

Developing Navigators Are Ministry Opportunities

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Acts 4.

B. The Pharisees were trying to challenge the disciples by what power they were trying to do miracles. (Deuteronomy 13, Exodus 22, Leviticus 19)

C. Peter counters them by asserting they were doing miracles by Jesus.

1. Peter models Jesus in his response. (Matthew 21:23)

2. What we do will be copied, so it is important that we do the right thing in our ministry very early on.

D. Topic: the basics to take into consideration.

II. Exploit all opportunities. We must do both extensive ministry and intensive ministry based upon where you are. (Mark 2:1, 1:5, Acts)

III. Utilize resources.

IV. Navigators should provide leadership. (Matthew 4)

A. Give men something to follow.

B. We must focus on means that make disciples over programs. (Numbers 27, Matthew 27:15-17)

C. One of the things that cause Jesus to be moved to compassion is seeing sheep without a shepherd.

V. Men must be trained individually that they might function as a team. (I Thessalonians 2:11, Philippians 1:27, Matthew 18:19)

A. Developing a team...

1. Pray together for new spiritual babes, laborers, etc. (Colossians 1:9-10, Acts 16:24, Colossians 4:2-4, Matthew 9:36-38)

2. Study the Word together.

3. Witness together.

VI. We have companions and laborers but just a few of these are our fellow soldiers—these will set the tone for all the rest. (Philippians 2:25)

VII. The overtone of the ministry must be evangelism.

VIII. There must be an objective.

- A. The Navigator objective is the fulfillment of the Great Commission.
- B. This involves developing laborers for the harvest.
- C. The objective is to build men.
- D. Men must be challenged, but their challenge must be attainable.

IX. Set some standards and then keep them in your initial starting out with disciple making.

- A. Teach them to live sacrificially. (Luke 9:23)
- B. Teach them to give sacrificially. (Luke 14:33)
- C. Setting the standard is hard and keeping it is harder.

X. Stick with the basics.

XI. In starting a new ministry, get your specific directions from God. Look at obstacles as opportunities.

XII. Review.

- A. Start out right.
- B. Exploit every opportunity and avoid sidetracks.
- C. Utilize your resources.
- D. Lead men, do not program activities.
- E. Train men individually to function as a team.
- F. The objective is laborers, not real estate.
- G. Put a handle on the Great Commission so men can see where they fit.
- H. Set realistic standards and maintain them.
- I. Stick with the basics.
- J. When you have your assignment, get before God and get specific directions from Him.

Application questions:

1. What is the importance of establishing an objective early on?

2. How does Philippians 2:25 lend toward the principle of fellow soldiers?

3. Which principle in developing ministry opportunities stands out to you? Explain.
