

AUTHORITY



*Embracing Your
Identity in Christ*

TheSecondActMinistry.com

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AUTHORITY

Embracing Your God-Given Influence

A Second Act Starter by Kalan Paul

Introduction: This Isn't About Control — It's About Calling

For a long time, I misunderstood the word “authority.”

I thought it meant power. Control. Dominance. A platform. A title. Something given to other people with louder voices, bigger roles, or more polished resumes.

But over time, God showed me something different.

Authority isn't about superiority. It's about stewardship.

It's not about platform — it's about presence.

It's not about getting your way — it's about paving the way for others.

And here's the truth I didn't always believe: **God has given you authority.** Not someday. Not if you earn it. Not when you're more qualified. Now.

He placed His Spirit in you. His image on you. His calling over you. And that means you walk into every room, every conversation, and every assignment with a spiritual inheritance that changes atmospheres — not because you're loud, but because you're His.

The enemy has tried to confuse you. To convince you that influence is for “them,” not for you. That your voice doesn't carry weight. That your prayers don't matter. That your role is too small. But the cross and the empty tomb say otherwise.

You've been commissioned. Entrusted. Sent.

And it's time to stop waiting for permission — and start walking in the power that's already yours.

So no, this isn't about control. This is about calling. This is about waking up to the kingdom weight you carry. This is about standing in the authority that Jesus paid for — and using it to set others free.

This is your second act.

Let's live it with authority.

CHAPTER 1 – ASSIGNED

You Were Sent On Purpose, For a Purpose

Word Picture: The Orders

You don't drift into purpose. You're sent.

When soldiers are deployed, they don't get to pick the destination — they receive their orders. Their mission isn't random. It's deliberate. Strategic.

That's what your life is.

You were assigned to your place, your role, your relationships. God didn't just approve your journey — He authored it.

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

— *Jeremiah 1:5*

Bible Character: Jeremiah

Before Jeremiah ever spoke a word, God declared him appointed. Even when Jeremiah doubted himself, God reminded him: “I put My words in your mouth.” His assignment came before his confidence.

My Story: Where This Became Real

There was a season I felt overlooked. Ministry was happening all around me — and while I supported others, I questioned if my role even mattered.

One night, while cleaning up after an event, I overheard someone sharing how something I'd said weeks earlier had impacted them. A single moment I barely remembered — God used it to plant a seed.

That's when it hit me:

I wasn't just helping. I was assigned.

Assigned to encourage. Assigned to show up. Assigned to speak life even when no one was watching.

The Shift

You are not randomly placed. You are divinely positioned. Stop minimizing your post. Start owning your assignment.

Remember This

You don't have to be famous to be faithful.

And faithfulness is what makes you powerful.

Declaration

I am assigned by God. My placement is not a mistake. My obedience matters. I carry heaven's mission in every space I enter.

Activation

Write down three areas where you've felt unseen, underused, or unsure.

Then declare over each one: "God, I trust You've assigned me here. Use me for Your glory."

Ask Him to show you one way to show up with fresh boldness this week.

CHAPTER 2 – ANOINTED

You're Not Just Called — You're Equipped

Word Picture: The Oil

In Scripture, oil represents the anointing — the tangible sign of being set apart and empowered by God.

Kings were anointed before they ruled. Prophets were anointed before they spoke. The oil wasn't just a symbol. It was a signal: *God's hand is on this life*.

And that's still true today.

“But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth.”
— *1 John 2:20*

You may feel unqualified. But the oil of God says otherwise.

Bible Character: David

David wasn't the obvious choice. He was the youngest. The shepherd boy. But when Samuel anointed him, everything shifted. The oil found him — not because of his résumé, but because of his readiness.

My Story: Where This Became Real

I never felt like the most obvious leader in the room. I wasn't the loudest (maybe sometimes), the flashiest, or the most credentialed.

But over the years, God kept sending people across my path that needed encouragement. I didn't understand why — until God made it clear:

“It's not about charisma. It's about the oil.”

When God places His anointing on you, it marks you. It draws others. Not for your fame — but for His glory.

The Shift

Stop waiting to feel ready. Start trusting the oil.

Remember This

God doesn't anoint the perfect. He anoints the willing.

Declaration

I am anointed by God. His Spirit empowers me. I am set apart, called, and equipped for every good work.

Activation

Find a small amount of oil (olive oil, etc.). Quietly anoint your hands or forehead and say:

“God, I receive Your anointing. Use me for Your purposes.”

Then journal a short prayer of availability: “God, I’m willing. Anoint me again.”

CHAPTER 3 – ADVANCING

You Don't Just Hold Ground — You Take It

Word Picture: The Flag

When soldiers take new territory, they raise a flag. It's not decoration — it's declaration. It marks victory. Occupation. Advance.

You weren't called to play defense your whole life. You've been given authority to move forward — in your family, faith, calling, and influence. Not just surviving — expanding.

“I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses.”
— *Joshua 1:3*

Bible Character: Joshua

Joshua didn't inherit a vacation — he inherited a battlefield. But with every step, God confirmed His promise. Joshua's obedience led to possession. He didn't wait for comfort — he moved with courage.

My Story: Where This Became Real

There was a season when I felt stuck. I wasn't in crisis — but I wasn't growing either. I prayed, served, and waited. Then one morning in prayer, I sensed God say:

“Stop circling. Start stepping.”

It hit me hard. I'd been camping in what was familiar, calling it faithfulness. But God was inviting me to take new ground — to apply, to speak up, to launch what He had already placed in my heart. That step led me, my wife and eventually my family to Ireland and a new chapter with new relationships that are now family.

So I did. And while it wasn't easy, it was fruitful. Because God meets you in motion.

The Shift

Faith doesn't always feel bold — but it moves forward. Your next step isn't rebellion — it might be your release.

Remember This

God won't bless your comfort zone — He blesses your courage.

Declaration

I am advancing. I will not shrink back. God goes before me. I will take ground for His glory, one obedient step at a time.

Activation

Write down one area you've been circling in fear or hesitation.

Now write this underneath: "I'm not stuck. I'm stepping."

Ask God what forward movement looks like — then take it. Flag it with praise.

CHAPTER 4 – ARMED

You're Not Exposed — You're Equipped

Word Picture: The Armor

Before battle, a soldier doesn't just hope for the best — they suit up. Every piece of armor matters. It's not just protection — it's preparation.

The same is true for you. You're not left vulnerable. God has armed you — fully. You are not walking into spiritual conflict uncovered. You're dressed for victory.

“Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.”
— *Ephesians 6:11*

Bible Character: Paul (in prison)

When Paul wrote about the armor of God, he wasn't sitting in safety — he was imprisoned. Surrounded by Roman guards, he looked at their gear and realized: *God has given us spiritual gear just like this.*

My Story: Where This Became Real

I remember a season when everything felt like warfare — in my family, my life, even in my own thoughts. I felt vulnerable and reactive. One morning, exhausted, I asked God, “What more can I do?”

And I sensed Him say:

“You don't need something new. You just need to put on what I already gave you.”

That day, I opened Ephesians 6 and prayed each piece of the armor aloud — the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith...

And something shifted. Not because my problems vanished — but because I stood differently.

The Shift

God didn't promise a life without battles — but He did promise armor for every one of them.

Remember This

You are not unprotected. You are armored, anointed, and assigned.

Declaration

I am armed with the full armor of God. I will not live in fear. I am covered, equipped, and ready to stand.

Activation

Each morning this week, declare each piece of the armor out loud:

- Belt of truth
- Breastplate of righteousness
- Shoes of peace
- Shield of faith
- Helmet of salvation
- Sword of the Spirit

Visualize it. Speak it. Walk like you're wearing it.

Because you are.

CHAPTER 5 – ALIGNED

Spiritual Authority Requires Spiritual Surrender

Word Picture: The Arrow

An arrow can't guide itself. It doesn't pick the target. Its power and precision depend entirely on the one who aims it.

You are God's arrow. And authority flows from alignment — not independence. When your life is aligned with Him, your impact becomes accurate, anointed, and unstoppable.

“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

— *James 4:7*

Bible Character: Jesus

Even Jesus — fully God, fully man — said, “I only do what I see the Father doing.” His authority flowed from complete surrender. His alignment brought unmatched authority, even over death.

My Story: Where This Became Real

There was a time I tried to lead without listening — making good decisions that weren't necessarily God decisions. On paper, things looked fine. But inside, I felt dry and disconnected.

One morning, in quiet prayer, God pressed a question into my spirit:

“Do you want to move fast, or do you want to move in step?”

That wrecked me. Because speed without the Spirit is just noise. So I surrendered — again. I realigned.

And from that point on, what I lacked in pace, God made up for in power.

The Shift

Authority isn't about how loud you speak — it's about how well you listen.

Remember This

Submission isn't weakness — it's your greatest strength.

Declaration

I am aligned with the heart of God. I submit to His direction. My strength is not in control, but in surrender.

Activation

Spend 5 minutes today in complete silence before God. Don't ask. Don't plan. Just be still.

Then pray: "God, align my heart with Yours. I don't want to move without You."

Listen. Write down what He speaks. Then walk it out.

CHAPTER 6 – AUDIBLE

Your Voice Carries Kingdom Weight

Word Picture: The Megaphone

When someone speaks through a megaphone, it amplifies their voice — not by changing the content, but by projecting it farther.

God doesn't just want to speak to you — He wants to speak through you. And when you speak in alignment with Him, your voice echoes with heaven's authority.

“The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life...”

— *Proverbs 10:11*

Bible Character: Moses

Moses didn't feel like a strong speaker. In fact, he tried to talk God out of using him. But God didn't need eloquence — He needed obedience. And Moses became the voice that led a nation to freedom.

My Story: Where This Became Real

For a long time, I hesitated to share what God was putting on my heart. I'd overthink every word. Question if it was needed. Wonder if someone else could say it better.

Then one day, after I finally shared something I almost deleted, someone came up to me in tears: “I needed that more than you know.”

It humbled me. Because it reminded me:

Your voice isn't about spotlight — it's about stewardship.

And if God gave it to you, He intends to use it.

The Shift

Stop silencing yourself. Start seeing your voice as sacred.

Remember This

Your words can tear down or build kingdoms. Choose to build.

Declaration

My voice matters. I speak life, truth, and grace. God uses my words to bring healing, hope, and direction.

Activation

Speak a blessing aloud over your home, your work, and your people today.

Write one thing God has put on your heart lately — and share it with someone.

When you use your voice, the kingdom advances.

CHAPTER 7 – AVAILABLE

Your Yes Unlocks God's Power

Word Picture: The Open Door

An open door doesn't force anyone to walk through — it simply offers access. Opportunity. Movement.

God often opens doors in our lives that require one thing: availability. Not expertise. Not perfection. Just willingness.

“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I. Send me!’”

— *Isaiah 6:8*

Bible Character: Isaiah

Isaiah didn't respond to God's call with a résumé — he responded with readiness. He said yes before he even knew the assignment. His authority started with availability.

My Story: Where This Became Real

I remember the first time I was invited to lead a prayer of salvation at an event with other pastors in the room. I felt unqualified and intimidated. But I sensed God say:

“I didn't ask you to impress. I asked you to show up.”

So I did. I said yes. And in that simple act of obedience, God moved powerfully — not because I was impressive, but because He was present.

The Shift

God doesn't need your polish. He needs your yes.

Remember This

Availability always precedes authority.

Declaration

I am available to God. My yes is on the table. I trust Him to do through me what I could never do alone.

Activation

Say out loud today: “Here I am, Lord. Send me.”

Then look for one place to step out in obedience this week — even if it feels small.

Your yes matters. Your availability creates impact.

CHAPTER 8 – AUTHENTIC

You Don't Have to Perform to Walk in Power

Word Picture: The Mirror

A mirror doesn't create identity — it reflects it. When you look into it, you don't see potential — you see what's real.

The world teaches us to pose, perfect, and perform. But spiritual authority doesn't come through performance. It flows from authenticity.

“We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and opened wide our hearts to you.”
— *2 Corinthians 6:11*

Bible Character: Peter

Peter was bold, passionate, and deeply flawed. He denied Jesus — and yet was restored, empowered, and chosen to preach at Pentecost. His authenticity didn't disqualify him. It made him relatable and usable.

My Story: Where This Became Real

For years, I thought being a strong leader meant hiding weakness, which the enemy was reminding me often of past failures. I'd power through exhaustion. I'd smile through struggle. But slowly, that mask cracked — and I realized:

People don't need your performance. They need your presence.

When I began sharing honestly — about fears, fatigue, and faith in process — God began using me more deeply. Not in spite of my honesty. Because of it.

The Shift

Your greatest impact won't come from pretending — it will come from being real.

Remember This

Authenticity attracts heaven's anointing.

Declaration

I lead with authenticity. I don't have to perform. I am fully loved, fully known, and fully called — even in process.

Activation

This week, share one real part of your story with someone you trust.

Not the polished version — the true one.

Then thank God for using your *real* life — not your curated one.

**YOU DON'T NEED A TITLE
TO WALK IN POWER.**

AUTHORITY

Embracing Your God-Given Influence

You were never **meant to blend in** — you were built to lead.

AUTHORITY is a bold, biblically grounded guide to help you embrace the influence God already placed within you. Whether you're leading a family, a ministry, a business, or a quiet moment of courage, this short, action-oriented book will equip you to:

Recognize your God-given assignment
Walk in the anointing already on your life
Take spiritual ground with boldness and peace
Speak with confidence and lead from authenticity

You don't need to perform, prove, or wait for permission.
You've been chosen, empowered, and sent.

It's time to stand in your authority — and
help others rise in theirs.

Part of the Second Act Starter Series

For more resources to step boldly into your
next calling, visit:

TheSecondActMinistry.com

