

MOBILIZER

by **Bob Sjogren and Bill & Amy Stearns**

Imagine yourself seeing a huge, raging fire in the distance. You could run to get a bucket, fill it with water, run to the blaze, and dump water. Then you could run again and dump more water on the fire. And again, and again. But perhaps, on first seeing the danger of the fire, you could run and wake up one hundred sleeping firemen who would do at least a hundred times what you could have done yourself.

So a mobilizer is...

A normal everyday Christian who walks with God yet has a global perspective and who stays on the home front to rouse others to action. When a country goes to war, it isn't just the front-line soldiers whose lives are affected. An entire line of support personnel must stand behind them, supplying whatever the combat troops need to do battle. And back on the home front, massive mobilization is required to keep people aware of their part in the war. Posters and radio programs, small-town parades and publicity campaigns urge people to pray for their troops, to write to them to keep up their battle-fatigued morale, to sacrifice luxuries for the sake of the war effort, to give up the use of items that are more desperately needed on the front lines, to volunteer for support positions from medical assistants to entertainers, to put their personal money into special accounts such as "war bonds" so the proceeds can be used for the war effort, to go to work at "new jobs" in order to produce materials needed in the conflict.

Think back over the items of this analogy and ask how you might motivate, train, and activate people in your culture to such vital responses to a national crisis. Those ideas are probably exactly how you can motivate, train, and activate believers to their part in the global spiritual warfare against Satan's false kingdom of darkness. To mobilize is to get them moving.

What are the characteristics of a mobilizer? Consider a sample listing:

- Needs to be able to be a servant.
- Desires to see laborers raised up to finish the task of world evangelization.
- Possibly has the gift of encouragement and exhortation.
- Is "apt to teach" but may be more effective in recruiting others to teach.
- Speaks in front of groups without (too much) fear.
- Leads others well.
- Has a general heart for the world, possibly focusing in on one people group.
- Sees the priority of waiting and mobilizing others as well as going.
- Is part visionary - seeing what can happen as God matches empowered believers with key opportunities of ministry
- Is part implementer - driven to see visions become realities.