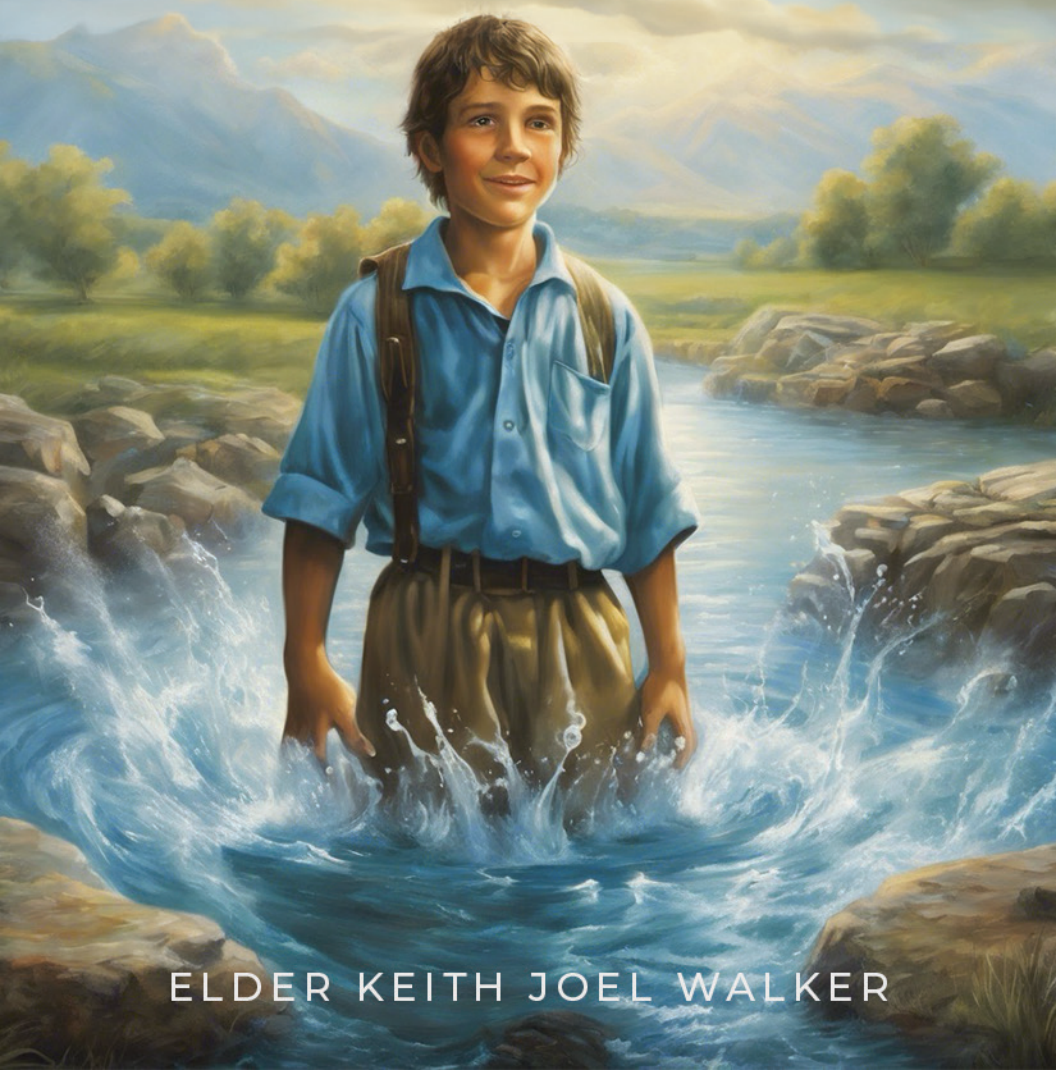


THE FABLE OF THE
**WATER
BOY**



ELDER KEITH JOEL WALKER

THE FABLE OF THE WATER BOY

Written by
Elder Keith Joel Walker



Once upon a time in a small village, there was a young boy named Leo. Leo was not an athlete, nor was he particularly skilled at any sport. He longed to be part of the local soccer team, dreaming of scoring goals and receiving cheers from the crowd. However, when the team was selected, Leo's name was nowhere to be found. Heartbroken, he felt like he had no place in the world of sports.

Instead of sulking, Leo decided to take on a different role. He approached the coach and asked if he could help in any way. The coach, recognizing Leo's enthusiasm, welcomed him as the team's water boy. Though it wasn't the role he had dreamed of, Leo accepted it with determination.

Every game day, Leo arrived early. He filled the water bottles, made sure the players were hydrated, and cheered them on from the sidelines. He ran up and down the field, ensuring that every player had what they needed to perform their best. While others played the game, Leo found joy in supporting his teammates.

As the season progressed, the players began to notice Leo's dedication. They appreciated his unwavering spirit and the way he encouraged them when they were tired or discouraged. Whenever a player scored a goal, they would glance over at Leo, who was jumping up and down with excitement, celebrating their success.

as if he had scored himself.

One day, during a crucial match, disaster struck. One of the star players got injured and had to leave the game. The coach looked around, unsure of who could fill the gap. In that moment, Leo stepped forward. “I may not have played before, but I can try!” he said, his heart racing with excitement and fear.

The coach, seeing the determination in Leo’s eyes, agreed. Leo put on a jersey and stepped onto the field. Although he had never played in a game before, he remembered everything he had learned from watching and supporting his teammates. With the support of his friends and the cheering crowd, Leo played with all his heart.

To everyone’s surprise, Leo scored a goal! The crowd erupted in cheers, and his teammates rushed to lift him in celebration. In that moment, Leo realized that being the water boy had prepared him for this very moment. His role, though humble, had been essential to the team’s success.

From that day on, Leo became a valued player on the team. He never forgot the importance of his early role as the water boy. He learned that every contribution matters, no matter how small it may seem.

Moral of the Fable:

The story of Leo teaches us that every role is important. Whether you are in the spotlight or working behind the scenes, your contributions can make a significant impact. True greatness lies not just in personal achievements but in supporting and uplifting others. Embrace your role, for you never know how it might prepare you for greater things ahead.

Sermon: “The Heart of the Water Boy”

Introduction:

Brothers and sisters, today I want to talk to you about a role that often goes unnoticed, a role that carries immense importance despite its humble nature. I want to share with you the story of the water boy—a figure we might overlook in our pursuits of glory, success, and recognition. But let me tell you, the heart of the water boy is where the true spirit of teamwork and community lies.

In a world that often measures success by fame and fortune, we must remember that the most significant contributions often come from those who serve quietly and faithfully. They may not wear the brightest uniforms or receive the loudest cheers, but their impact is felt deeply.

Scriptural Reference:

In 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, the Apostle Paul writes, “For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member but of many.”

Just like the water boy, each one of us has a unique role to play. Some may be in the spotlight, scoring the points and receiving accolades, while others, like the water boy, support from behind the scenes.

The Desire for Glory:

We all have dreams, aspirations, and desires for greatness. Just like the water boy who wanted to run, to score, and to play, we too yearn for recognition and success. But sometimes, life’s circumstances cut us from the list, and we find ourselves in roles we didn’t choose.

- **Personal Reflection:** Think about your own life. Have you ever felt overlooked or unnoticed? Have you ever longed for recognition in your work, your family, or your community?

But let me remind you, dear friends, that God has a purpose for each of us, even in the roles that seem small or insignificant. The water boy may not wear the jersey, but he is still part of the team, and his contributions are vital to the success of the game.

Finding Value in Humble Service:

The water boy stands ready with bottles in hand, filling cups, running, and dashing to quench the thirst of the players. He may be down on his knees, but his heart is lifted high in support. His role reminds us that true greatness is found in service to others.

- **Biblical Example:** Consider the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37). The Samaritan didn't seek recognition; he simply saw a need and acted. His humble service became a lasting example of love and compassion.

Jesus Himself modeled this for us. In John 13, He washed the feet of His disciples, taking on the role of a servant. He showed us that greatness in the Kingdom of God is not about being served but about serving others.

The Power of Support:

In our lives, we may not always be the ones in the

spotlight, but we can still make a significant impact. Every drop of water the water boy brings is a reminder that support is essential. In our families, our communities, and our churches, we need each other.

- **Community Impact:** Think about the people in your life who have supported you. Perhaps it was a mentor, a family member, or a friend who encouraged you when you were down. Their support made a difference.

When we cheer for one another, when we lift each other up, we create an environment where everyone can thrive. We may not all be the stars of the show, but every role is important.

The Blessing of Humility:

Let us not forget the power of humility. In a world that often celebrates self-promotion and personal achievement, the water boy embodies a spirit of humility that is so needed in our lives today. James 4:10 tells us, “Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.”

- **Living Out Humility:** How do we live out this humility in our daily lives? It can be as simple as offering help to a neighbor, listening to a friend in need, or volunteering in our communities.

When we take on the role of a servant, we align ourselves with the heart of God. We become vessels through which His love and grace flow. The water boy may not be in the spotlight, but he is in the center of God's will, fulfilling a purpose greater than himself.

The Legacy of the Water Boy:

Consider the legacy of the water boy. Though he may not score the winning goal, he is often remembered by those he supports. His dedication and commitment create bonds of loyalty and friendship. In the same way, our acts of service and support can leave a lasting impact on those around us.

- **Examples of Legacy:** Think of those who have served in your life—parents, teachers, mentors. Their influence often lasts far beyond their immediate actions.

When we stand by our brothers and sisters in Christ, when we offer a listening ear or a helping hand, we are building a legacy of love. We are creating a community that reflects the heart of Jesus.

Embracing Our Roles:

I stand before you today as just the water boy. I didn't make the team in the way I had hoped, but I gladly accepted the role that was offered to me. I love all the

Apostolic Pentecostal elders; I cherish the wisdom they impart and the example they set. Carrying their Bibles, helping them with water, and supporting them at the altars—this is my honor.

- Metaphor and Idiom: You see, being “just the water boy” is not a statement of defeat; it is a declaration of purpose. In the idiom of life, being the water boy means I am essential to the game, even if my name isn’t in the headlines. My service may seem small, but it is mighty in the hands of God.

The Tale of the Water Boy

Once upon a time in a bustling village, there was a young boy named Sam. Sam was not particularly strong or athletic, but he had a heart full of enthusiasm. He dreamed of being part of the village’s soccer team, where the best players gathered to compete and win trophies. Every day, he would watch the team practice, imagining himself scoring goals and receiving cheers from the crowd.

However, when the day came for the team to select new members, Sam’s name was not on the list. Heartbroken, he felt like he had no place in the world of sports. Instead of giving up, Sam decided to find another way to be involved.

One day, he approached the coach and asked if he could help in any capacity. The coach, recognizing Sam's eagerness, welcomed him as the team's water boy. Although it wasn't the role he had dreamed of, Sam accepted it with determination and a smile.

Every game day, Sam arrived early. He filled the water bottles, made sure the players stayed hydrated, and cheered them on from the sidelines. He ran up and down the field, ensuring that every player had what they needed to perform their best. While others played the game, Sam found joy in supporting his teammates.

As the season progressed, the players began to notice Sam's dedication. They appreciated his unwavering spirit and the way he encouraged them when they were tired or discouraged. Whenever a player scored a goal, they would glance over at Sam, who was jumping up and down with excitement, celebrating their success as if he had scored himself.

One day, during a crucial match, disaster struck. One of the star players got injured and had to leave the game. The coach looked around, unsure of who could fill the gap. In that moment, Sam stepped forward. "I may not have played before, but I can try!" he said, his heart racing with excitement and fear.

The coach, seeing the determination in Sam's eyes,

agreed. Sam put on a jersey and stepped onto the field. Although he had never played in a game before, he remembered everything he had learned from watching and supporting his teammates. With the support of his friends and the cheering crowd, Sam played with all his heart.

To everyone's surprise, Sam scored a goal! The crowd erupted in cheers, and his teammates rushed to lift him in celebration. In that moment, Sam realized that being the water boy had prepared him for this very moment. His role, though humble, had been essential to the team's success.

From that day on, Sam became a valued player on the team. He never forgot the importance of his early role as the water boy. He learned that every contribution matters, no matter how small it may seem.

Moral of the Tale:

The tale of Sam teaches us that every role is important. Whether you are in the spotlight or working behind the scenes, your contributions can make a significant impact. True greatness lies not just in personal achievements but in supporting and uplifting others. Embrace your role, for you never know how it might prepare you for greater things ahead.

Conclusion:

So, let us celebrate the water boys in our lives—those who serve quietly, those who support selflessly, and those who lift us up when we are weary. Let us remember that whether we are in the spotlight or behind the scenes, we are all part of one body, working together for a common purpose.

As we go forth today, let us embrace our roles, whether humble or grand, and commit to supporting one another. For in every cheer, in every drop of water, we are contributing to the greater good.

And just like the water boy, let us take pride in our service, knowing that we are helping others achieve their dreams. Let us be reminded that in the eyes of God, every act of service counts, and every drop of kindness matters.

As we leave this place, let us ask ourselves: How can I be a water boy in my community? How can I serve those around me and uplift them in their journeys? May we go forth with a renewed spirit of humility and service, for in the Kingdom of God, we are all called to be water boys in our own right. Amen.

Written By Elder Keith Joel Walker
Read and Obey Acts 2:38

