

Build on the Best you Have

Written by Lillian Chebosi
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Do we know what our natural abilities are? Do we believe that our strengths would make a difference? Our very make up draws us to certain things and repels us from others. This confirms that each of us is wired to do certain things exceptionally well.

The absence of belief in our strengths and the pressure to improve our fault lines keep us busy patching up cracks; to be at least good, if not average at everything we do. And we label this self development.

Self development is about improving our strengths, not our weaknesses. We can only go so far in trying to improve our weaknesses. We should make the most use of our strengths by focusing on what we can be great at and leave the things we are only good at to those who are great at them.

Fixing our weaknesses isn't the way to go. We would never be great by patching up our weaknesses, because we could never be the best at them regardless of how much we improve. However, there's endless room for improvement when it comes to developing our strengths.

We set the standards for excellence ourselves when play to our strengths. We engage in a higher level of competition where we move from competing with others, to competing with ourselves. We strive to outdo ourselves.

Build on your strengths and manage around your weaknesses. We grow most where we are already strong. Our weaknesses will never become our areas of greatest opportunity. This does not mean that we ignore our weaknesses but we need not spend immoderate amounts of time trying to convert them into strengths. They will never be. I am persuaded to believe that we ought to be overly concerned with our weaknesses only if they are the kind that affect our character, or if they stand in the way of our strengths.

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Personal development is building on the best you have; your strengths, not your weaknesses. Dare to go against the grain and play to your strengths. Believe in your natural abilities and work hard at developing them into finely polished competencies; and make your contribution to the world with them.

Lillian Chebosi