



# RAISING THE STANDARD

*A Quarterly Newsletter Dedicated To Banner Bearers Everywhere*

December 2006

## “Face To Face”

I am going to address several issues that are very important to leaders in a progressive Arts ministry, such as faithfulness and reproduction. However, first I'd like to address the concept of being face to face with God and how it relates to us as leaders, especially in the Arts.

We see two men in the Bible who saw the Lord God face to face: Moses and Jacob.

### Genesis 32:27 -31

*But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."*

*27 The man asked him, "What is your name?"*

*"Jacob," he answered.*

*28 Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome."*

*30 So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared."*

*31 The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip.*

When we receive revelation from the Lord we will have a visible change happen in our lives.(it starts from the inside out) This change for Jacob was a name change, a shift in his destiny.(along with a physical change)

### Ex 33:11-13

*11 The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young aide Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent.*

*12 Moses said to the LORD, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.' 13 If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. (from New International Version)*

As leaders, keep your eyes on those who are more hungry than the other members of your team, they are your future leaders. For your own personal self, stay humble before the Lord that you might stay in His favor. Keep a teachable spirit. Moses was a teachable man.

### Numbers 12:8

*8 With him I speak face to face,*

*clearly and not in riddles;*

*he sees the form of the LORD.*

*Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"*

*(from New International Version)*

Be sure your behavior earns the respect of your team. If God has anointed you for the position you are in, your leadership qualities will be evident. Rebellion may be an issue you confront in team members, but if the anointing is with you, it(the anointing) commands respect.

### Deuteronomy 5:3-5

*4 The LORD spoke to you face to face out of the fire on the mountain. 5 (At that time I stood between the LORD and you to declare to you the word of the LORD, because you were afraid of the fire and did not go up the mountain.)*

*(from New International Version)*

Sometimes we may feel like we are the only ones hearing from God. We may feel our team is dragging behind us spiritually, but that is ok. Don't judge your team members, that is one of the worse things you can do as a leader. Remember, revelation comes from being in the fire. And as you study you will see there are many kinds of fire. As a leader you must learn to love the FIRE.

Both of the man illustrated here were faithful men. Faithful to the VISION God set before them.



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As leaders we are to be faithful to:

1. The calling Christ has placed in you.
2. To the vision of the house where you are planted. (And I mean planted. I believe God is looking for leaders these days that are going to observe covenant principles. God is a covenant keeping God. We are to be covenant-keeping people)
3. Faithful to your team
4. Faithful to those God directs you to instruct outside your team or Church body. (He is in the multiplication business...Matthew.28: 19 ...GO)

Things the Lord God does for the FAITHFUL:

## Psalm 31:23-24

*23 Love the LORD, all his saints!  
The LORD PRESERVES the faithful,  
but the proud he pays back in full.  
24 Be strong and take heart,  
all you who hope in the LORD.*  
(from New International Version)

## Proverbs 28:20

*20 A faithful man will ABOUND with BLESSINGS,*

As leaders we need His blessings, we need His hand upon us.

We all know the parable of the Talents in Matthew Chapter 25. (be faithful with what He gives you)

As leaders we are required to:

## 1. DUPLICATE OURSELVES

### 2 Timothy 2:1-2

*2:1 You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.*  
(from New International Version)

## 2. BE CAREFUL OF OUR WITNESS

### Psalm 101:6-7

*6 My eyes will be on the faithful in the land,  
that they may dwell with me;  
he whose walk is blameless  
will minister to me.*

*7 No one who practices deceit  
will dwell in my house;  
no one who speaks falsely  
will stand in my presence.*  
(from New International Version)

## 3. PRAY FOR OUR TEAM

### 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22

*16 Be joyful always; 17 pray continually; 18 give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.  
19 Do not put out the Spirit's fire; 20 do not treat prophecies with contempt. 21 Test everything. Hold on to the good. 22 Avoid every kind of evil.*  
(from New International Version)

**PRAY SMART**, and listen to what the Spirit tells you concerning your people.

### Proverbs 27:23

*23 Be sure you know the condition of your flocks,  
give careful attention to your herds;*  
(from New International Version)

## 4. COMMUNICATE the common goal.

Through communication with leadership determine what the goals are for the Arts in your church. Share your dreams and visions from the Lord. God will make a place for your gifts, and those of your team.



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## **Ephesians 4:15-16**

*16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*  
(from New International Version)

Communicate to the team the vision of the House.

## **Proverbs 29:18**

*18 Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.* KJV

## **5. A GOOD leader understands the importance of SUBMITTING to those in authority over them.**

## **Hebrews 13:17**

*17 Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.*  
(from New International Version)

Submission is an act of the heart. When your team can see godly submission in you, they will submit to authority more readily.

The Word tells us to:

Seek council as leaders.

## **Proverbs 20:18**

*18 Make plans by seeking advice; if you wage war, obtain guidance.*  
(from New International Version)

## **Proverbs 12:15**

*15 The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice.*  
(from New International Version)

## **NOTE:**

Don't use your authority to "lord over" anyone. Don't use your authority as a control lever. If you do these things you will invite rebellion and every evil work to take place on your team. As a leader you are a king and priest unto the Lord. You have the keys to the kingdom in a higher spiritual dynamic than your team members, you are a gate keeper. Be careful what you allow in the team and on the team.

## **LASTLY:**

A good leader exhibits strength and courage.

## **Joshua 1:6-9**

*6 "Be STRONG AND COURAGEOUS, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. 7 Be STRONG AND VERY COURAGEOUS. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. 8 Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be STRONG AND COURAGEOUS. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."* (from New International Version)

I pray the presence and peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be yours in all you do as you journey through your calling as leaders in the Body of Christ.