

THE MASTER'S CLASS ON PIONEERING #4: "Money Lessons" Matt 10:9-10

Building a church will require men who can get dominion in and raise money → Jesus aims his disciples in very first 'planting' in church history at the ideal of full-time ministry.

I. THE PRINCIPLE OF SUPPORT

A. Our Fellowship has a pattern of pioneer support

1. Varies from church/church: Basic idea is to support a man while in beginning stages of the work
 - a. Enables him to get momentum, not looking for work immediately, can build a foundation
2. Ideally can establish basics: Building, group of people giving, converts who are coming along
 - a. If he does eventually begin working, he is ahead of the game

B. The idea of support is to keep your mind on the harvest

1. TX: 'provide' – LIT meaning what you were responsible for yourself – what they would gather to bring
2. SO: Support allows a man to keep his hand to the thing that matters most
 - a. Not just pastoral welfare – it's an issue of effectiveness
3. POINT: While on support we shouldn't be: Starting a business, working side jobs, etc – we should be *pioneering*!

II. WORKING AND PIONEERING

A. Practical: For many/most men there will be a time when required to work

1. Ideal of the working pastor is working the minimum amount needed to meet your basic needs and keep ministry flowing
 - a. *Mk 6:8-9 He commanded them to take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bag, no bread, no copper in their money belts—⁹ but to wear sandals, and not to put on two tunics.*

1. Nothing except a staff: Not luxurious outfitting but a practical necessity

B. Critical part of survival is adjusting your lifestyle

1. Before go out issues to be dealt with:
 - a. Debt is absolutely toxic – makes it difficult to impossible to succeed pioneering
 - b. Lifestyle expectations: You, your wife/kids – MUST learn to live on a budget; Ideally a small one
 1. NOT because you'll be poor when you pioneer – but so that you have a chance to succeed!
 - c. Practical equation: More you have to work (to meet personal needs) less time you have for ministry
2. While pioneering keep perspective: *Others been pastoring decades, have made long-term deposits in life/finances*
 - a. *JH often told himself/wife: That's not for now, one day I'll have a car made this decade, but not now! More important things!*

C. Work must revolve around the ministry

1. *Heard stories of guys who can't outreach b/c job, adjust their midweek service because work schedule*
 - a. You work to live, you don't live to work: If your job is incompatible w/pastoring you need a new one!

III. RAISING MONEY

A. Our script suggests the ability to raise financial support is important

1. *Mt 10:10 nor bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staffs; for a worker is worthy of his food.*
 - a. Worker is worthy – actually an assumption they will be able to raise money – taken as a given
2. Truth about Pastoring: The ability to raise money is an absolutely life or death issue in the long-term
 - a. Cannot stay on support forever – will drastically limit the kingdom, and you!

B. Conviction: Teaching people to give is critical for their spiritual development

1. Danger is to view tithing/giving/liberality as 'advanced' Christianity – so don't ever teach or content for it
 - a. *I'm actually concerned about pioneers after period of time when money doesn't match the people*
1. 2 Corinthians 9:5 Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren to go to you ahead of time, and prepare your generous gift beforehand, which you had previously promised, that it may be ready as a matter of generosity and not as a grudging obligation.
2. We use wisdom/balance/timing – but the principle is that people need to give to mature as believers

IV. THE ULTIMATE AIM

A. The ideal of pioneering is to pastor full-time

1. Very practical: When you can devote your life to your ministry, both you AND the church will flourish
 - a. *Ideal – AND it is attainable! – Jesus isn't setting an impossible standard – modern economy didn't change the rules*
a. Jesus is saying – very plainly – that ministry ought to support the minister – that is what we're driving at
2. Don't let time & difficulty move the goal-posts: A few more dollars/hour I can buy a home; I deserve a new car
 - a. *Jesus said: Don't be consumed by providing for your comfort – if you work for me, ministry will support you!*