

Serving

Lorne Sanny

I. Introduction.

A. Objectives of the conference: an understanding of the history and plans of the Navigators and to understand goals and the decision making for new staff.

B. Primary aim of the Navigators: to help fulfill Christ's Great Commission.

C. Three basic beliefs of the Navigators.

1. The authority of the Bible and Christ.
2. The importance of the individual.
3. The mission to serve.

II. The mission to serve.

A. Jesus reversed the organizational charts—leaders were to become servants.

B. Christ is the center of service. (2 Corinthians 4:5)

C. Service is the key to evangelism. Jesus did something, and His preaching was an explanation of the deed. (Galatians 5:13, 1 Corinthians 9:19)

D. Service is the key to follow up. When we really serve someone we die to ourselves a little so that that person may live. (2 Corinthians 4)

E. Service is the key to leadership. When you quit paying a price, you quit leading. (Matthew 20:26-28, 1 Kings 12:7)

F. Leadership is the key to opportunities. Answers are born out of needs. (Proverbs 11:24-25)

G. We serve for Jesus' sake. (Matthew 25:35)

III. How to serve.

A. It is an attitude and actions.

B. Be a servant in little things. (Acts 28)

C. Jesus went about serving, and we tend to just go about.

D. Serve anonymously with less concern about getting credit for ideas.

IV. Question and answer.

A. How do you serve the church without giving the impression that it is secondary to your ministry?

1. There are functions that we need a church to perform.
2. The primary focus of the Navigator ministry in the church should be on men—to develop laborers.
3. Teaching can be another contribution to the church, but sometimes it is best to steer clear of church opportunities for a while.
4. Methods can be another contribution to the local church.
5. Those in the ministry need to win respect with other ministries and the local church through faithfulness and service.
6. Navigators should not be used to build a church because they are transient. They should be used to augment it instead.
7. Extra things are good for us because they stretch us. All of us have more potential than we are using.

B. How do you address the threat of Navigators to church leadership?

1. The central issue is loyalty.
2. However, there is no easy answer.

C. There seems to be a time when the men one is investing in need to be served in their ministry after they have served in his. The focus is trying to develop men for their mission field.

D. The two key questions for a quiet time: Who are you Lord? What do you want me to do? We need to be attentive to what the Lord is doing and be responsive to needs.

Application questions

1. Why do you think the mission to serve gets little attention in the pulpit?

2. Why is service so essential in the ministry?

3. What specific thing can you do to be of special service to someone this week?
