

*GET USED TO DIFFERENT!*

*Maybe the different we need to get used to  
has been there all along*

- Which Book of the O.T. do you think Jesus most quoted from?
- Philosopher George Santayana wrote, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it,"
- The first thing Moses did in his farewell discourse was to review Israel's past and remind the new generation who they were and how they got where they were (Deuteronomy 1:1-5)
- Deuteronomy 1:6-8 - A grasp of history is important to every generation because it gives a sense of identity. If you know who you are and where you came from, you will have an easier time discovering what you should be doing. A generation without identity is like a person without a birth certificate, a name, an address, or a family. If we don't know our historic roots, we may become like tumbleweeds that are blown here and there and never arriving at our destination.

- The cynic claims that all we learn from history is that we don't learn from history, but the mature Christian believer knows that A.T. Pierson was right when he said, "History is His story."
- The Bible isn't a boring museum where everything's dead. It's a living drama that teaches us about God and encourages us to obey Him and enjoy His blessings (Rom 15:4; 1 Cor 10:1-12). No book is more contemporary than the Bible, and each new generation has to learn this important lesson.

- Deuteronomy 1:9-18 - It wasn't easy for Moses to lead this great nation because he frequently had to solve new problems and listen to new complaints.
- God's answer to Moses' prayer was to give him seventy elders to assist him in managing the affairs of the camp.
- Moses was a great leader and a spiritual giant, but even he could do only so much.
- He and the elders organized the nation by thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens, with competent leaders in charge of each division. This created a chain of command between Moses and the people so that he didn't have to get involved in every minor dispute.
- (from The Bible Exposition Commentary: Old Testament © 2001-2004 by Warren W. Wiersbe.)

# • Jesus Model of Effective Leadership

## 1. From Many to Twelve. Mark 3:13-15

- As a master teacher, Jesus taught thousands. As Scripture describes, He was not there as only a provider of information, but had compassion on them. He cared for, and loved, the people who came to Him.
- Saying Yes
- Jesus wanted them to be equipped to replicate what He did. In doing so effectively, Jesus would give them His power and authority to accomplish His mission.

## 2. From Twelve to Three

- Jesus did invest in the 12, but from that group He chose Peter, James and John.
- In Mark 5:35-41, Jesus displayed His authority and power over death to only these 3.
- In Mark 9:2-4, Jesus revealed part of His glory in the presence of these three. Why? There is greater intimacy in smaller groups.
- In Mark 14:32-34, Jesus pulled the 3 away from the rest of the disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane.

- **Obvious Impact:**

- “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14).
- 2 Peter 1:16-20 For we were not making up clever stories when we told you about the powerful coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. We saw his majestic splendor with our own eyes 17 when he received honor and glory from God the Father. The voice from the majestic glory of God said to him, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy." 18 We ourselves heard that voice from heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain. 19 Because of that experience, we have even greater confidence in the message proclaimed by the prophets. You must pay close attention to what they wrote, for their words are like a lamp shining in a dark place—until the Day dawns, and Christ the Morning Star shines in your hearts. NLT
- And in Acts 12:2, James was killed for his faith in Christ.

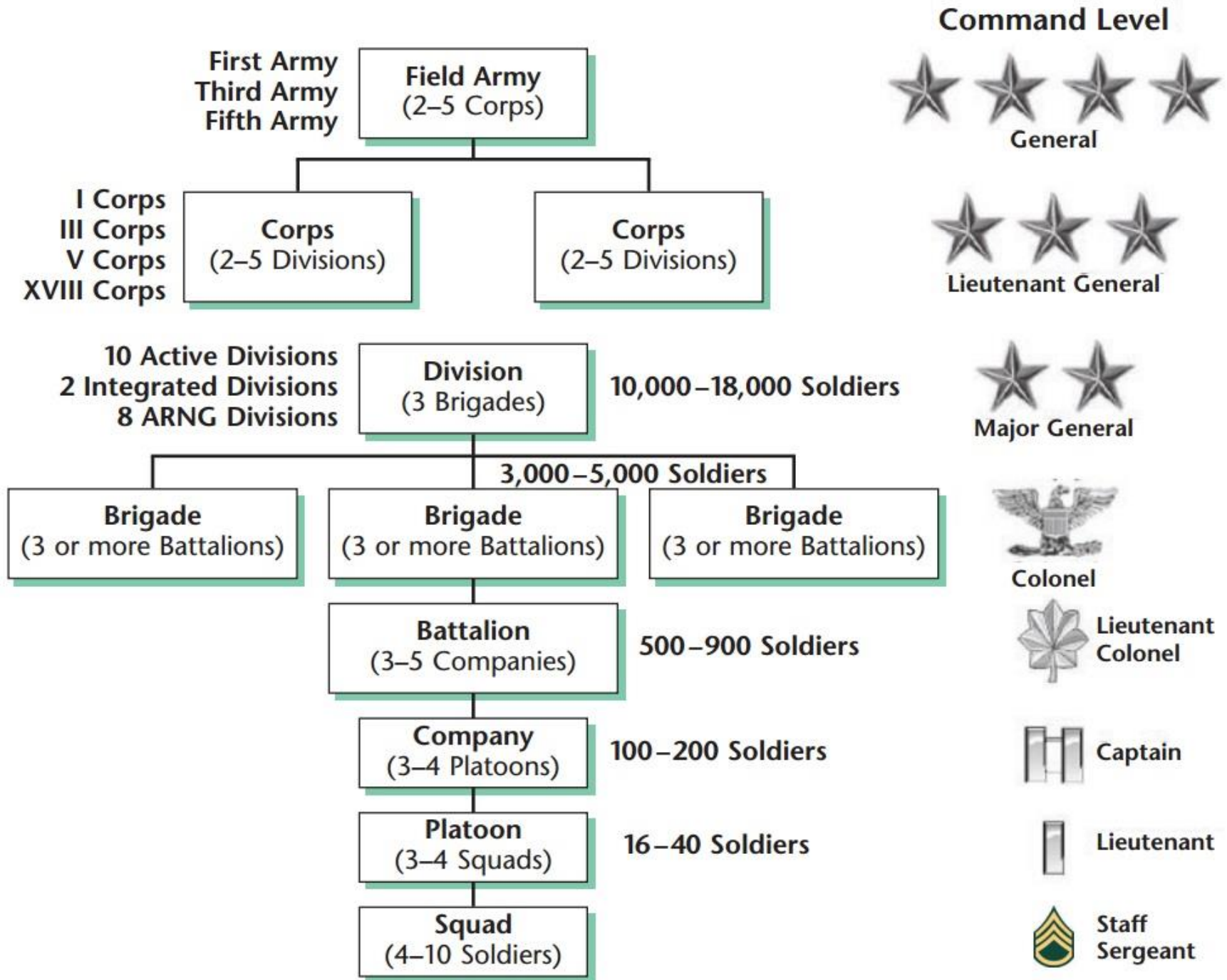
- **Contradiction of Putting “Power” and “Small” together.**
- Because we are conditioned to believe that the power is always in the big things
- The bigger things are - the more powerful they are
- This is not always so with God.
  
- **Consider**
- Gideon Army (Judges 7) God’s strategy for victory –reduce the army from 30,000 to 300 men
- David and Goliath – 9 ft tall –God’s sends a young boy half his size
- Bethlehem – Jesus is born in a small town rather than the big city
- The feeding of 5000 – 5 loaves and 2 fish

- Scriptures such as Acts 1:15, 2:41,47, 4:4, 5:14, 28, 6:1,7, 21:20 record the amazing growth of the first church. It is believed that during its first 25 years the Jerusalem church grew from 120 people to over 50,000 people! Where did they put all those people? The answer is small groups. Acts 5:42 tells us that “they met day after day, in the Temple courts and from house to house...” In the first church, it would appear, the small groups were the base for all ministry and fellowship.

-Rick Warren

Military Chain of Command





- **How does this relate to us?**
- Let's focus on our level for just a moment. If we follow the military example, KFOC would represent a small company that could be further categorized by a number of platoons made up of 6-10 squads.
- In your personal opinion, where would the most effective personal relationships be? In the company of 100? The platoon of 40? Or the squad of 10?
- There is no doubt meaningful relationships could be realized throughout the company level, but the most effective relationships would most likely occur at the smallest level.

- Here is an undeniable truth: The larger the group in which we are participating, the shallower the interaction. This directly impacts the spiritual growth of the Lord's church.
- If you are only attending a worship service, you are participating at the company level. There will be few, if any, intimate relationships. It is likely you will not be involved in ministry or discipleship – both of which are God's design for His people.
- You may feel like you are part of the family of God, but still disconnected.
- This is why we are encouraging LIFE groups: to provide you the opportunity to connect to other believers in a meaningful way.
- An effective LIFE group will share praises, needs and struggles. They will study and discuss God's Word together, applying truth to their lives. They will pray for each other here and throughout the week. They will join together for fellowship. They will join together in missions and ministry.
- If you are not part of a LIFE group, you are missing out on God's design for spiritual growth. Following Christ leads you to intimacy with other believers – without it, you are a lone soldier in an army of Christians.