

Instructions for New Regular Pioneers

1. We warmly welcome you to the regular pioneer ranks! We pray that Jehovah will bless your efforts so that you “fully accomplish your ministry.” (2 Tim. 4:5) What will this require? You will need to remain spiritually strong and maintain a good relationship with Jehovah. Having acquired such a relationship through dedication and baptism, you must now be even more determined to ‘set your mind on the things of the spirit.’ (Rom. 8:5, 6; 1 Pet. 3:21) The spirit’s fruitage consists of “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, mildness, self-control.” (Gal. 5:22, 23) Daily conscientious effort is needed to cultivate that fruitage.

2. Communicating with Jehovah through heartfelt prayer is essential to keeping strong spiritually. (Phil. 4:6, 7) Jesus urged his followers “always to pray and not to give up.” (Luke 18:1) A regular program for personal study and meeting preparation is also vital. Remember that Jehovah directed Joshua to read God’s Word regularly “in order to observe carefully all that is written in it.”—Josh. 1:8.

3. What is your view of the yearly hour requirement? Have you developed a practical schedule to meet it? This is one of the things that is needed if you are to succeed as a pioneer. Imitate Jehovah, and carry on your ministry in an orderly way. (1 Cor. 14:33, 40) Put your schedule in writing. You have counted the cost, as it were, and you want to “let your word ‘Yes’ mean yes.” (Matt. 5:37; Luke 14:28) So give your ministry priority, and as far as it depends on you, do not let nonessentials interfere with the time you have set aside for participating in the preaching work.

4. Deep concern for people will also strengthen your resolve to succeed as a pioneer. Jesus was not self-sparing. His love for people moved him to expend himself for them. (Matt. 9:36; 22:39) Satan has blinded the minds of the vast majority of people. But you know that among the masses there are sincere ones who long to gain the freedom offered by the truth. The pioneer ministry to which you have been appointed affords you greater opportunity “to open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God.”—Acts 26:18; John 8:32.

5. In all that you do, remember that our service should bring glory to Jehovah, not to ourselves. Show a sincere personal interest in those you meet in the field. Endeavor to be adaptable and discerning in dealing with different types of people. (1 Cor. 9:20-23) How you conduct yourself will be noticed both by your brothers and sisters and by people on the outside. Shoulder the added responsibility you now bear in a dignified way, humbly proving yourself to be an example to all in the congregation. Do all things for Jehovah’s glory.—1 Cor. 10:31.

6. As a pioneer, you will enjoy the pioneer meetings with the circuit overseer, the Pioneer Service School, the annual meeting with elders in your congregation, and the special meeting held with pioneers in conjunction with a circuit assembly. The elders will also help and encourage you in your pioneer ministry. You can assist them by scheduling time to work with them in service when they are available. Feel free to approach the elders and to communicate with them regarding your needs. (Heb. 13:17; *km* 3/00 p. 8) By all means, benefit from the assistance they provide. They deeply appreciate your hard work, your faith, and your zeal in Jehovah’s service.

7. From time to time, you may become discouraged. This can rob you of joy in the full-time service. Changed circumstances because of health problems, financial reversals, in-

creased family responsibilities, and so forth may cause you to get behind in your hours. Especially when you are facing difficulties, it is beneficial to meditate on the treasure you have in the ministry. “Throw your burden on Jehovah, and he will sustain you. Never will he allow the righteous one to fall.” (Ps. 55:22) Jehovah gives wisdom, strength, and holy spirit to us as his loyal servants so that we can carry our load of responsibility. He also helps us to bear burdens that are the result of human weaknesses and circumstances beyond our control. View such challenges as opportunities to demonstrate your faith and confidence in God’s ability to provide what is needed. (Matt. 6:33, 34) Make these matters the subject of specific, earnest prayer and supplication to Jehovah.—Luke 11:2-13; 1 Pet. 5:6, 7.

8. A number of articles have been published that will assist you as a pioneer. We recommend that you review chapter 10, paragraph 13, and chapter 13 of the *Organized* book and prayerfully consider the following material as a personal study project throughout your first year of pioneer service:

- (1) “Do You See the Need to Make Spiritual Progress?”—*w16.08* pp. 20-24
- (2) “Seek the Kingdom, Not Things”—*w16.07* pp. 7-12
- (3) “Do Not Be Afraid. I Will Help You”—*w16.07* pp. 18-20
- (4) “Serve Jehovah Without Distraction”—*w15 10/15* pp. 18-22
- (5) “How Real Is Your Relationship With Jehovah?”—*w15 4/15* pp. 19-23
- (6) “Pioneering Strengthens Our Relationship With God”—*w13 9/15* pp. 27-31
- (7) “Making Whole-Souled Sacrifices for Jehovah”—*w12 1/15* pp. 21-25

9. As a regular pioneer, you may be invited to share in certain theocratic assignments as part of your sacred service. Your spirituality, availability, and willing spirit may allow you to support Kingdom interests in a special way. Such approved assignments include serving in construction oversight, Assembly Hall oversight, assembly oversight, and convention oversight, as well as serving as temporary volunteers at Bethel, commuter Bethelites, remote volunteers, Bethel consultants, Hospital Liaison Committee members, Patient Visitation Group members, Disaster Relief Committee members, Local Design/Construction Department field representatives and maintenance trainers, and so forth. Approved assignments also include assisting with Kingdom Hall construction when such is done at the request of the branch office or its representatives overseeing the project, assisting with pre- and post-assembly or convention work, assisting with work at Assembly Halls, conducting or participating in congregation meetings held in prison, and so forth.

10. If you are authorized to assist with one of these theocratic assignments, you should keep a record of all the hours spent working on the assignment during the month. You should report this activity to the congregation in the “Comments” section of your *Field Service Report* (S-4). The hours spent working on an approved assignment should not be combined with the hours spent in field service. Although your theocratic assignment is part of your sacred service, some time should be spent in the ministry each month.

11. If authorized, you will be given credit to the extent that the total number of hours that you actually spend in field service plus time credit for approved assignments in a month does not exceed 75 hours. No credit will be carried over to any other month. The credit received for attendance at a theocratic school or class is in addition to any time spent in the field ministry that month and in addition to any credit received for approved theocratic assignments. If a theocratic school or class spans more than one month, you will be allowed to determine how much of the allotted hour credit will be applied to each month.

12. We “remember your faithful work, your loving labor, and your endurance.” (1 Thess. 1:3) It is a pleasure to be united with you in disseminating the life-giving knowledge of God as you accept the privilege and responsibility of the regular pioneer ministry. (John 17:3; 2 Cor. 4:6) May Jehovah richly bless your wholehearted service.

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