



**ROBERT HICKMAN:
PILGRIM'S PROGRESS
Discussion Questions**

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Oral history records that Robert Hickman secretly left his owner's property to visit his sick child, even though it was illegal, and he could have been whipped. What does this say about Hickman's personality?
2. When Robert Hickman and the other ex-slaves arrived in St. Paul, the white workers protested, afraid that the new black arrivals would take their jobs. Do people have similar fears today? Are there similar protests?
3. Robert Hickman was recognized as a "slave preacher" before he became an official minister. Why was it important for him to become an official minister? Do you think it was important to his congregation (the people at his church) that he was formally ordained a minister?
4. What kind of person was Robert Hickman? What kind of leader was he? Who are the people in your life who are like Robert Hickman?

Think About: Why might churches have been particularly important to ex-slaves in Minnesota? Are churches still important today (to African-Americans and others) for the same reasons?

