

A COMMISSIONING SERVICE

THE CHURCH IN ACTION

Acts 13:1-3

Introduction: Sometimes God calls from our own Church family somebody He wants to be a missionary and frequently it is a husband and wife, thus making a "team." The Church family will want to express their thankfulness to the Lord for His calling someone from their Church Family and then to inform the ones(s) being set apart of their support.

- PASTOR does his own comments and introduction of the one(s) being commissioned/set apart.
- The following is a short message (special music, testimonies omitted here) to remind the Church family of their part in God's work.

I. THE ACTION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. The Church does not choose God's servants.
2. The Church does not outline qualifications or fitness of those doing God's work.
3. The Church has NO voice in God's selections.
4. The Holy Spirit chooses, gives gifts those as He chooses.
5. The Church agrees with God's choices and with the work of the Holy Spirit.

II. THE ACTION OF THE CHURCH

1. The Holy Spirit said, "*...separate me.....*"
2. God called the Church to participate. There is one God, one Purpose, one Spirit.
3. The Church was to give blessing, to send forth under God's authority.

III. THE ACTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL

1. No person can go with God's authority unless God first calls him/her.
2. People do not nor can, make missionaries out of one another.
3. The Church cannot make missionaries.
4. Only God makes His missionaries.
5. Through the centuries various calls from God have gone out to men, like Noah, Abraham, Samuel, Isaiah, Paul, etc.
6. Only when the heart burns within should a person ever say, "I'm going to be a missionary."

CONCLUSION:

1. We are not here to call _____ to be missionaries for God has already done that.
2. We are not here to qualify or disqualify them as fit or unfit, God has already made His choice.
3. We are not here to convince them to become missionaries, they have already make their choice.
4. We are here to agree with God and with _____.
5. We are here to give our blessings, our prayerful support and any other help we can give.

6. We are here to place our hands upon them and say: **"Go with God!"**

Laying on of hands by the Church family. (This can vary as the Pastor chooses)

- The ones being set aside, kneel at position that will be accessible by the Church Family.
- Suggest that all "ordained" come by first, place hands upon the heads of the one/couple being set aside.
- Then the Church Family, as the Pastor suggests, row by row, etc..

Certificate presented to the one's having been set aside

Their words or comments.

Final prayer. Perhaps with the Church Family circled about the ones just commissioned or everyone holding hands.

(Pastor and church family, please use your own ideas, this is how one commissioning service was done long ago and each situation is unique.)