

# DISCOURSE

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## “Are YOU Ready?”

Dear Brothers:

Elections are over and you have already been installed our will be installed in the next few weeks. Look around, look in the mirror the man you see is the man in charge. Yes sir, you have worked for it, you accepted and taken an oath and charge that comes with the job.

You have joined the few, the honored and the devoted who have passed through the leadership of your Lodge. Think about these men and emulate the best among them. Remember your picture will soon hang among them, will you be thought of as a good, average or poor leader and only you will be responsible for your Masonic legacy. The respect, Brotherly Love and admiration of your peers, rests entirely on your future action in the coming year.

For the past couple years we have been having a dialogue on Leadership, Obligations, Volunteerism, Planning, and the Few. Now you are part of the Few, who are members of a Volunteer organization, who have made a commitment to lead, who have taken a serious obligation to be responsible for the operation of the Lodge, who has a plan to lead the Lodge to greater heights and higher achievements for the benefit of the Craft.

Now is your time to shine, all eyes are upon you “**Are you Ready**” is your plan in place, have you discussed it with your Officers, are they on board, are they ready to sell the plan with you to the Brethren, so that everyone understands the efforts being put forth in order to improve whatever it is you are trying to advance and that you need everyone on board to make it happen.

Remember my Brother a Leader is someone who empowers those behind him to be able to take the reigns when you are no longer there, without creating a vacuum. In your new position you are responsible for and the servant to all the members of your Lodge. You have heard many times that cliché about public servants and how they are supposed to take care of the public but they do not. Well you are now in that same position to serve your Brothers I would hope that you being a good Mason would not fall in the same dilemma and be a SERVANT to your Brothers.

As you lead your Officers and Brethren of the Lodge, you will be assisting them to become leaders that it may be said of you, that your greatest achievement was the creation of a new group of leaders, whom will take your Lodge to greater achievements. This my Brother can only be achieved if you guide them in the right path of educating them, by nurturing their need for knowledge through mentoring, communicating and leading by example, do not micromanage, give them a task check on them periodically that they are on the right path, set legitimate goals not only for them but for yourself, and build confidence in them as well as on yourself, so that one day when they reach your position, they too can be ready to lead, and that would be an awesome legacy.

You are now in charge of a Volunteer organization except that you have taken a serious obligation, you have been charged to lead, and you have made a commitment in front of your family and peers to act responsibly and be trustworthy. Now like I've said many times before in my analogy of the Volunteer Fire Department. You are a Volunteer along with your Officers. you are the Chief and Firemen of this Department and although you must work, help take care of the house, the children and even have time for rest and refreshment, as Chief you know the bell may ring at any time and as such you and your men must be ready to answer that call or the consequences may be dire, you may lose a building or worst yet, you may lose a life. Yes this is a big commitment but it is **your commitment**, on you they have reposed their trust that you will rise to the occasion and make it happen. "**Are you ready**"?

Now you are part of the few who are responsible for the many, you are charged with the operations and management of the Lodge and while you are the Chief Servant it is necessary that by proper planning and leadership you guide the rest of the few to follow the plan to success and accomplishment for the benefit of the many. On you and those that assist you falls the responsibility of attracting more to become the few, and this my Brothers is a difficult task, your measure of success will depend on not only your talk but more importantly on your walk.

As their Leader you must inspire them as you were inspired to seek that great light in the East, you must stimulate their need to serve their Brethren, you must encourage them to attain more knowledge, you must excite them into action, you must motivate them to do more for the Craft they so love, you must enthuse them to practice out of the Lodge that which is taught in them, so the world may see Masons in action, be a leader; make it happen.

You see my Brother; you have risen to the top and as it has been said many times before Masons rise to the occasion, on you rest the wellbeing of the Brethren that compose your Lodge. You are your Brothers' keeper step-up to the challenge. Throw out the Status Quo, look at the horizon we have the birth of a new year and another opportunity to succeed; you can make a difference. **Are YOU Ready?**

## Be a Leader; make it happen.

Respectfully and Fraternaly Submitted, I remain your most humble servant

Jorge L. Aladro  
Deputy Grand Master

*If you would like to receive, these newsletters make request at email below if you would like to forward to your list of friends you have my permission and thank you in advance.*

*"My Brothers, the newsletters are intended to be thought provoking, to get you to think creatively, to get you thinking what if?, to dare you to improve yourself and your Lodge."*

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