

## I Am Second

*Sam Bradford and Colt McCoy*

The phrase, "I am third" became popular back in the 1970s when Hall of Fame running back Gayle Sayers wrote about his relationship with teammate Brian Piccolo in the book by the same name. The main point of the book was how Sayers was able to place himself third in life, God first, followed by family and friends.

Now there is a new movement based upon this idea of keeping our priorities in the proper order. The "I Am Second" movement seeks to help others discover their purpose in life with the emphasis on placing Jesus Christ as first priority.

As part of this movement, 2009 Heisman Trophy hopefuls Sam Bradford (University of Oklahoma) and Colt McCoy (University of Texas) recently taped several internet videos which have gone viral.



Sam Bradford:

"I know the Lord is with me and that He has given me the talent to play football. Without Him, there is no way I would ever step foot on a football field. Knowing that the Lord is with me helps me to handle the pressure no matter how intense it becomes on the field. To have a relationship with the Lord and to be able to spend time with Him each day helps me put everything into perspective.

"The minute that I begin to think that I am first and that He is second I start to have problems. Whenever I think my plans and purposes are more important than His that's the moment that things begin to move in the wrong direction. I try to live my life realizing that my ultimate rewards are in heaven and not on this earth. I am Sam Bradford and I am second."

Colt McCoy:

"There are lots of things that the world considers success. Whether it's trophies, winning games or other postseason honors, none of them compare to a relationship with Jesus Christ. I believe the Lord cares much more about me witnessing to others about my relationship with Him than how many games I win at Texas.

"I don't want my teammates to just remember me as the guy who made great passes in a football game. Instead, I want them to remember that I shared my faith with them, so that they might come to know Jesus Christ. When I think of Jesus Christ, I think of a warrior but also a servant. I am Colt McCoy and I am second."

John the Baptist:

"He must increase, but I must decrease." John the Baptist spoke these words in John 3:30. Long before the "I Am Second" movement, John understood that Jesus must be first before all others.

### WARM-UP

1. Watch the internet videos. Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for "I Am Second - Colt McCoy and Sam Bradford," "I Am Second - Sam Bradford" and "I Am Second - Colt McCoy." The interviews are also at [www.nebraskafca.org](http://www.nebraskafca.org).

### WORKOUT

1. What did Colt McCoy say that stood out to you? Why?
2. What did Sam Bradford say that stood out to you? Why?
3. Read John 3:22-30. What was John the Baptist's attitude as Jesus became more prominent and popular? How did John's followers react to these developments?
4. How do your teammates know that you are second behind your relationship with Jesus Christ?
5. What can help you keep your priorities in the proper order?
6. Read and discuss the "Gospel Focus."

### WRAP-UP

This week, memorize... "He must increase, but I must decrease."  
– John 3:30 (ESV)

### PRAYER

Lord, I know you are with me and that you have given me the ability to play sports, help me to...

### GOSPEL FOCUS

The gospel in vogue today holds forth a false hope to sinners. It promises them that they can have eternal life yet continue to live in rebellion against God. Indeed, it encourages people to claim Jesus as Savior yet defer until later the commitment to obey Him as Lord. By separating faith from faithfulness, it teaches that intellectual assent is as valid as a wholehearted obedience to the truth. Thus the good news of Christ has given way to the bad news of an insidious easy-believism that makes no moral demands on the lives of sinners. It is not the same message Jesus proclaimed.. – John MacArthur

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