

Church of God in Christ National Leadership Conference

Topic: Leading from the 2nd Chair: Being #1 at Being #2

Presenter: Bishop Christopher E. Martin Sr., Auxiliary Bishop, Michigan North Central Jurisdiction, Bishop J. Drew Sheard, Jurisdictional Bishop,

7 QUALITIES that every Number #2 must possess to be Number #1

1. Communication Skills. Being able to Communicate the Leaders vision purely is very important!

- A. Comfort Level with strangers.
- B. Articulation that fits the demographic.

2. Interpersonal skills. You are no good in the second chair, if no one wants to deal with you.

- A. Recognizing the value of high effective work teams.
- B. Second chair leaders must be able to make the ideas of others fit the vision.

3. Time management skills. The second chair plays a direct role in the good health or frustration of the first chair.

4. Strong organizational skills. The ability to garner respect and deliver for the leader.

- A. The ability to multitask is a necessary skill.
- B. The second chair must be able to recognize the strengths and weaknesses of the entire team in order for the organization of the vision to come to fruition.
- C. It is important for the person in the second chair, to understand that your behavior has a direct impact on the efficacy of the vision coming to manifestation.

5. The ability to pivot.

- A. Things did not go as planned, so now what?
- B. Am I able to carry out the leaders vision in the face of adversity.
- C. Help! the budget came up short now what?

6. Attention given to Detail.

- A. Speed and quality don't always mix.

7. Prioritize Well!

- A. Understanding the urgency of different assignments.

- B. Balancing family business personal business, and ministry.
- C. Preventing burn out, so the first chair is always covered.

Church of God in Christ

Leadership Conference 2023

“Leading from the Second Chair, Being #1 at Being #2” (Outline)

Presenter: Bishop Tony W. Torain, J.D., D.Min.

- I. Introduction**
 - A. Presenter’s role in Greater Maryland First Jurisdiction – Executive Administrative Assistant**
- II. Second seat is a role that many bi-vocational pastors take in their secular employment to pastor a church while maintaining a secular job.**
 - A. Presenter’s work history as demonstration of this point.**
 - B. Learning to be number 2 in the workplace has helped think about how best to be number 2 in the jurisdiction**
- III. “Who’s Holding Your Ladder” by Samuel Chad**
 - A. Chad’s thesis is that the most important decision a leader must make is who will be on his or her leadership team.**
 - B. Question for second tier leaders – “What are the qualities, characteristics and commitments that are required for second line leadership?”**
 - C. Discussion of the leadership of the patriarch Joseph in Egypt and the exilic prophet Daniel in Babylon.**
- IV. Essential Characteristics for “First Assistants”**
 - A. Humility**
 - 1. Humility must grow out of the belief that the person in the first seat is there by the “Will of God.”**
 - B. Commitment to Excellence in Ministry**
 - 1. The commitment has to be to the work and not just to having a title.**

2. Excellence in the work cannot be motivated by the expectation that number 2 will eventually become number.

C. Commitment to Prayer for the Leader

1. Prayer for spiritual anointing to do the work.
 - a. Saul and David
2. Prayer for good health.
3. Prayer for wisdom and insight.
4. Prayer for his or her family as they sacrifice so that the leader can serve.

D. Commitment to Presence

1. Number 2's personal calendar has to be in sync with the calendar of the organization.
2. There should not be any outside ministry engagements during the Worker's Meeting or the Convocation unless number 1 makes an exception and gives release.
3. Number 2 must show up for planned activities.

E. Commitment to Loyalty

1. Number 2 will be privy to confidential information and confidentiality must not be broken.
2. Number 2 must not allow others to manipulate him or her to get information that is not to be shared.
3. Example – Bishop Lyles' mild heart attack.
4. Number 1 must be able to feel like number 2 can be trusted and is not trying to undermine number 1's efforts.

V. Limits of Loyalty

- A. Unethical Behavior – Examples – Lying, abusive behavior, taking advantage of the weak.
- B. Immoral Behavior – sexual misconduct, behavior unbecoming holiness, substance abuse
- C. Illegal Behavior – Theft, malfeasance, misfeasance.
- D. How to address bad behavior when displayed by the leader.

VI. Summary and Conclusion

Topic: Leading from the Second Chair: *Being #1 at being #2*
Dr. Barbara Bryant
Jurisdictional Supervisor, Southern California First Jurisdiction

Introduction: Can you Really Lead from the Second Chair?

Leadership can be defined as the ability that an individual possesses to influence and guide followers in order to actualize a goal, target or purpose. More plainly stated, John Maxwell describes a leader as someone who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way. It has been often said that a leader must demonstrate the culture in which they expect those reporting to them to exclude. Another nugget of wisdom that most of us have heard over the years, especially in Church is “that in order to be a good leader one must be a good follower. “We see examples of this in the scripture time and time again. Joshua follows the leadership of Moses, Elijah follows the leadership of Elisha, the 12 disciples who ultimately turned the world upside down closely followed the leadership of Jesus Christ. It is imperative that one who feels that call to lead subject themselves to a strong leader. This action will only strengthen and develop the leadership ability of the individual by providing a source of accountability, guidance and validation. As we look at the word leadership, we must understand that leadership comes in many forms and responsibilities. Leadership roles vary from organization to organization. This depends heavily on the structure, demands and logistics of the organization. No two organizations are just alike, however; many organizations have a common leadership role, and that leadership role is considered the “second chair.” The second chair role is considered a person in a subordinate role whose influence with others adds value throughout the organization.” The title of this role will vary depending on the organization. Examples are Vice President, Executive Pastor, Assistant Pastor, SVP, Assistant Minister of Music, COO and so on. These roles are extremely vital in the life of any administration to ensure that the organization’s leader has adequate support and that the organization itself has the necessary leadership coverage in order for the vision and purpose of said organization to be actualized. The fundamental question is it possible to LEAD from the Second Chair.

I. L- Leadership

- a. In order to lead from the Second Chair, the Second chair leader must learn the heart of the leader. I Thessalonians 5:12 “know them that labor among you.” What is the Leader’s Vision?
- b. The (SCL) must also learn the goals, objectives and overall mission of the organization
- c. The (SCL) must be willing to train, develop and coach on the behalf of the leader, not on their own behalf. It’s not about you! You are a leader, but you are a Servant Leader. You are there to serve the head of the organization.

II. E- Evaluation

- a. In order to lead from the second chair, it is imperative to have keen eyesight. Keen eyesight is the ability to notice or recognize a particular thing or quality. It means that you have the ability to pay special attention to detail.
- b. You are the eyes, ears and voice of the Leader. You must remember that you represent your leader in their absence. If your leader wouldn’t do it or say it, don’t you dare do it or say it!
- c. James 1:19 “And let every man be swift to hear, but slow to speak, and slow to anger.”

- d. Evaluate how your leader handles conflict. Psalm 37:37 “Mark the perfect man and pay close attention to the upright: for the end of that man is peace.”

III. A- Alignment

- a. Alignment is defined as two or more things that are adjusted in order to be parallel with each other.
- b. One of the most challenging aspects of leading from the 2nd chair can be maintain alignment with the 1st Chair Leader. Let's be transparent. Some 1st Chair Leaders can be difficult to align with due to personality differences, jealousy and leadership style. However, alignment is not only important, but it is necessary in order to maintain harmony within the organization.
- c. Philippians 2:2 “That ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord of one mind.
- d. In difficult time of leading from the 2nd Chair it is crucial that the 2nd Chair leader unequivocally knows that God called them to that particular role. It is the assurance of the call that will comfort, strengthen and keep in the individual when faced with adversity.
- e. When Saul became envious of David, David maintained a posture of submission by maintaining a life of prayer and consecration. David realized that it was not about him, but it was about the Assignment! Understand the assignment!

IV. D- Development

- a. Every leader must invest in their personal development as well as the development of their staff. The First Chair Leader oftentimes depends on the Second chair leader to provide coaching, training and development on there behalf. How can you do this if you're unprepared. “Be the change you want to see in the world”. - Gandhi
- b. Know your business! Invest in courses, educational resources and tools that will empower, equip and motivate you as a leader. You should then in turn set KPI's for your staff to ensure that they are developed at a level that maximize their potential but also actualize your goals and objectives as an organization.
- c. Set monthly and quarterly meetings with your First Chair Leader so that they can impart wisdom to you that can be shared throughout the organization.

Conclusion

They say it's lonely at the top. And it can be even lonelier when you are almost at the top- Mike Bonem
Leading from the Second Chair can be a rewarding, fulfilling and beautiful experience for the leader that is undoubtedly sure of the call that God has given them to support a leader. There is a certain grace that is bestowed on the Second Chair Leader to not only lead but to also follow. In order to lead from the 2nd chair, one must walk in grace, dignity and assurance that their contribution is essential to the health and future of the organization. Remember- You are #1 at being #2!