiddle or am I adding harmony to the great chorus of God's redemption story?

- 1) Being faithful in a support role adds beautiful harmony to God's redemptive plan.
  - a) We serve for God's glory, not our own name.
    - i) The chief end of man is to glorify God.
    - ii) The Tower of Babel builders' attempt to make a name for themselves was disastrous.
    - iii) We make God's invisible kingdom visible in our midst.
  - b) Productivity and yield is not the indicator of success—faithfulness is.

- i) Beartooth Mountain moment
- ii) It's not just your fruitfulness but your first chair's as well.
- c) Second chair living is a visible example of the gospel of grace.
  - i) Unmerited favor
  - ii) A spectrum of productivity in God's Kingdom does not equate to a spectrum of God's grace.
- d) We all serve an ultimate authority.
  - i) The whole body saves the brain.
  - ii) In the priesthood of believers, all are equal.
- 2) Three practical ways to thrive in this role: invest, influence, and imitate.
  - a) Invest

i) If God calls him, then he calls you too.

ii) The missing 33%

b) Influence

i) Actively understand how and when to exercise influence.

ii) Mobilize others and cultivate trust.

iii) The Esther dinner

c) Imitate

i) Same attitude as Christ

ii) A supporting role is in our DNA as Christians.

iii) My life for his means my life for his.

iv) White surrender flag and battle banner

**Other helpful resources:**

Mike Bonem and Roger Patterson, *Leading from the Second Chair*, San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2005.

Gloria Furman, *The Pastor's Wife*, Wheaton: Crossway, 2015.

Tim Keller, *Every Good Endeavor: Connecting Your Work to God's Work*, New York: Dutton Penguin Group, 2012.

Tim Keller and Kathy Keller, *The Meaning of Marriage*, New York: Dutton Penguin Group, 2011.