

# Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237 Phone: (845) 306-1100

February 4, 2013

TO ALL ENGLISH AND SPANISH CONGREGATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES  
BRANCH TERRITORY

Re: Territory seldom worked

Dear Brothers:

In West Virginia, a stern, older gentleman named Ronnie was disappointed in his religion. He had left his church when the people there did not help his family in a time of need. When our young brother called at his door, Ronnie gruffly asked, "Why are you coming to see me?" Our brother replied, "Because we care about you." "Why do you care about me?" asked Ronnie. "Because Jehovah cares about you, and we try to imitate Jehovah." That reply melted Ronnie's heart, and a Bible study was started with him and his daughter. Ronnie said: "You did something my old church never did. You do care about me." In Kansas, a mother stated that she and her adult daughter, Whitney, would not be interested because they had their own religion. However, Whitney said that she had been looking into various religions and wanted to read the *Bible Teach* book that had been offered. Three weeks later, Whitney attended a meeting at the Kingdom Hall. She had read the book and had decided that this was the truth. Whitney planned to attend all of the meetings thereafter and to study the Bible because she wanted to get baptized. In Utah, a young woman inquired why Jehovah's Witnesses do not celebrate the holidays. After reading the information in the *Bible Teach* book, she concluded that what she read about the holidays in that book was the correct view. A Bible study was started. She asked for the address of the Kingdom Hall and stated, "I need to attend your meetings there."

Would you like to experience the joy that comes from sharing comfort from the Scriptures with those who do not receive a witness on a regular basis? If so, we would like to invite you to apply for and to accept a preaching assignment in territory seldom worked. Along these lines, the following questions and answers will be of interest to you.

**Q:** What is territory seldom worked?

**A:** Territory seldom worked includes more than 300 counties or parts of counties that are not assigned to any English congregation. Almost two million people live in unassigned territory, and many of those areas were not completely worked last year. Only English congregations are being invited to work *unassigned territory*. However, territory seldom worked also includes the territory held by the more than 1,000 English and Spanish congregations *that are not able to work all their territory regularly*. Beginning this year, Spanish congregations are being invited to participate in this aspect of territory seldom worked.

**Q:** Who can apply for an assignment?

**A:** Any group composed of publishers in good standing can apply. The group must consist of at least 2 persons and no more than 20, including minor children.

**Q:** How does a group apply for an assignment?

**A:** The Congregation Service Committee will select from the group a qualified brother to serve as team captain. If the group consists solely of sisters, a qualified sister will be selected. The team captain will then be given the *Application for Territory Seldom Worked* (S-270), *Counties With Unassigned Territory* (S-271), and *Frequently Asked Questions About Territory Seldom Worked* (S-272).

**Q:** What are the responsibilities of the team captain?

**A:** The team captain is responsible for coordinating group travel, for obtaining literature supplies for the group's use, for caring for related paperwork, and for communicating with any parties involved.

**Q:** Can publishers from other congregations join the team captain's group?

**A:** Yes. These publishers should ask their elders for the *Application for Territory Seldom Worked* (S-270).

**Q:** Where will the group be assigned?

**A:** The group makes a selection from *Counties With Unassigned Territory* (S-271). Consideration will be given to the group's preferred selection if at all possible. If the group wishes to assist a congregation, this should be indicated by selecting the states to which they would be willing to travel, and the group will be assigned to a congregation within the distance that was designated on the application. However, a list of congregations needing assistance will not be provided.

**Q:** How are the dates for an assignment determined?

**A:** The territory-seldom-worked campaign begins on February 1, 2013, and ends on October 31, 2013. The dates for which the group is available for an assignment should be agreed upon by all in the group. An assignment as short as one day or as long as two consecutive months may be requested.

In Texas, Shar listened in on a Bible discussion that some visiting Witnesses were having with her grandmother. At the conclusion of the visit, Shar spoke up and said, "God must have sent you." When asked why she had said that, Shar replied: "Last week I thought of ending it all. I have been going through tough times." Arrangements were immediately made to return and to discuss the *Bible Teach* book further. After the Witnesses made several return visits, Shar said: "On your first visit, I was not really sure about you. By the second visit, I liked what you said, but I was still skeptical. The third time, I wanted to make the effort to study." Shar expressed her desire to try to go to the Kingdom Hall even though it was more than 50 miles away. In Kentucky, after receiving a witness in sign language, a deaf man asked our brother to pray for him and also asked where he taught. When told it was a nine-hour drive away, the man replied, "I would drive nine hours to go to a meeting." In Minnesota, Rochelle had been praying for guidance and direction in life because she was a single mother with two young daughters. She had tried to read the Bible on her own but just could not understand it. When shown the *Bible Teach* book, Rochelle seemed quite excited about it. She asked if someone could come back as soon as possible to study the Bible with her because she had many questions that she would like to have answered.

Re: Territory seldom worked

February 4, 2013

Page 3

We want to thank all of you who have preached in territory seldom worked. If you would like to accept this invitation for an assignment this year, take the matter to Jehovah in prayer. He will not “forget your work and the love you showed for his name.”—Heb. 6:10.

Your brothers,

*Christian Congregation  
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

cc: Traveling overseers