

Pearl Harbor

Jim Downing

I. Introductions.

- A. Concentration on two threads of the Navigator work:
- B. Founded in 1933.
- C. The USS West Virginia Group.

II. Virgil Hook.

- A. A missionary to China and Tibet.
- B. He met Dawson Trotman and he encouraged him to memorize verses.
- C. He memorized many Scriptures in Chinese that encouraged him and others.
- D. He went to Taiwan when Tibet was closed to missionary activity.
- E. Encouragement: memorize Scripture in other languages to communicate and get many to pray for you because where prayer focuses power falls.

III. Testimony 2.

- A. He grew up believing God did not exist, but he believed that humans were responsible. There was a difference between good and bad.
- B. He began attending a Bible study with Trotman and could not refute what he had to say. While Trotman's personality was abrasive to him, he found that he was a man of character.
- C. He was a foreigner to the things of the Bible and Christianity, but little by little he came to understand the truth of God through the patience of Trotman and the Navigators.
- D. He experienced a miracle in that he felt as though he had a new spirit - it was a supernatural experience for him and he knew that he did not do it, so he had to credit God.

IV. John Dedrick.

- A. A missionary to Mexico.
- B. He translated the New Testament into a tribal language there and became a pastor in the tribe.
- C. He is credited with the name "Navigators" because when he met Trotman he was studying celestial navigation. Trotman took this name for "spiritual navigation."

V. Ed Goodrick.

- A. A scholar who is responsible for a well known concordance.
- B. If Trotman were here he would remind us to continue the race. (Philippians 3)

VI. Testimony 5.

- A. Scripture memory and Navigators principles are just as valid today as they were in the 1930s.
- B. The testimony of the power of the Word converting a Mormon.
- C. Witnessing. (Luke 9:20)
 - 1. Jesus learned how not to fear rejection and we must do so to witness.
 - 2. Self loves to be accepted and not rejected. This hurdle must overcome.
 - 3. We must voluntarily take up our cross willingly by dying daily to ourselves. (Galatians 2:20)

Application questions.

1. What stood out to you about the various founding men of the Navigators?

2. What principles did you find that were shared among the men?

3. How do the testimonies of these men challenge you? In reference to the last testimony, what will you do in the next week to witness to someone?
