

KINGDOM ADVANCING PRAYER

Mark: 1:35 & Matt: 11: 11-12

From the desk of Elder Michael Scantlebury

The Spirit of the Pioneer!

As I prepare for Kingdom Advancing Prayer the word “pioneer” rings in my spirit and it is from this premise I write this letter.

A pioneer differs from a settler. The pioneer is the one who creates the benefits for the settler to enjoy. The pioneer is the one who makes all the sacrifice so that others can enjoy their labors. As we stand on the threshold of a new era in God, the pioneers are the ones to thrust us forward into the unknown dimensions of the future. The following five qualities of the pioneer are vitally needed if we are to make any substantial breakthrough into our destiny and the mandate that the Lord has placed upon us as a local church and ministry!

1. Pioneers Stand In The Gap!

Pioneers possess the unique ability of living in the present, while yet being able to possess a prophetic perception of the future. They are people of vision. They literally as it were, “stand between two eras”. They are able to move and flow like John the Baptist, who saw the passing away of the old but also, was able to birth the new. There must be this new breed of people in the earth before the “Day of the Lord”. Please understand that we are in a transitional period in the history of the church and the earth, and it is during these times, people look for strong and capable leadership - Leadership that possess a prophetic outlook, perception and divine foresight. Hence the Lord is releasing a new breed of “Pioneers” into the earth at this time.

2. Pioneers Birth New Moves of The Spirit!

Because, Pioneers have prophetic foresight into the future plans and purposes of the Lord they do not succumb to the temptation of staying on the “well-established paths” of the previous generation, but they instinctively feel the urge to set ablaze a new trail towards their prophetic destiny. It would seem as though there is a powerful impartation of hope that is released from the Spirit of the Lord upon pioneers as they birth the new moves of the Spirit. This is demonstrated in their ability to press beyond any obstacles and fears. They just do not take “NO” for an answer. There is a spirit of determination that has to be resident deep in their hearts, as they chart the course for others to follow.

“Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 3:13-14

3. Pioneers Chart The Course For The Entire Colony!

As the search was on for the “New World” the early settlers as they were called, who were really the pioneers, charted and set the standard of life for those who follow. Remember the decisions of pioneers affect the destiny of future generations. As we seek the move of God in this region, please understand that the spiritual momentum that we create and flow in will determine how far the next generation will go! The inner operating systems of the pioneer has to be strong and must envelop the next generation, otherwise when the pioneer dies

there will be no forward movement in fulfilling the pioneer's dream and vision. As a matter of fact there will be no "pioneering spirit" released upon the next generation.

4. Pioneers Are Visionaries And Faith Propagators!

Pioneers **must** be visionaries and have the faith to confidently walk in what they see. They are people with prophetic foresight and they release a high level of inspiration into others around them that causes them to pursue a bright future because of what they have seen. Their unshakable hope for the future, no matter what the present set of circumstances may declare, challenges and encourages their followers. They are able as it were to produce faith in others by their own lifestyle! Pioneers do not fear the unknown, because they see and determine their future. As a pioneer you must be totally consumed with the confidence of conquest. Failure cannot be a part of your vocabulary. Every mountain must be made low and every valley must be exalted so that the terrain can be conquered. Pioneers are able to rise above natural circumstances and all self-doubt and self-limitations to fulfill their vision. They somehow have the ability to turn the times of crisis into times of great opportunities for the Supernatural God to manifest Himself. Pioneers walk in a high level of hope and inspiration to keep themselves and others from being discouraged by circumstances. Their optimism and hope strengthens and encourages others to move forward.

5. Pioneers Strategy Involves All!

Pioneers are spiritual fathers who will graciously create room for others to come into their vision. They create opportunities for others to own the vision. Part of the technology and operating systems of a pioneer is the desire to impart the vision to the young as well as the old in order to ensure continuity to the God-given mandate.

Pioneers seem to have the ability to communicate the vision to others and make it plain and real to them. They also possess the ability to gather and co-ordinate people for the work and also to make them become shareholders as it were.

I am very determined and focused, as I know that this is the will of God for us at this particular time. Remember that, He who has begun a good work in, and with us, will perform it to the very end. One of the cries of the Spirit is for a people that have the capacity and ability to "finish" every assignment. We are called to be people that can finish.

PRAYER FOCUS

For residents of our neighborhood as we have begun to get responses from our recent mail campaign. We are getting some who have become very disillusioned and disappointed with "the church"! Remember David in **1 Samuel 22:1-2**

We need to continue our press for resources, as we know that the Good Samaritan had to have resources in order to help the injured man. **Luke 10:30-35**

Let us continue to wage war against the strongman in this region and BIND him – they are spirits of jezebel, religiosity, intellectualism, competition, independence, indiscipline, etc... **Mark 3:27 and Luke 11:21**

For Elder Michael trips into Oregon June 5-8 2002 and Alabama June 14-16, where he would be ministering at an Apostolic/Prophetic Conference and then on to New York June 17-21, where he would be ministering at two local churches.