

# DISCOURSE

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## “A Vision Without A Plan Is An Illusion”

Dear Brother:

Does the leadership in your Lodge, Master & Wardens, Master Mason Associations or other Allied and Appendant Bodies have a plan or are they just working on an illusion. Year after year, we elect Officers in all of these groups and I ask you, have you seen their plans, have you looked at the details, do they have a track record of performing, are they communicating with you on how this plan will be placed into action or is it all an illusion.

Over and over again, I keep coming back to the importance of proper planning and executing those plans in order to make our Fraternity better than we found it, whether at the Lodge, Association or Grand Lodge level.

The planning is easy and sometimes leadership fails to see the simplest of things. They are so immerse in their daily life they cannot see what is wrong, they have become so familiar with their surrounding they cannot tell what is and what is not out of place or not proper for any of the Lodges, Associations, Allied & Appendant Orders and yes even Grand Lodge. Although sometimes the plan is not seen purposely, because they are afraid they may have to get involved and actually do something to correct or improve a situation. I would think we would want to move forward not continue “**status quo.**”

I just came back from traveling to a few Lodges around the state and it is so evident when the Officers of the Lodge are on top of their game, it can be seen from the minute you drive into their parking lot.

Leadership is not synonymous with lip service. Leadership will not only design the plan, they will commit it to writing and will be able to explain it, so others can follow and perform. If it is a good plan and thought was placed behind it, they should be able to commit it to paper and explain it easily, if they do not, you may just be buying an illusion.

My Brothers, there is no need for fancy talk and elaborate schemes. What we need is simple plans and execution. We truly need to “**LEAD BY EXAMPLE**” and **no lip service**.

Many of you will remember the State of Missouri’s slogan “Show Me”. This my Brothers is a slogan that we must adopt in our Lodges, show us your plans, show us how it can be achieved, and most importantly show us by your actions, that we indeed have a vision and not an illusion. Remember actions speak louder than words. “**LEAD BY EXAMPLE**”.

I can't tell you how many times these visions come from the seat of their pants, mere schemes, with very little thought, last minute decisions just for the sake of presenting something so they would not look foolish and show their lack of dedication to their commitment. These my friends are the illusions that continue to set us back.

This happens in all aspects of life and the Lodge is no different. We as participants in these organizations need to get involved in the operation of our Lodges, engage ourselves in the discussions and volunteer our time and expertise where applicable, so that together we can buy into a vision with a plan that can be articulated and executed.

It is up to us to insure that we have visions instead of illusions and only through our personal involvement, practicing good conduct, having pleasant discussions and thorough assessment of the plans will we succeed in all our endeavors.

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."*