

The Missionary

I. HIS CALL

A. His Salvation and Assurance

1. Salvation

- a. Born again child of God
- b. Testimony

2. Assurance

- a. It is of the utmost importance that he has a full assurance of his own salvation.
 - i. No man can pluck him out of the Father's hand (John 10:29)
 - ii. To know that you are his disciple by your love of the brethren (John 13:35; 1 John 3:10-14)
 - iii. To know that you have eternal life (1 John 5:13)
- b. Without this assurance (salvation and trust in God) he will not be able to be a faithful, and effective witness for Christ.
 - i. The example of Paul (1 Timothy 1:12-17)
 - ii. The example of Peter – (note: this example is from before Christ's death on the cross and is a loose application.) – The shacking of Peter's faith.
 - 1) Peter's confidence (John 13:36-38)
 - 2) Peter's confrontation (John 18:10-12)
 - 3) Peter's contradiction (John 18:25-27)
 - 4) Peter's recovery (John 21:1-7, 15-19; Acts 2:14, 41)

B. His Service and Faithfulness

1. Service in his local church

- a. Is he active already in a ministry?
- b. How long has he been active?
 - i. It is strongly suggested that the individual(s) have some level of experience in a ministry.
 - ii. This will be helpful for him/them as they move forward in preparation.

Quote from David F. Reagan: *"God always starts with people where they are; not where they ought to be."*

2. Faithfulness
 - a. The importance (2 Corinthians 4:2)
 - i. One of the first requirements
 - ii. The example of Timothy (1 Corinthians 4:17)
 - iii. The example of Tychicus (Colossians 4:7)
 - b. The level
 - i. This cannot be stressed enough.
 - ii. If the individual cannot be faithful here, do not expect him to make it on deputation or the field.
 - iii. Laziness cannot be a part of the individual (1 Corinthians 4:2, 17; Luke 16:10-12)

C. His Call to the Ministry

1. The Calling
 - a. From the Lord (Acts 13:2-4)
 - b. Not by man (Galatians 1:1; 1 Timothy 1:11-14)
2. The Assurance of the Calling
 - a. To confirm the call (2 Timothy 3:14-17)
 1. Through God's word
 2. Through fasting and time with Him
 - b. To continue in the calling (2 Timothy 3:14)
3. Testimonies of Callings
 - a. David Livingston
 - b. John G. Paton
 - c. Adoniram Judson
 - d. James M. Thoburn

Testimonies recorded from "An Introduction to the Study of Christian Missions," by Harold R. Cook, 1954, pgs. 85-95.

Quote from David F. Reagan: "Recognize that most people are as insecure as you are. Do not allow your insecurity to hinder your work or your demeanor. Claim your confidence in the Lord."