## The Navigator Vision John Crawford

- I. Introduction.
- II. Dawson Trotman, founder of the Navigators.
  - A. Trotman was converted through a Scripture memory contest at a church.
  - B. He was asked to share his testimony and was eventually introduced to Lester Spencer who was looking for help growing as a Christian. Trotman walked alongside Spencer, and when Spencer found another man that needed help, Trotman told Spencer that he should teach him. This was the beginning of the Navigators.
- III. The Navigator work began to spread through men in the military during World War II.
  - A. Crawford was introduced to a Navigator who memorized Scripture and witnessed without any plans to enter the ministry, which was novel to him.
  - B. The Navigator introduced him to the means to quote Scripture.
  - C. The Navigators got started by a few fellows meeting together to memorize Scripture and share their faith.
  - D. There was no compromise in those days.
- IV. World vision the mission of the church.
  - A. The mission of the church is the Great Commission. (Matthew 28:19-20)
  - B. We are all in the mission together of the maturing of the saints. (Ephesians 4:11-12)
  - C. World vision is to develop a core of functioning disciples in every nation.
  - D. Success of world vision in the past. (Romans 6:7-8, Romans 16:19, 1 Thessalonians 1:8-9)
  - E. The speaker gave his life to raising up disciples that would go and do ministry as he would have throughout the whole world, thereby multiplying his personal ministry a thousand fold.
  - F. Our objective is to make disciples and teach all nations and the means to accomplish this is first prayer. (Matthew 28:19-20, 9:37-38)
  - G. The gospel is the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)
    - 1. Christ died for the penalty of sin.
    - 2. He rose again for the power of sin. You are never removed from the effects of sin
    - 3. He will return to save us from the presence of sin. (1 Peter 1:10)

## **Application questions**

1. What role did Scripture memory play in the early years of the Navigators?
2. Why was Trotman's involvement with Spencer considered the beginning of the Navigators?
3. What is the Navigator's world vision, how do they intend to accomplish it, and what Scripture is used to support their vision?