

# **The Navigator's Relation to the Church**

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## I. Introduction.

- A. There is a charismatic movement stirring within the US. (1 Corinthians 12:14)
- B. This and the laying on of hands is an important issue for the ministry to discuss.

## II. Laying on of hands.

- A. Laying on of hands was for setting aside for a special job, for identification and transference of power and authority. (Acts 6, Acts 13, 2 Timothy 1:6)
- B. The subject is inconclusive despite other issues. Be sure you have Scripture for all you say and do, and where Scripture is silent you be silent too. (Hebrews 6:2)
- C. There is no strict well identified pattern for this subject.
- D. Because of the risks of where it could lead without congregational control and the influence of others, this is best to steer clear on with the Navigator ministry.

## III. The Navigators are not a church.

- A. The Navigators have been called apart from local congregations to fulfill a purpose in which the local congregation has been called.
  - 1. When it comes to the matter of speaking in tongues, it demands some type of congregational control. (1 Corinthians 12-14)
  - 2. The church is a body that is a spiritual phenomenon separate from society that intermingles with it. It is made up of all things from Pentecost. (Colossians 1:18, 1 Corinthians 12)
  - 3. There are geographical locales that meet that are parts of this larger body.
    - a. It is the household of God. (1 Timothy 3:15)
    - b. It is a congregation of faithful men where the Word is preached and the sacraments are duly ministered. (Westminster Confession, Augsburg Confession, Calvin)
    - c. The church has to do with preaching and the administration of the sacraments.
    - d. There is a distinction between a fellowship and a church.
    - e. Somewhere upon the line there should be some kind of leadership.
    - f. Geographical location should also be involved.

3. Paul and Timothy were part of local congregations set apart - when they did ministry abroad they were not local churches because they were not fixed to a geographical location and did not administer sacraments.

4. There are people in local congregations that are not a part of the body of Christ.

B. The Navigator's job is to contribute to the Great Commission by sending out people into the harvest field and it has been set apart as a team to aid local congregations and minister to them.

C. The speaker does not want the Navigators to be a church.

#### IV. Application.

A. Because the ministry is not a congregation it cannot properly exercise control over tongues. Therefore, they should not be practiced publicly there.

B. The same is with healing in its need for elders. (James 5)

#### V. Comments on the Charismatic Movement.

A. The speaker believes there is a place for the gifts today in the local congregation with the exception of prophecy.

B. There are certain characteristics of the movement: a great need for power and a desire to be effective at evangelism. Then the phrase "freedom from bondage" is used. A confusion often follows in doctrine. Then people constantly search after a spiritual pill to meet their needs.

C. One needs to be careful of overemphasis on the gifts.

D. The concern is primarily seeking the Lord and not the gift - He will equip you with what you need.

E. Do not be swept away by every wind of doctrine. Only talk about doctrines in light of how much time the Scripture spends on them. Keep your perspective broad. (Ephesians 4)

#### **Application questions**

1. Why are the Navigators not a church?

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2. What are the main issues that are not incorporated into the Navigators because they are not a church? What are some of the concerns that arise with this?

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3. How do you approach these issues in your ministry and what are the reasons you do so? Explain.

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