

## LESSON ONE

# PIONEERING

### A. **WHAT IS PIONEER EVANGELISM?**

Pioneer evangelism is taking the gospel message into areas where it is not being preached. Pioneer evangelism is reaching men and women with the message of Salvation, who are living where there is no established church.

In every city, town and village, there should be some man or woman who is called and commissioned to preach the gospel there, a man or woman who is responsible for the souls of those who live there. It is a tragic fact that there are hundreds of towns and cities where there is no God-called man who feels the responsibility for the lost souls around him. Pioneer evangelism is an attempt to meet this need, to place a gospel minister in every town, and to establish a church, which will proclaim the full Apostolic Gospel.

Pioneer evangelism is Home Missions at work and in practice. Pioneer evangelism is World Evangelism starting where it was meant to begin - in our Judea and Samaria. The Lord never said anything about Home and Foreign Missions, but rather being a witness unto the uttermost part of the earth. Pioneer evangelism is reaching out from our home base to be a witness in all Judea and Samaria.

### B. **PLOUGHING:**

Scriptural References:

*"I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase" (I Corinthians 3:6).*

*"...As a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon" (I Corinthians 3:10).*

Pioneer evangelism may be likened to a pioneer establishing his home in the wilderness, cutting down the forest, and ploughing virgin soil. It also may be likened to a builder who lays the concrete footings and foundation walls for a building to be erected.

This pioneer and ploughing virgin soil is the most challenging work that a gospel preacher can do. It also is the most sacrificial, and calls for the greatest dedication.

Many times the pioneer preacher never sees the fruit of his labors. He may invest his very life. He may spend months and years of earnest labor, extreme sacrifice, tears and prayers, without seeing revival. He moves on to another field of labor, and then his successor reaps a great harvest. At times like these the pioneer preacher must remember that the ploughman will share in the same reward with him who reaps the harvest.

### C. **THE PIONEER EVANGELIST:**

Scriptural Reference:

*"I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (I Corinthians 9:22).*

Not every preacher can be a pioneer. Pioneering calls for the best from the best of preachers.

The writer has heard old, experienced ministers confess that they would be unable to pioneer a new church. In fact, men who have pastored for years have admitted that they would not know how to begin to pioneer a new work. The work of pioneering calls for the very best, and even these best of preachers should be certain of the call of God before attempting it.

The writer believes that a definite call of God is essential. Many times the pioneer evangelist will have to fight loneliness, frustration and discouragement. If he is assured of the will of God, he will keep steady during these seasons of testing. One thing he must always remember is that there is no quitting place. He who puts his hand to the plough must not look back. If he is in the will of God, there can be no failures. Let him stand firmly upon the promise, *"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him" (Psalm 126:6).*

Another promise is found in Galatians 6:9, *"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."*

The pioneer should always remember that should he quit it will be much more difficult the next time.

The pioneer evangelist must have these qualifications and characteristics:

1. He must be fully dedicated and consecrated;
2. He must be willing to make great personal sacrifice;
3. He must be a man of great faith;
4. He must be a man of much wisdom;
5. He must have Holy Ghost power and anointing;
6. He must be able to adapt to all conditions of living;
7. He must have a determined purpose that cannot easily be shaken.

#### **D. A FEW METHODS OF PIONEER EVANGELISM:**

Listed here are a few methods used in pioneer evangelism. These methods will be repeated and dealt with later in these studies. These are listed here for the sake of emphasis.

1. Personal Work and Testimony;
2. Tract and Literature Distribution;
3. House to House Visitation;
4. Open Air and Street Services;
5. Tent Services;
6. Cottage Services;
7. Sunday School and Children's Services;
8. Renting a Hall, Store Front or Church Building;
9. School House Meetings;
10. Radio Gospel Programs.

#### **E. A FEW RULES TO BE REMEMBERED IN PIONEERING:**

These rules will be repeated elsewhere but are stated here for the purpose of emphasis.

1. Do not rail at the churches already established there. Preach a positive message.

2. Never have a heated argument with anyone. Let us care more about the soul than winning an argument.
3. Purpose in your heart to win one soul at a time.
4. Receive permission from proper authority before holding street services or tent services. Rigidly obey the by-laws of the town.
5. Is familiar with all tracts handed out and are sure they contain the truth.
6. Be patient in reaping. Remember the seed must be sown first.
7. Endeavor to reach all classes. Make no difference between rich and poor.
8. Keep meetings regular and punctual, rain or shine. One interruption may destroy the good accomplished over a period of weeks.
9. Do not neglect the children.
10. As soon as souls are being saved start a building program. There is no better time to build than in the middle of revival.

LESSON ONE

SELF HELP TEST

A. Define what is meant by "Pioneer Evangelism."

B. "Not every Preacher can be a pioneer." Write a brief statement commenting on this.

C. Give SIX rules to be remembered in pioneering.

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