

Following the Leader: Lessons Learned

By: Linda Mason

As I moved on to the next phase of my journey, memories of SOPLO (*Spirit of Praise Liturgical Outreach*) were never far from my thoughts. I was reminded of a prophetic dream I'd had during that time which helped me in my faith to continue to trust God's guidance, even though I wasn't sure where I was now headed.

In June 2006, the year SOPLO was created, I had a dream that I believe was a confirmation to accept the call on my life as a Dance Minister. I also believe it was a message to be quick to obey the Lord for my own good. Ten years later, I think back to that dream and understand that it also foreshadowed what I'm going through right now in my life.

That dream prompted me to:

- heighten my desire and level of studying God's Word, praying for others and not just for myself, and to be mindful of the impact my actions would have on the lives of others;
- deepen my passion for and expression in liturgical dance and teach that passion and expression to others;
- want to see others launched to the forefront with their talents and gifts instead of myself;
- and stay spiritually sensitive and quick to move when the Lord says move! (which could never be accomplished without staying prayed up)

As I publish my storybooks and work to market them, my dream still reminds me that everything I do is about touching the lives of others who journey through each story. I still need to pay close and careful attention when God says "move."

The Dream

I was driving on a road, heading to a destination certain. Getting there required me to follow someone else who knew the way. The road we started on was very familiar to me, but along the way, the person I was following changed roads without warning and I had to make a quick decision to follow him or risk missing the turn and losing my guide. Almost immediately after we turned, we arrived at our destination and I woke up!

The new road was strange and unfamiliar to me. If I'd chosen to stay on the familiar road, I knew I would have been traveling alone. I wondered if I'd chosen to stay on that familiar path if I would have eventually arrived at my destination anyway, but I couldn't be sure.

Interpretation

Upon waking up, I immediately received the interpretation of this dream. On the road to the destiny God had chosen for me, I needed to change courses (when instructed to) or miss the perfect will of God. Some decisions I must make along the new paths of my journey will not be familiar. I must be willing to trust my guide (God) and change courses as He directs, even when I don't know exactly where it's headed, or even if the new path is unfamiliar or frightening to me. He will reveal all truths to me when and in His own timing if I obey without hesitation.

Often, I write down my dreams when I feel they are messages from God, either for myself or when He reveals information to me that is meant for someone else. Usually when it's a message for me, it's a warning that I need to act upon. When it's about or for someone else, I usually feel a strong need to share the dream with the individual, but occasionally, the revelation was just for me to intercede for that individual. Either way, I write them down, careful to note the date. This is the reason I have so much detail from the dream I just shared from ten years ago.

Come with me as I travel through the development of each story and see if my experiences and processes will help motivate you to create your own masterpiece.