

Five Ideals of the Navigators

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I. Introduction.

A. Through Jesus Christ we have abundant undeserved help - this is grace that is God doing something for us and not us doing something for God. (James 4:6, John 1)

B. Never doubt in the light what God has shown you in the dark. God gives grace, and He keeps on giving it.

C. The mission of the Navigators.

1. The name says very little about it.

2. It is an organization that meets spiritual needs through the Christian answer that Jesus is Who He claims to be (the Son of God) and the Bible is what it claims to be (the Word of God). These are the twin foundation stones of Evangelical Christianity. (Mark 8:38, Ephesians 2:22)

3. With Jesus there is a confrontation always.

4. We are under the Bible's authority - we are not over it.

a. The Bible is a library.

b. We are to be obedient to it. (John 7:17)

c. Obedience comes before faith.

II. The five ideals of the Navigators.

A. The Great Commission. (Matthew 28:19-20, Luke 24)

1. This is Jesus' final marching orders to His disciples.

2. Parts.

a. Preaching the Good News to those who do not know.

b. Building up those who do know the gospel.

3. The motive to accomplish this is simple obedience.

4. We make disciples as we are going.

B. Multiplying the laborers.

1. The problem is not with the harvest but the laborers.

2. A laborer is a disciple plus something.

a. It is doing and teaching. (Acts 1:1)

b. It is doing something in the spiritual realm and passing it on to someone else.

3. The work of the church is to fashion people who are like Jesus Christ. This must be done one by one.

C. The importance of every individual.

1. The individual is important to the Father by way of Creation - he is made in His image.

2. The individual is important to the Son by way of the price He paid.

3. The individual is important to the Spirit by way of possibilities He has for us.

4. We need to remember that we are channels.

5. Every individual ought to be important to us because everybody is important to another person besides that person.

D. The standard of being the best one can be.

1. Everybody needs a "bur under his saddle."

2. The purpose is progress not perfection.

3. We need to concentrate in order to do the best we can with what we are supposed to.

a. What are you doing that is producing?

b. What are you doing that is effective?

c. We should be doing what counts.

d. To do this we need to ask what is the most effective thing we can do for a spiritual ministry. This may require rearranging our priorities.

E. The task is to serve.

1. This is an attitude. You will know you have a servant attitude by how you act when you are treated like one.

2. We are to be faithful in that which is another's. (Luke 16)

III. Conclusion.

Application questions

1. Which ideal did the speaker identify as the heart of the ministry? Why do you think he finds this so important?

2. Which ideal stood out to you? Why?

3. Which ideal could you use the most personal work on? What will you do this week to make progress in this area?
