

## CIRCUIT OVERSEER MEETS WITH PIONEERS

PROGRAM FOR SEPTEMBER 2012 THROUGH FEBRUARY 2013

### *Note to the circuit overseer:*

The meeting should be upbuilding and encouraging. Where appropriate, include positive comments from the elders about the pioneers' impact on the territory and the spirit of the congregation. Allow the pioneers to comment freely on the questions posed, and help them to make personal application where appropriate. Auxiliary pioneers are invited to be present for the first 30 minutes (*tg* 19:4-7)

Theme: Imitate the Master Teacher's Pattern (Joh 13:13-15)

### **JESUS SET THE PATTERN AS A MASTER TEACHER** (3 min.)

Jesus taught by word and example (*pt* 75-76, 79-80)

He received instruction from his Father and closely imitated him (Isa 50:4, 5; Mt 11:27; Joh 14:9)

His illustrations, questions, parables, and simplicity touched people's hearts (Mt 7:28, 29; *it-2* 70 pars. 1-2)

Christ's disciples were commissioned as teachers (Mt 28:19, 20)

Jesus' qualities and teaching methods set a pattern, an example, or a model to follow (*w94* 9/15 15-16 par. 2)

As an effective pioneer, how can you better imitate Jesus' way of teaching?

### **SHOW LOVE AND COMPASSION FOR OTHERS** (15 min.)

Jesus understood people's spiritual condition and demonstrated love and compassion [Read Mark 6:31-34]

**Question:** What qualities were evident in Jesus' teachings? (*cl* 292-293 pars. 9-10)

See people as Jesus saw them, skinned, and thrown about like "sheep without a shepherd"—neglected by shepherds of false religions, starving and thirsting spiritually, and without a real hope for the future

We have what they need: the nourishing spiritual food and refreshing waters of truth found in God's Word (Isa 55:1, 2)

**Question:** How is our concern evident in our introductions? [Consider in advance the person's concerns, ask related viewpoint questions in a clear and deliberate manner, listen carefully to his response, maintain good eye contact (*w07* 11/15 27-29 pars. 4-16; *km* 4/06 1)]

Jesus constantly directed his listeners to the Scriptures (Mt 4:4; 21:13; Joh 6:45)

**Question:** Why is it vital to use the Bible in the ministry? (*be* 145)

Patient teaching and reasoning from the Bible reflects Christlike love and compassion

Make clear Scriptural application of texts to the householder's concerns (*be* 154-155; *w10* 2/15 13-14 pars. 15-17)

### **DEVOTE TIME TO TEACHING INTERESTED ONES** (12 min.)

Jesus took time to cultivate interest [Read John 4:39-42]

Pioneers imitate Jesus' zeal by being Bible-study conscious

It is beneficial to share in informal witnessing and in the public ministry; yet, due diligence with return visits leads to Bible studies

Jehovah will bless the efforts made in searching out deserving ones (Mt 10:11; Ga 6:9)

**Question:** On whom should return visits be made, and when? (*km* 11/09 1 par. 4; *km* 4/03 8 par. 2)

Do not hesitate to offer a Bible study on the initial visit, on return visits, and at every appropriate opportunity (*km* 6/10 2; *km* 11/99 1)

[Highlight from your circuit an experience of offering a Bible study on the initial visit or first Saturday of the month. Otherwise, relate an experience from the *2010 Yearbook*, pages 8-10]

Jesus used questions to help others think, reason, and make their own decisions [Read Matthew 17:24-27]

Rather than dictating what a student should do, use questions to help the student to think, to reason, and to make his own Bible-based decision (Heb 5:14)

Students must understand Bible principles relating to sensitive areas of life, such as cleanliness, marriage, child training, honesty in financial matters, entertainment, and forgiveness

**Question:** How have you helped Bible students with such topics? [This can be done by taking time to share with students appropriate scriptures, key paragraphs in the *Bible Teach* book, and articles in Christian publications]

Effective teachers help students understand Bible truths and also lead them to apply instruction, even showing them how to do it

Being Bible-study conscious allows for more opportunities to demonstrate love and compassion

When auxiliary pioneers are focused on helping others, it results in their having greater desire and opportunities to regular pioneer. [Express appreciation to the auxiliary pioneers for their attendance at this meeting and for their efforts in the field]

**[At this point, the auxiliary pioneers should be dismissed.** Thereafter, consider with the regular and special pioneers (if any) the following information and any other necessary matters needing attention]

#### **ASSIST OTHERS IN THE CONGREGATION (20 min.)**

By his example, Jesus prepared his disciples for the ministry, and he also gave them specific directions (Lu 10:1-12; cf 90-94 pars. 8-13)

He commended and encouraged them (Lu 10:17-24)

He expressed confidence in them and approval for them (Lu 22:32; Joh 14:12)

[With the following questions, share appropriate commendation to the pioneers for their positive influence in the congregation]

**Question:** Although you may not be teachers in the congregation, how do you assist fellow servants? [Sharing experiences, widening out to invite others in the ministry, showing flexibility and reasonableness regarding schedules, commending those who have put forth effort despite personal difficulties, assisting others in preparing effective presentations, motivating others to share in public witnessing, helping inactive publishers to rekindle their love for Jehovah, keeping car group conversations spiritually upbuilding, and so forth]

Although desirous of helping a publisher in the ministry, resist any tendency to ‘take over the conversation’ at the door or on Bible studies (*km 5/10 7; km 3/10 3*)

[Comment on the potential of new regular pioneers based on the number of auxiliary pioneers]

**Question:** How can you promote the pioneer spirit? [Helping publishers write out possible schedules for regular pioneer service (Lu 14:28), encouraging youths who are finishing basic education to pursue full-time service, inviting publishers to accompany you on a Bible study, sharing your contentment and joyful experiences, and so forth]

Jesus set a pattern of always doing God’s will (Joh 4:34; 14:31)

As Head of the Christian congregation, he directs the preaching work through the faithful and discreet slave class (Eph 1:22, 23; Col 1:18)

Specific endeavors have recently been encouraged for the ministry

Some of these include sharing in Sunday field ministry (*km 5/11 2*), using the first Saturday of each month to concentrate on starting Bible studies (*km 4/11 8*), having a personal territory near one’s home (*km 1/12 1; km 12/06 8*), keeping an accurate record of interest for return visits (*km 11/11 1*), and supporting meetings for field service (*km 8/09 7*)

**Questions:** Which of these activities have you enjoyed? How do you think your example assists others? [Implementing theocratic directives prompts others to do the same and leads to organizational unity, greater personal joy and satisfaction in doing God’s will, and blessings for following the Head of the congregation]

**LOCAL NEEDS (7 min.)**

**STRIVE TO IMITATE JESUS' PATTERN AS A TEACHER (3 min.)**

Jesus set a perfect pattern as the Great Teacher and Disciple Maker

His disciples learned firsthand from his ministry (Lu 8:1)

Paul was an effective minister because of imitating Christ (1Co 11:1)

Jesus' words and example are recorded for our instruction (Ro 15:4)

He showed love and tender compassion for people

Heartfelt devotion moved him to take time to help others

His disciples were motivated to imitate his example

The time left for the global ingathering work is reduced (Mt 9:37, 38; 1Co 7:29; Heb 5:12a)

Pray for Jehovah's assistance in imitating Jesus as a teacher

You will be rewarded with joy and satisfaction—now and in the future