

Repositioning Yourself

1 Cor 1:18-20

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. **19** For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate." **20** Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?...

Blaise Pascal says "There is a God shaped vacuum in the heart of every man."

St. Augustine said "Our hearts are restless until they rest in thee."

Our journey in life is largely about shifting from vain attempts to quench our thirst from other sources and running to God and His Kingdom ways. I call this process REPOSITIONING. Why do we end up where we are in life? Is it luck? Is it genetics? How you answer this question will determine your values, attitude and behavior.

I will give you a clue. A lot of goals scored are to do with being in the right place at the right time.

I declare over you that this year you will function from the right position. Your progress in God will be determined by the degree to which you continuously choose to reposition yourself to function from God's wisdom and pattern and leave the world's pattern behind.

Much of the debate around players is whether they are in the right position. Do they play well from the middle or as a wide player? There needs to be this type of discussion around our daily lives. Many are experts at analyzing how coaches are playing people in the wrong positions yet in our everyday lives many of us are not well positioned.

Great soccer teams are good at reorganizing themselves. It's about getting back to their correct positions. They are able to do this because they know their formation. They know their position. I would like to propose to you that success in life has largely to do with how you are positioned. And how you are positioned is largely to do with YOU. You position yourself.

How do you relate to your wife, husband, brothers, and parents? In the army in order to be effective, positions have to be clear. This is not something rigid but something we choose. When you have a revelation of the correct position someone holds in your life it affects the relationship and also your effectiveness.

I asked my wife about her roses and what she has learned with regards to them. She said they need water, they need to be pruned and they need sunlight. They speaks to me of positioning.

Have you placed yourself in a position where there is sunlight for you and water for you?
Have you place yourself where you can be pruned. Some of you are being pruned but it may look to outsiders like failure.

God expects you to position yourself. Not many people start off in the right position there a large part of our decision making is to do with REPOSITIONING OURSELVES.

No one can do it for youdon't blame. When you blame someone or something else you deny yourself the ability to change.

Know that you have the power to reposition yourself. There is my position in relation to God, self, my wife, as a pastor etc. How am I positioned.

1. Repositioning in marriage

When Paul teaches on marriage he emphasizes positioning.

1 Peter 3:7

Husbands, likewise, dwell with *them* with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as *being* heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

Do you see your wife as a joint heir or just a cook or someone you share a bed with or the mother of your kids?

Ephesians 5:21-23

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. 22Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. 23For the husband is head of the wife, just as Christ is the head of the church, His body, of which He is the Savior....

Submission is an attitude and behavior but it stems from right positioning. The Greek word Hypotasso is to do with right positioning.

hypotássō (from 5259 /hypó, "under" and 5021 /tássō, "arrange") – properly, "under God's arrangement," i.e. *submitting to the Lord* (His plan).

You position yourself voluntarily.

If you are single, how are you positioned with regards to the opposite sex?

2. Repositioning in relation to your leaders

Hebrews 13:17

Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

As a leader I have to ask myself, how am I positioned in relations to these people. Am I just teaching them or am I watching over them?

Matthew 10:41-42

He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. ⁴² And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold *water* in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward."

Do I see the young people in church just as little ones or do I see them as disciples? How I see them will determine how I treat them and what I draw out of them.

What are your children to you? Do you need to reposition yourself in relation to them? Are you their father or just their ATM? Are you their mother or just their referee?