

## 4. Attitudes of a Leader



### **Frustration: The Companion to the Call**

We want so badly to do well. We hunger to build God's kingdom. Our natural desire is to be like magnets, pulling multitudes into our cell groups, Bible studies or churches. Consequently, we create timetables and programs designed for unrealistic results. Then, we measure our successes and failures by the numbers that come ...or the numbers that stay away. We see others doing great things. We want to be just like them. God knows how we hunger to succeed, and He is not disappointed when we strive so hard to achieve. He built that desire into us, creating within us our particular gifts and personalities so we could get the job done.

The consequence of having this get-it-done attitude is that we are vulnerable to feelings of disappointment, inadequacy and even failure, when it seems nobody is listening and people are not coming. Simply stated: **We get frustrated!**

### Ask yourself:

🔍 Do I seek to measure up to someone else's levels of success?

(Often we make heroes out of people who have totally different gifts or callings and when we try to imitate them we fail and get frustrated.)


1. Who are my heroes?
2. What are the good character qualities and work habits of my heroes? Are these people really similar to me in personality, work habits, gifts and callings?


It would be good to focus on good character qualities and work habits of people (Notice the word "good."). Everyone can imitate those things. God finds good character qualities and work habits pleasing. He wants you to emulate the things He finds pleasing. **Caution - Do not try to compare yourself** with the results others have achieved, or the people they have attracted.

**(Judges 6:11-16 NKJV) "Now the Angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth tree which was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide it from the Midianites. {12} And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him, and said to him, "The LORD is with you, you mighty man of valor!" {13} Gideon said to Him, "O my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has forsaken us and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites." {14} Then the LORD turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?" {15} So he said to Him, "O my Lord, how can I save Israel? Indeed my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." {16} And the LORD said to him, "Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat the Midianites as one man.""**

🔍 Do I fail to perform up to my potential because I am little in my own eyes?

1. *Do I minister, expecting to be routinely disappointed ... to fail in what I do? (Judges 6:15 --"I am the least in my father's house")*
2. *Is there ever envy, jealousy or a spirit of comparison that comes upon me and lies to me about my potential? When?*

 *Do I need repeated validation from God before I obey Him?  
(Judges 6:17 – "O my Lord...show me a sign..." -- a fleece)*

-  *Do I believe my gifts must be so powerful and visible that they dazzle people?*
1. *Do I place too high a value on the "manifestation of signs" in my ministry?  
The manifestation of signs in ministry sometimes has no lasting value and produces no disciples, teaches no one anything and causes nobody to grow.*
  2. *What does cause people to grow in the Lord?*

If you are plagued by these attitudes, you will eventually spend most of your time frustrated, and will be looking for the manifestation instead of the fruit! However, when you influence others to walk in godly ways that seemed to be previously impossible for them, you answer the call to be the excellent minister God called you to be.

**God's Highest Concern for your Call:  
the manifestation of Fruit**

God knows the manifestation of fruit brings lasting value to you, and all the others you touch, teach, love and disciple. Doing the best with what you have will cause others to bear fruit with what they have. People look to you. Make an impact in their lives.

**Leadership Principle #10  
Excellence is doing the best  
with what you have.**

**Do your best ... Let God do the rest.**

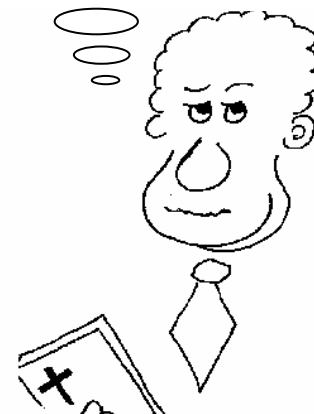
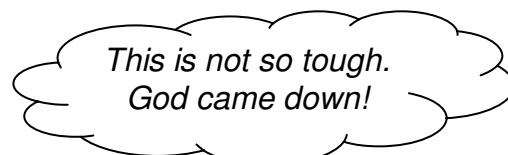
Doing the best with what you have will cause others to bear fruit with what they have!

**The Loneliness of Ministry: Isolation**

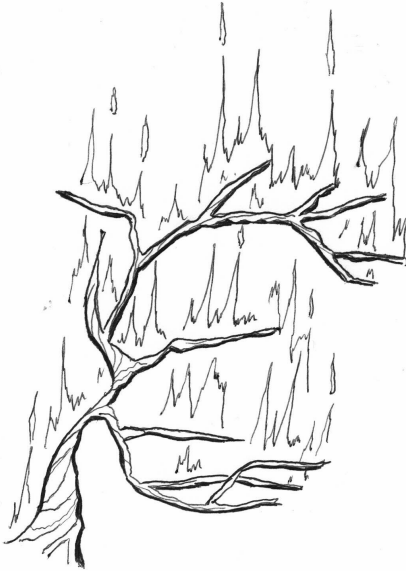
**God's Design: "Aloneness."  
He isolates you so you will look to Him.**

Loneliness in ministry is sometimes the only way God can get your attention and help you to build a fire under your faith. When there are no resources to draw from; a lack of others to rely on; and few followers to turn to, you have to re-think your own abilities and talents. God wants you to reach the point where you cease to depend on others and realize you cannot rely on yourself, but can only trust in His presence and anointing. At that point, God will anoint you with power to get the job done. When you have visited the back of the desert and climbed your mountain alone, He will come down to meet you. Do not shrink from aloneness in ministry. It is an opportunity. Turn aside and meet Him!

***"So I have come down..."***



**The Anointing Of God in its  
Simplest Form: God  
Coming Down to meet You!**



*(Exodus 3:1-8a NKJV) “Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. {2} And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. {3} Then Moses said, “I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn.” {4} So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” {5} Then He said, “Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.” {6} Moreover He said, “I am the God of your father; the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid*

*his face, for he was afraid to look upon God. {7} And the LORD said: “I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. {8} So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey...””*

## **Leadership Principle #11**

**People of ability are one thing... People of anointing are another!**

**(Position yourself to let God come down.)**

The reason God called Moses to the backside of the desert and then to the fire on the mountain was to get him ready to go to the Pharaoh. When Moses was ready, God did not send him alone. He gave him Aaron. He will not send you to your Pharaoh alone either. If you are faithful in your aloneness to seek God, he will give you faithful companionship to perform the ministry. It is coming and probably from people you never expected it to come from. Get ready! Expect the unexpected. God is faithful. He has a team prepared for you. It is a matter of time and timing.

Moses went back to Egypt in the presence and power of God, with the anointing and gifts to do exactly what God called Him to do. Do not expect to stay on the mountain, or remain in the desert. Have your season and go in the anointing and presence of God to pharaoh. Demand that He set the people free. That is exactly what Jesus did. That is also exactly what Jesus said you would do!

### **Ask yourself:**

**🔍 Do I look for the potential in the people around me and see my Aarons?**

1. A good leader finds a few good people who will follow him/her. Are you looking for good followers – those who have the call, character and the faithfulness?

2. *Have I simply been looking for the gifts in people and failing to see their other good qualities?  
Think about it... Are you drawn to the gifts and charisma of people who were never meant to go with you on your journey? These may be wonderful brothers and sisters, but were they called to work alongside you?*

 *Do I seek to gather people to the task that I recognize God has given me?*

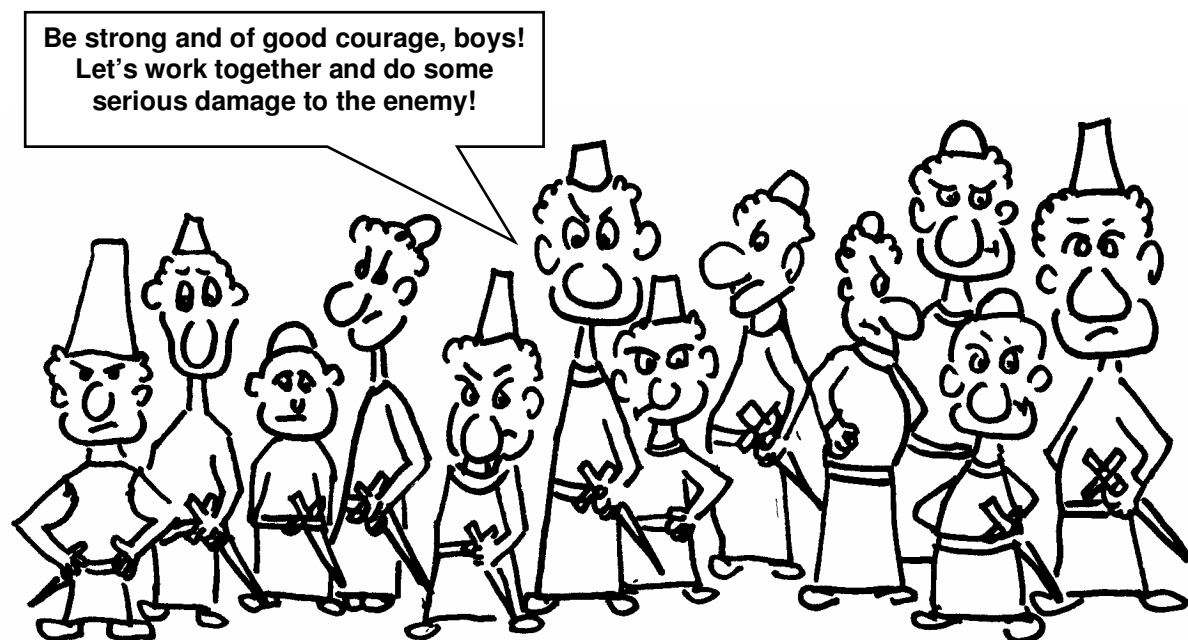
1. *What is my track record for finding and releasing people to their ministries?  
(Many of us have the attitude that we can do it better ourselves, and so we miss the opportunity to discover and mentor the right people.)*
2. *What is my track record for listening and following the advice of those who are serving me (placed under you)?*

You cannot empty Egypt without the help of others who are called to walk out of Egypt with you and stand with you as brothers and sisters!

## **Leadership Principle #12**

**“1” is too small a number to produce greatness.**

(God gives you others to walk with.)



## Review – Pastoral Leadership Principles (Sessions 1-4)

- #1. People will follow at a distance for only a season.  
Close relationships are lasting and fruitful forever.  
Reach out to your people and be part of them.
- #2. Never forget that you are simply a child of God, even when the people think you are more. The battle is the Lord's.
- #3. It is delivery boys and girls who kill the giants.
- #4. Link your faith to your relationship with the Father.
- #5. Be a big picture person.
- #6. Don't just do something; Stand there!
- #7. You can beg in streets of self-pity... or worship on streets paved with gold.  
(You can plead for your need... or worship Him in faith, expecting the increase!)
- #8. Difficulties are inevitable; Misery is optional.  
Don't just stand there; Start dancing!
- #9. Stretch your heart out to Him in worship, praise and thanksgiving, and He will stretch His hand out to you in provision, protection, promotion and peace.
- #10. Excellence is doing the best with what you have.  
(Do your best... Let God do the rest.)
- #11. People of ability are one thing... People of anointing are another!  
(Position yourself to let God come down.)
- #12. "1" is too small a number to produce greatness.

### ***Think about it!***

Lord Jesus, we bless you and praise you for your Word, Amen