Emancipating Greatness: A Community of Greatness Pastor Johnson Bowie

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Genesis 1:27 NLT

God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Genesis 1:28 NLT

God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. **Reign** over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

Genesis 2:18

"It is not good for **man** (Hebrew = "Adam") to be alone..."

- "There is nothing more unchristian than a solitary Christian."
- John Wesley

Becoming a Community of Greatness

1. We Are Called to Rule Together

Genesis 1:28 NLT

God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. **REIGN** over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

REIGN: *Hebrew "Radah"* — means "to rule, have dominion, or dominate"

Genesis 1:28 NLT

"... **REIGN** over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

We were called to rule together, but we were never called to rule each other.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 NLT

Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Likewise, **two** people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but **two** can stand back-to-back and conquer. **Three are even better**, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

We have to grow to the place where we delight in declaring our dependence on our brothers and sisters in Christ!

"Nobody is a whole chain. Each one is a link. But take away one link and the chain is broken. Nobody is a whole team. Each one is a player. But take away one player and the game is forfeited. Nobody is a whole orchestra. Each one is a musician. But take away one musician and the symphony is incomplete. You guessed it. We need each other. You need someone and someone needs you. To make this thing called life work, we gotta lean and support. And relate and respond. And give and take. And confess and forgive. And reach out and embrace. Since none of us is a whole, independent, self-sufficient, super capable, all-powerful hotshot, let's quit acting like we are. Life's lonely enough without our playing that silly role. The game's over. Let's link up." — Chuck Swindoll

Becoming a Community of Greatness

2. We Are Called to Affirm One Another

Affirmation is taking the purposeful initiative to call out and agree with the greatness God has put in someone.

Proverbs 25:11 MSG

The right word at the right time is like a custom-made piece of jewelry.

GREATNESS is living **confident** in who God made me to be, using the unique **gifts** He put in me for His glory around me!

1 Timothy 1:18 TPT

So Timothy, my son, I am entrusting you with this responsibility, in keeping with the very first prophecies that were spoken over your life, and are now in the process of fulfillment in this great work of ministry... With this encouragement use your prophecies as weapons as you wage spiritual warfare by faith and with a clean conscience.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 TPT

It is the same Holy Spirit who continues to distribute **many different varieties of gifts**. The Lord Yahweh is one, and he is the one who apportions to believers **different varieties of ministries**. The same God distributes **different kinds of miracles** that accomplish **different results** through each believer's gift and ministry as he energizes and activates them.

"I can do what you cannot, and you can do what I cannot; together we can do great things." – *Mother Teresa*

Becoming a Community of Greatness

3. We Are Called to Get Out of the Boat

Matthew 14:25-31 TPT

At about four o'clock in the morning, Jesus came to them, walking on the waves! When the disciples saw him walking on top of the water, they were terrified and screamed, "A ghost!" Then Jesus said, "Be brave and don't be afraid. I am here!" Peter shouted out, "Lord, if it's really you, then have me join you on the water!" "Come and join me," Jesus replied. So Peter stepped out onto the water and began to walk toward Jesus. But when he realized how high the waves were, he became frightened and started to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he cried out. Jesus immediately stretched out his hand and lifted him up and said, "What little faith you have! Why would you let doubt win?"

How many times has Jesus said, "COME and join me," but you watched **someone else** step out when **you** should have?

"It is true that God may have called you to be exactly where you are. But, it is absolutely vital to grasp that He didn't call you there so you could settle in and live your life in comfort and superficial peace."

- Francis Chan