

Maximizing Your Revival Meeting



From the Office of Evangelism at the



Alabama Baptist Convention
State Board of Missions

We're Going to Have a Revival!



***There is a sense of emergency in our hearts
for Revival in North America!***

***“If my people, who are called by my name
will humble themselves and pray, and seek
my face, and turn from their wicked ways;
then I will hear from heaven and will
forgive their sin and heal their land.”***

2 Chronicles 7:14

Reality 101...



Reality One: Baptisms in Southern Baptist churches are at an all time low...

2007 Statistics for SBC (Latest)

- ✓ Total number of baptisms per Annual Church Profile 2007....
345,941
- ✓ Percentage of Churches in Convention that didn't show any baptism last year... **24.3%**
- ✓ Percentage of Student Baptisms out of total number of baptisms last year... **22%**
- ✓ **25% of AL Baptist Churches baptized 0 last year!**

Reality 101...



Reality Two:

Nearly 70 percent of all SBC churches in the United States have plateaued or are declining.

The average person in the pew (and many pastors) rarely, if ever, share their faith in Christ.

Reality 101...



Reality Three: Revivals and other evangelistic events are on the “Comeback” in SBC Life... Event Research Project, SWBTS, 2009

- ✓ *Nearly all A-CHURCHES, which are the nation’s most highly effective evangelistic Southern Baptist churches, sponsor **Intentional Evangelism** events.*
- ✓ *Two-thirds of A-CHURCHES sponsor both **I.E. Events** AND an ongoing **personal evangelism** training.*
- ✓ *More A-CHURCHES sponsor (in order) **Holiday Related, Revivals, and Sports and Recreation** evangelistic events than any other types.*

A Good Pastor Principle to Hold On To...



Four Evangelistic Events per year +
Evangelistic Training per Event +
A Consistent ***Weekly Visitation*** Program +
Sunday School/Small Group for purposes of
Assimilating New Believers =

**Incremental Church Growth
&
Kingdom Building**

Six Reasons to Have a Revival Meeting



1. Revival meetings **strengthen** active Christians.
2. Revival meetings are a way of **motivating** uninvolved church members.
3. Revival meetings **focus** the church's energy toward the unsaved.
4. Revival meetings give you an opportunity to **train** God's people in evangelism.
5. Revival meetings set a **spiritual atmosphere** that ripens the harvest.
6. Revival Meetings are a way to **reach** the unchurched.

How Can I Best Prepare My Congregation for Revival?



“50-55 percent of any Revival’s Success is in the Preparation.” - Jim Coldiron, BGEA

Larry Wynn, pastor/evangelist, states there are two key factors in preparation:

- ✓ ***Don’t leave any base uncovered.*** You’ve got to think down to the most elementary part.
- ✓ ***Give ownership of the revival to the people...*** Prepare them and use them for God’s glory of His church.

Four Important Reminders in Preparation...



- ✓ ***Research the best time for your Revival...*** Spring? Weekend? Fall? Sport event obstacles? Other special event conflicts in church or community?
- ✓ ***Secure a strong conviction about the Revival Budget...*** Pray about what the Lord would have you secure as far as resources for the coming revival. Educate your people as to the need.
- ✓ ***As early as possible, enlist a evangelist (and music leader) for the event...*** Who best fits your church's need?
www.baptismassistance.org
- ✓ ***Involve as many of your church members as possible...*** Ownership comes with responsibility.

Digging In...

The Months Prior to the Revival



using

God's Plan for Sharing (GPS)

As a template:

This journey is guided by a process with four biblical markers:

Praying- every church praying for lost people

Equipping- every believer sharing as a trained witness

Sowing- every lost person receiving a witness

Harvesting- every church harvesting & celebrating every salvation result.

“Build these markers into your revival strategy”

Praying for Revival...



- ✓ ***Plan Cottage Prayer Meetings...*** Pray for the lost, pray for the church, pray for each other.
- ✓ ***Prayer Triads...*** Pray with two other partners, each listing 3 people to pray for and invite to the revival. Write down on 3.1.6 Prayer Card.
- ✓ ***Sacred Assemblies...*** You work hard, you get what you can do. You pray hard, you get what God can do!
- ✓ ***Prayer Letters...*** Mass writing to prospects and those on your prayer lists.
- ✓ ***Creative Praying...*** Facebook, Prayer Walks, Twitter, Prayer Wall, etc.

Equipping for Revival...



“Any Evangelistic Event is an Excuse to Train in Evangelism. Seize the Moment!”

- ✓ ***Counselor Training-*** Experience has shown a direct parallel to the amount of counselors trained to the responses during a revival. Train them in a specific track, such as *Here’s Hope* or *Commitment Guide*.
- ✓ ***Operation Andrew-*** A simple plan to help believers pray for, befriend, invite, and bring individuals they know who need Jesus Christ to the revival (www.bgea.org).
- ✓ ***Custom Made Evangelism Training-*** The Office of Evangelism of the SBOM can assist you in training God’s people to be a stronger witness for Him. There are also many tools available through NAMB. (C.R.O.S.S. and RELAY, etc.)

Sowing for Revival...



***“If you want a harvest, you’ll need to farm the land.”
Jerry Vines***

- ✓ ***Work Hard and Advertise!*** Look for ways to get the word out... FaceBook, flyers (coffee zone), commercials (you’ll be amazed how cheap they are on cable), radio spots, newspaper, billboards, free press, prayer breakfasts, word of mouth, etc.
- ✓ ***Knocking on Doors Still Work!*** Utilize the GPS “**Find It Here**” brochures w/ bag, place your revival materials and leave at door.
- ✓ ***Recruit for Special Days of Revival!*** God and Country Night, Sports Night, Bring a Friend Night, Youth Night, “School” night, etc.
- ✓ ***Seek Permission to Have Rallies in Schools!*** Have an attractational event that stirs students (i.e. drug testimony, special feature) and use to invite to the revival.

Harvesting the Revival...



“Those who sow in tears will reap with shouts of joy!”

Psalms 126:5

- ✓ ***Come Expectantly!*** Be prayed up, prepared, and ready to see people come to Christ.
- ✓ ***Company’s Coming!*** Are you ready? Are your counselors equipped with registration cards as well as the “send home” materials? Is the temperature (physically and spiritually right) at the Church? (see “*Visitor Friendly Church*” power-point for more tips)
- ✓ ***Work on Your Invitation Skills!*** Make sure everyone is on the same page for the invitation. Draw the net skillfully and expectantly.
- ✓ ***Use Your Revival Team Evangelistically!*** Have a list of evangelistic prospects and work every day of the revival with visits, contacts, etc.
- ✓ ***Have a Strategic Follow Up Plan!*** You need to have a strong 4 week follow up plan for all visitors to the revival.

You Can Do It, We're Here to Help!



The Office of Evangelism
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