

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



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TO ALL NEW REGULAR PIONEERS

Dear Brothers:

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 keep 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, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith, mildness, self-control.” (Gal. 5:22, 23) Daily conscientious effort is needed to cultivate that fruitage.

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 and “to do according to all that is written in it.”
—Josh 1:8.

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.

Deep concern for people will also strengthen your resolve to succeed as a pioneer. Jesus’ love for people moved him to expend himself and not be self-sparing. (Matt. 9:36; 22:39) Satan has blinded the minds of the vast majority of people. But you know that among the masses are to be found 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.

In all that you do, remember that our service is to glorify Jehovah, not self. 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. Should 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.

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 the circuit assembly. The elders have also been asked to 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 communicate with them regarding your needs. (Heb. 13:17; *km* 3/00 p. 8) By all means benefit from the assistance they provide. We deeply appreciate your hard work, faith, and zeal in Jehovah's service.

From time to time, you may become discouraged. This can rob you of joy in the full-time service. Changed circumstances due to health problems, financial reversals, increased family responsibilities, and so forth may cause you to get behind in your hours. Especially when facing difficulties, it is beneficial to meditate on the treasure you have in the ministry. "Throw your burden upon Jehovah himself, and he himself will sustain you. Never will he allow the righteous one to totter." (Ps. 55:22) Jehovah gives wisdom, strength, and holy spirit to loyal servants so that we can carry our load of responsibility. He helps us to bear burdens due to human weaknesses and developments 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.

A number of articles have been published to assist you as a pioneer. You will find it helpful to review pages 113 and 134-44 of the *Organized* book, the July 1998, September 1996, and August 1986 *Our Kingdom Ministry* inserts, and *Watchtower* articles such as "The Blessings of the Pioneer Ministry," "Are You a Balanced Pioneer?," "How to Find Joy in Disciple Making," "Persevere in the Pioneer Service," "How to Succeed in the Pioneer Ministry," "Regaining Power, Not Tiring Out," and "Can You Enlarge Your Territory as a Pioneer?"—*w*97 10/15; *w*96 5/15; *w*96 2/15; *w*93 9/15; *w*89 5/15; *w*86 1/15; *w*85 9/15.

We bear "in mind your faithful work and 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 assume the privilege and responsibility of the regular pioneer ministry. (John 17:3; 2 Cor. 4:6) May Jehovah richly bless your wholehearted service. Be assured of our warm Christian love.

Your brothers,
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of Jehovah's Witnesses