

BIG IDEA

We have to be faithful with the last thing if we want to discover the next thing.

KEY VERSE

“Be careful never to forget what you yourself have seen. Do not let these memories escape from your mind as long as you live! And be sure to pass them on to your children and grandchildren”(Deuteronomy 4:9).

SUMMARY

Pioneers are bold and courageous! They go beyond the horizon, they push the limits, they see what’s beyond the bend, they go further and farther than those before them, they blaze new trails, they create the future. **A pioneer is someone who moves into the unknown for the good of others and the glory of God.** When we ask, listen, and respond by obediently taking next steps, we not only bless those who come behind us, but our lives are blessed as well (**Luke 11:28**). If we are going to have the courage to move forward, we need to look back at where God has been faithful in the past (**Deuteronomy 4:9**).

TELLING OUR STORY DOES THREE THINGS

1. IT HONORS GOD (**Deuteronomy 1:31**)
2. IT FOCUSES OUR ATTENTION ON GOD (**Joshua 1:9**)
3. IT BUILDS OUR FAITH (**Hebrews 13:8**)

Take a moment and reflect on the ground you have taken in your life. What mountains have you climbed? How is that building your faith for the new ground God is inviting you to take?

5 MAJOR MOVEMENTS IN OUR VCC STORY

1. FOLLOWING THE CLOUD
2. VALUING THE PRESENCE OF GOD
3. DEVELOPING LEADERS
4. MAKING MISSIONAL MOVES
5. LIVING THE THREE CIRCLES

Is this your history or is this your inheritance?



OUR STORY IS YOUR STORY

We are a family on mission and God is our guide (**Psalm 119:105, Psalm 32:8**). Whether this is your history or your inheritance, we all start today as equals. These mountains are now ours to steward as we take new ground. Each of us has a choice to be a *spiritual pioneer* and steward our history to take new ground, or be a *spiritual nomad* and consume the ground taken by others and then move on (**Mark 4:24-25**). Pioneers move forward for the good of others; nomads move forward for the good of themselves.

You have been given an inheritance from God so you can build a history with God. And your history with God becomes someone else’s inheritance from God. To build a history with God requires moving from *consume and enjoy* to *contribute and engage*.

Do you identify more as a spiritual pioneer or a spiritual nomad? In this year of pioneering, how can you shift your focus from consuming to contributing and from enjoying to engaging?

(Other Scripture References: Exodus 33:15-16, Acts 4:13, Psalm 92:13)