

As the Spirit Leads ... But



As with all forms of worship and spiritual warfare, what God is saying to us is of paramount importance. However, we live and breathe and have our being in a context. That context includes God-ordained order and structure. I do not believe the Lord will invite us to do something which contravenes His order or which cannot be accomplished within the framework He has given us.

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You need to balance personal freedom with respect for others; your liberty with honouring others. I believe the Lord will provide you with all the opportunities you need to worship Him with banners and to engage in spiritual warfare. I also believe He will show you your sphere of authority and influence.

Spheres of Authority

I have a very high level of authority in my own personal life and in my role as husband and father; I have another level in my home congregation and a different level in congregations where I am invited as a speaker. I have yet another level in the Church of the city of which I am part.

I need to know God’s boundaries for each of my spheres of influence. I also need to manage my activities within those boundaries. When there are others who have higher levels of authority in those spheres, I need to alter any activities appropriately. I need to work with others in my spheres of influence and not against them. It is important to check



Wielding Banners

with those who are the leaders of the sphere in which you are operating. This may be the pastor, worship leader, or commander of the event in which you are participating.

for Worship, Warfare & Ministry

Keep checking with the Lord; He is gracious and kind. Seek godly people who can help you with godly counsel. Forerunners tend to get out in front – that is our vocation – but we need to be careful not to lose sight of those carrying up the banner.

The who, what, when, where, why and how of banners in the hands of Christians

Humility

As worshippers with banners, we need to cultivate humility and intimacy. One of the greatest fears our leaders can have is that we are waving banners to attract attention to ourselves.

We need to live all of our life in such a way that those who know us recognise that it is not pride or attention-seeking that motivates us. Keep a close watch on that. Pride and the fear of man often run in parallel.

Does this mean I shouldn’t move until I have conquered pride absolutely? Certainly not.

Does this mean I regularly check the motivation of my heart while using banners? Yes, it does.

Will people still project these ungodly motives on to me even when I have examined my heart before God and other godly people and I’m clean? Yes. It is a continuous journey into humility and intimacy.

Here is what the Scriptures encourage us to do:

“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.” Ephesians 4:2

“Humble yourselves before the Lord and He will lift you up.” James 4:10

“He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them His way.” Psalm 25:9

“He ... gives grace to the humble.” Proverbs 3:34

“... This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at My word.” Isaiah 66:2b

As you walk, run, dance and move in humility, the Lord will teach you His ways and you will be able to open the way for others to move into this wonderfully releasing ministry.

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