

Elders Meet With Regular Pioneers, Special Pioneers, and Field Missionaries

NOTE: This meeting is to be conducted in December 2019 or January 2020 by two elders selected by the body of elders. Other elders may attend. Encourage the pioneers to be discerning as they help genuinely interested Bible students towards dedication and baptism. The meeting should be positive, practical, and encouraging. The meeting includes two videos

Theme: “Do the Work of an Evangelizer” (2Ti 4:5)

“FULLY ACCOMPLISH YOUR MINISTRY” (4 min.)

An evangelizer is a preacher of the good news, a messenger of good (Mt 4:23; *it-1* 770)

Jehovah is the Great Evangelizer, or Bringer of good news

Doing the work of an evangelizer requires effort and commitment **[Read 2 Timothy 4:5]**

We take our ministry seriously and remain alert to share the lifesaving message with others whenever possible (1Ti 2:4; 2Pe 3:9)

[Commend the pioneers for their self-sacrificing efforts]

We will discuss (1) practical lessons from the ministry of Philip, a zealous first-century evangelizer; (2) how to use the Teaching Toolbox effectively; (3) how to adapt in order to reach more people; and (4) the importance of expressing appreciation for our fellow evangelizers

IMITATE THE ZEALOUS EXAMPLE OF PHILIP (17 min.)

Philip, a zealous evangelizer, displayed qualities that are precious to Jehovah **[Read Acts 6:3, 5, 6]**

Questions: How is Philip described in verse 3? [He was a man “full of spirit and wisdom”] What can we do to develop similar qualities? [Study, prayer, and meditation will help us develop “the mind of Christ” and fuel our zeal for evangelizing (1Co 2:16; *w07* 8/1 4)]

After persecution broke out in Jerusalem, Philip continued evangelizing in Samaria **[Read Acts 8:5, 6, 12]**

Questions: What was the result of Philip’s ministry in Samaria? What is the main objective of our ministry? [To make disciples by conducting Bible studies and helping students progress to baptism]

[Read Acts 8:27-39]

Questions: What qualities did Philip display in speaking to the Ethiopian eunuch? What lessons can we learn from this account?

Praying for a progressive Bible study gives evidence that we are following the lead of Jehovah’s spirit

Since our main objective is to make disciples, we must be careful that our time and effort is not wasted on unproductive Bible studies (1Co 9:26; *mwb19.02* 7)

[Play video *Discontinuing Unproductive Bible Studies* (4 min. 14 sec.). The video can be found on jw.org. Go to LIBRARY > VIDEOS > OUR MEETINGS AND MINISTRY > IMPROVING OUR SKILLS]

Questions: What did you observe that indicated that the student was not making spiritual progress? How did the teacher help the student appreciate that he needed to make changes? How did the publisher leave the door open for the study to resume in the future? What have you found helpful in discontinuing an unproductive Bible study?

Discontinuing an unproductive Bible study can allow us to focus on those whom Jehovah is drawing to him and his organization (Joh 6:44)

DO THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIZER BY USING THE TEACHING TOOLBOX (9 min.)

Jesus skillfully used his keen knowledge of the Scriptures (*w18.10 11 ¶1-2*)

As skilled workmen, we want to learn how to properly use all the tools in the Teaching Toolbox

[Read 2 Timothy 2:15]

Besides the Bible, which is our primary tool, our Teaching Toolbox contains several other tools, each with a specific purpose

Questions: What tools have you found most useful in our territory? (*w18.10 12-15*) How do you use them? [Discuss according to local circumstances]

Although we want to start conversations, this does not mean that we should not place literature when interest is shown

Question: How do you determine when to leave a publication with an interested person? (*w18.10 15 ¶18*) [It is not necessary to hold back from offering literature to an interested person, even during the initial conversation]

By becoming more skilled with our tools, we will become even more useful to Jehovah in the evangelizing work (*Pr 22:29; Heb 13:15*)

DO THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIZER BY ADAPTING IN ORDER TO REACH MORE PEOPLE (20 min.)

Since it is becoming more challenging to find people at home, many pioneers are industrious in finding ways to adapt to the schedules of people in their territory **[Read Romans 12:11]**

Questions: When and where have you been able to reach people? [Discuss how pioneers have adjusted their schedules to support evening witnessing or preaching at other times]

Adapting to the busy schedules of interested ones is a way in which we “follow the course of hospitality” (*Ro 12:13; w09 10/15 6 ¶14*)

Please note the following segment from the May 2018 edition of JW Broadcasting

[Play video *Making Adjustments “for the Sake of the Good News”* (6 min. 32 sec.). The video can be found on jw.org. Go to LIBRARY > VIDEOS > INTERVIEWS AND EXPERIENCES > BLESSINGS OF SACRED SERVICE]

Questions: What challenges did the publishers face in their respective territories? What adjustments did they make? What benefits did they enjoy by casting their nets in more productive waters? Where could we focus our efforts in order to reach more people in our territory? [Discuss local circumstances with the pioneers. As needed, help them to see where they might concentrate their effort and time so as to reach more people. Consider unique aspects of your territory, such as opportunities for public witnessing at special events, truck stops, and other locations. Encourage all who qualify to support these special arrangements]

Zechariah prophesied that people “out of all the languages of the nations” would respond favorably to the good news (*Zec 8:23*)

Questions: How can you give a witness if you encounter someone who speaks another language? [Use the *JW Language* app to learn greetings and phrases in the target language. Offer to show a video in the language of the person. If the person shows interest, the pioneer could (1) provide his contact information and arrange a return visit, perhaps bringing with him a publisher who speaks that language; (2) direct the person to the nearest appropriate congregation; or (3) direct the person to jw.org (*mwb17.12 8; od 94 ¶39-40*)]

In seeking out people everywhere and at every appropriate opportunity, we demonstrate the same industriousness as the apostle Paul, the disciple Philip, and other early Christians (Tit 2:11; Heb 6:11)

The final results are in Jehovah's hands, but we will reap if we sow diligently (Ec 11:6)

EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR FELLOW EVANGELIZERS (8 min.)

Jehovah freely expresses appreciation (2Sa 22:21; w19.02 15 ¶4-6)

When we imitate his example, we promote joy and strengthen friendships

Train yourself to focus on the good qualities and habits of others (1Th 1:2, 3)

Make it your goal to express appreciation regularly for your fellow workers

Question: What are some things you appreciate about your fellow pioneers?

Please note the following expressions of appreciation that the Governing Body would like to share with you dear pioneers [Read the following statement word for word]:

"The Governing Body wishes to express heartfelt appreciation for the hardworking pioneers in each congregation. While most pioneers spend the majority of their time as zealous evangelizers in the field, many have been asked to support various other theocratic projects. As a result, they may not be as visible in the ministry. Yet, their hard work is 'necessary' and very much valued. (1Co 12:22) Whether the majority of your work is in the field ministry or in other facets of sacred service, may you continue to support each other and work together in unity for Jehovah's praise (Ps 133:1)"

FIND JOY IN YOUR ROLE AS AN EVANGELIZER (2 min.)

Despite challenges and difficulties, our ministry should be joyful

We experience joy both from our own labors and from observing the activity of our fellow pioneers (Joh 3:29)

Most importantly, we are joyful because Jehovah treasures all our zealous work in behalf of the Kingdom (Mt 6:20)

May such joy sustain you as you fully accomplish your ministry (2Co 4:1)

TO BE COVERED IN 60 MINUTES

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