

Aim of the Navigators

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I. Introduction.

A. Discussion on the Lord's Day.

1. The Lord's Day—how it fits with the rest of the commandments as expressions of the character of God.
2. Resting.
3. Remembering. The reasons for the Sabbath: because in six days God created and on the seventh day He rested, and because on the seventh day God brought the Israelites out of Egypt. There ought to be a day for remembering creation and redemption. (Exodus 20, Deuteronomy 5, Revelation 4:11, 5:9)
4. Refreshing people. (Luke 24)

B. The aim of the Navigators—you cannot hit a target if you do not have one. We need to have an aim. Those who aim at nothing usually hit it.

II. The Navigators start with the Great Commission.

A. The ground of the aim: Great Commission.

1. The disciples were not only given a projection but they were projected.
2. The Great Commission is personalized in one's own personal surrender and commitment to God wherever that leads.

B. The development of the aim.

1. The early aim of the Navigators was men of faith. (Isaiah 43:4)
2. An aim grows out of the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

C. The aim of the Navigators:

1. Ingredients: the Great Commission, the world, etc.
2. The essence: to multiply laborers in every nation.

III. To multiply laborers in every nation.

A. A vision is different than an aim.

1. A vision has to do with sight and must be broader than one's aim.

2. The Navigators will not become a church

- a. Its work is more temporary and its ministry is more focused—a difference in intent.
- b. The Navigators focus on certain response groups—it is more narrow in its focus or aim.

B. An aim is more narrow than a vision. The Navigators have a narrower aim (although they have a similar vision) than the church.

IV. Principles from Matthew 9.

A. Jesus told the twelve to pray that the Lord would send out laborers into the harvest and later the seventy-two. (Luke 10:2)

B. Love is an unselfish concern that freely accepts another and seeks his or her good. We are to be compassionate towards the harassed and helpless like Jesus was. (John 4)

C. The harvest is ready right now. We are sent to reap where we did not sew.

D. The laborer.

1. A laborer is one who is involved in the process of evangelizing the lost and establishing Christians. This is completing the Great Commission. Wherever you go, make disciples.

2. A laborer is a disciple maker.

3. A laborer is a doer-teacher. One who is faithful is proven by test and able to teach. We need to both do and teach. (Acts 1:1, Mark 6:30)

E. The obedient Christian.

1. The first step is coming to know Jesus Christ, and He is the power to live the Christian life.

2. There are certain fundamentals also that should be known and practiced to have success:

a. The Word of God.

b. Prayer.

c. Fellowship.

1) This is to be gathered in the name of Christ. This is sharing the Word with one another. This is to pray with one another. (1 John 1:3, Matthew 18:20, Colossians 3:16)

2) When a group begins to pray and plan towards outreach the group becomes a band.

d. Outreach. This is by prayer, deeds of love and good works, testimony and the teaching of the gospel itself.

F. Since the men are few they must be multiplied. (2 Timothy 2:2, 1 Thessalonians 1:6, John 17)

1. Evangelism is engaged in resulting in converts.
2. Establishment is engaged in resulting in disciples.
3. Equipping is engaged in resulting in laborers evangelizing and establishing to fulfill the Great Commission.
4. Training is engaged in equipping leaders.

G. The first step to fulfilling the Great Commission is to pray.

H. We should be more concerned about the harvest being reaped than ourselves being laborers even though those who prayed became laborers.

V. Conclusion: we are to take every opportunity we are given. The main question is—what has the Lord given me?

Application questions.

1. What is the difference between an aim and a vision? How does this help make a distinction between the Navigator ministry the speaker spoke of and the church?

2. Explain the importance of the Great Commission to the ministry. Why do you think this sits at the center?

3. What opportunities has the Lord placed in your life recently to do a good deed or share the gospel? How did you respond? What can you do to better prepare yourself for those opportunities that arise to testify to the love of Jesus Christ?
