

GPS

GOD'S PLAN FOR SHARING

ACROSS MISSOURI

2020

EVERY BELIEVER SHARING, EVERY PERSON HEARING

CHURCH PREPARATION GUIDE

MISSOURI BAPTIST CONVENTION

400 EAST HIGH

JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

800-736-6227

www.mobaptist.org

Dear Co-Laborers in Ministry,

In their classic book *Experiencing God*, Henry Blackaby and Claude King encourage Christians to find out where God is already at work and then join Him in it. When we do that, they said, we will experience the greatest adventure and thrills of the Christian life.

The Bible tells us with great clarity that there is no activity more urgent to God than reconciling people to Himself. That's the reason Jesus entered into the fray of humanity: "To seek and to save what was lost." (Luke 19:10). It's the assignment the Church received in the Great Commission when Christ told us to "go and make disciples of all nations (see Matthew 28:19-20). He's even holding back the consummation of history in order for more and more people to find redemption and eternal life (2 Peter 3:9).

GPS (God's Plan For Sharing) ACROSS MISSOURI, 2020, is the God-sized task of taking the Gospel to every one of the 2.3 million households in Missouri. Can we do it? No, *we* cannot. However, since we know God is at work in the lives of all who are saved and lost (John 5:17), we are assured God will take pleasure in working *through us* to tell His Story.

Billboards, Radio and TV commercials, plastic bags containing the Gospel as well as an invitation to Easter services hung on every door, are nice. But they are only as effective as the hearts behind them and the supernatural moving of God's Holy Spirit.

This Church Preparation Guide is merely a tool assisting Missouri Baptist Churches in the task of fulfilling the Great Commission in their area.

Thank you for joining Baptists across Missouri, who are joining God in His foremost activity, "...making ready a people prepared for the Lord." (Luke 1:17b).

In His Name,



Gary Taylor
Director of Evangelism
Missouri Baptist Convention

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WHAT IS THE GOAL?.....	4
PRAYING ACROSS MISSOURI 2010	5
GOSPEL DISTRIBUTION GUIDE.....	8
GETTING YOUR CHURCH READY FOR COMPANY	10
SMALL GROUP LEADERS FOLLOW-UP GUIDE.....	15
BECOME A COVENANT CHURCH	20
TRAIN TELEPHONE AND INTERNET ENCOURAGERS.....	21
MEDIA CAMPAIGN	22

GPS

GOD'S PLAN FOR SHARING

ACROSS MISSOURI 2020

www.mobaptist.org/mogps

CHURCH PREPARATION GUIDE

The goal of “God’s Plan for Sharing” (GPS) is to fulfill the Great Commission in Missouri by every believer sharing and every person hearing by 2020. The first step on this journey is called, ACROSS MISSOURI 2010. This is the first of 6 major campaigns that will help Missouri Baptists share with every people group in our state. It provides a framework in these beginning days for Gospel distribution, Media coverage, and a consistent theme that your Church can work from. Our journey will be guided by a process with four Biblical markers:

- **PRAYING** – Every Church praying for lost people
- **ENGAGING** – Every believer sharing as a trained witness
- **SOWING** – Every lost person receiving a witness
- **HARVESTING** – Every Church harvesting and celebrating every salvation result

The Intensive period of GPS ACROSS MISSOURI is five weeks in duration with a five week follow-up plan. Like all processes, it can and should be repeated again and again. It is an initiative to share Christ through prayerwalking, Gospel distribution, and an invitation from your Church for an evangelistic Easter worship service on Sunday, April 4, 2010, concluded by five weeks of follow-up connection with those who responded to your invitation. Materials, resources, and a media campaign will assist your Church in accomplishing this goal.

This booklet is a simple instrument to assist your congregation in preparing for and carrying out a Gospel distribution. Your MBC Evangelism Office stands ready to assist you with additional training and consultation, as you have need

ACROSS MISSOURI 2010

WHAT IS THE GOAL?

The goal for Across Missouri 2010 is to reach every home in Missouri with a Gospel distribution, as well as an invitation to attend a local congregation for an evangelistic Easter service. Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010, is quickly approaching and people are gearing up for one of the largest evangelistic efforts in our convention's history.

Pastors will lead their congregations to PRAY ACROSS MISSOURI, followed by a Gospel distribution and Harvest Sunday on Easter. Sunday Schools or Bible Study small groups will be prepared for a five week follow-up process seeking to connect churched people with non-churched people discovered during the campaign. Below is a sample timeline to accomplish this goal.

ACROSS MISSOURI TIMELINE

Preparing, 2009

Making Media Plans

September-January

Encourager/Covenant Church Training

October-February

Prayer Training

October-February

Implementing, 2010

Praying

Feb 28-
April 4

Engaging

March 6 & 13

Prayerwalking

Sowing

March 20 & 27

Gospel Distribution

Door to Door

Harvesting

April 4

Easter

Sunday

Assimilating

April 11 – May 9

Five Week Follow-up

PRAYING ACROSS MISSOURI 2010

Thank you for committing to mobilize people in your congregation to prayerwalk. We are praying for every life in every mile of Missouri, focusing specifically on those who need a relationship with Jesus Christ. Before you begin, you may ask the question, “What is prayerwalking and how do I do it?” Here are some thoughts as your prepare your congregation:

1. **Pray with Insight.** Some people have defined prayerwalking as “praying on-site with insight.” While keeping your eyes open is important while prayerwalking, praying with insight is much more. Be aware of where you are praying. What do you see along the journey? Do you see children’s toys? Then pray for that family. Do you see a street lamp? Pray that people will discover the light of Christ and that believers will be a light to the world.
2. **Pray with Intentionality.** While we should always be sensitive to how the Holy Spirit leads us to pray, March 6 and 13 are days to intentionally pray for those who need a personal relationship with Christ. Begin now to pray specifically for those in your community who need to hear the Gospel.
3. **Pray with the heart of an Intercessor.** An Intercessor is someone who “stands in the gap” – a gap between one person and their need for God or for God to work in their life. As people prayerwalk, look for opportunities to pray specifically with people and for people’s needs.
4. **Prayer with Information.** Do you know who lives in your community?
 - How many single parents are there?
 - What kind of crime rate is in your community?
 - What unreached people groups are living in your town?
 - Learn and be open to learning about the “hidden” needs in your community.
5. **Pray with Inspiration.**
 - Prayerwalk with Scripture verses
 - Pray God’s promises. The way to pray the will of God is to pray the Word of God.
6. **Pray for the Impossible and expect God to answer!**
 - Do we limit God and His ability to answer prayer?
 - Are you praying for those who are lost with faith that God can redeem anyone?
(Ephesians 3:20 and Hebrews 11:6)

PRAYER GUIDE FOR CHURCHES

- 1. Enlist a prayer coordinator for your church.** Seek out someone who already prays consistently to be your church coordinator and organize this effort.
- 2. Create prayerwalk routes.** These will be used later for distribution in Gospel saturation.
- 3. Enlist prayerwalkers within your church.** Have a sign-up sheet for people to commit to prayerwalk the first two Saturdays of March (March 6 & 13). Encourage members of all ages and stages of life to participate. Ask for the following information:
 - a. Name and contact information
 - b. Do they plan to walk alone or would they like to be part of a group?
 - c. Do they have an area where they would commit to praywalk? Make suggestions such as neighborhoods, schools, community centers, and public places. Remind people they can walk, run, or even drive!
- 4. Have a time of prayertraining.** Use Church Training time; or, a Sunday evening Worship service time; or, train on a Wednesday evening. Some have trained on a Saturday morning, then practiced what they have learned by going out prayerwalking.
- 5. Organize people who would like to prayerwalk in groups.** If you organize prayerwalking groups, keep the groups small in size, between two to four people, and divide them into different areas of town.
- 6. Offer resources that will prepare people to prayerwalk.** See the list of Prayerwalking resources suggested at the bottom of this page.
- 7. Plan an organizational meeting to answer any questions from participants.** Distribute any resources that might help your participants. Encourage each participant to keep track of the number of miles completed for celebration purposes.
- 8. Prayerwalk March 6 and 13!** Keep track of all your miles (using a pedometer). If a group completes 2 miles, count the miles for each individual in the group. (For instance, if your group of two walks two miles, then you will report a total of four miles). Use this information to celebrate your team accomplishments in walking and praying.

POPULAR RESOURCES

- **Prayerwalking: Praying on Site with Insight** BY Steve Hawthorne and Graham Kendrick, published by Strang Communications, 1993.
- **Follow Me: Lessons for becoming a Prayerwalker** by Randy Sprinkle. Jew Hope Publishers, 2001.
- **A Journey of Faith: Prayerwalking** by Dan Crawford and Calvin Miller, AMG publishers, 2002.
- **Prayerwalking** by Gary Taylor, Power Point and Listening notes
www.mobaptist.org/gpsprayerwalking

SUGGESTED WAYS TO PRAY

1. Sample Prayer

“Lord, we pray for this home and for Your Spirit to draw them into seeking the truth. I see a boat there and pray that while this family is on the boat that Your Spirit will prompt them to see You. I see the children’s bicycles, and pray that the children will grow in the wisdom and stature of the Lord. We pray for the congregation to be able to follow through with these people and that they will be responsive.”

2. Praying for personal Spiritual needs

- Pray for God to search your heart (Psalm 139:23-24)
- Pray that God will reveal unconfessed sin your life (Proverbs 28:13)
- Pray for forgiveness of any and all known sin (I John 1:9)
- Pray that we will not be led into temptation (Matthew 6:13a)
- Pray for God’s will and not our will to be done in our lives. (Matthew 6:10)
- Pray for the fruit of the Spirit to characterize all that we say and do. (Galatians 5:22-23)

3. Praying Strategically for Lost People

(Use HEART Acronym and Five Fingers to Pray as you Prayerwalk)

- Pray for receptive **H**earts (Luke 8:5-15)
- Pray that their **E**ars and **E**yes will be opened (Matthew 13:15)
- Pray for their **A**ttitude adjustment (John 16:8)
- Pray for them to be **R**eleased to believe (2 Timothy 2:25-26)
- Pray for their **T**ransformation (2 Corinthians 5:17)

4. Praying Strategically for Believers

- Pray for Christ to send Believers into His harvest fields (Matthew 9:38)
- Pray for Christ to keep Christians in His name and character (John 17:11)
- Pray for Christians to have Christ’s joy (John 17:13)
- Pray for Christ to guard and protect Believers from the evil one (John 17:15)
- Pray for Christ to sanctify (set apart) believers (John 17:17)
- Pray for Christians to be unified in one mission, purpose, and spirit even as the Father and Son are one (John 17:21-22)

5. Other Prayer Ideas

- Pray for God to make a way for us to share the Gospel (Colossians 4:3)
- Pray that believers will put on the whole armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18)
- Pray for those in authority to be saved (I Timothy 2:1-2)
- Pray for Spiritual awakening (2 Chronicles 7:14)

GOSPEL DISTRIBUTION GUIDE

The goal of this portion of GPS ACROSS MISSOURI strategy is twofold; first, that every home in Missouri be exposed to the simple plan of salvation; and second, that every family unit in Missouri would attend an Easter service at a Missouri Baptist Church in their neighborhood or community.

This portion of the plan is simple. In brief, you will enlist members of your church to hang a plastic bag on every door in your community. The plastic bag will contain an evangelistic flyer called “Find It Here” (www.FinditHere.com), as well as a Church brochure of your making, with an Easter invitation to attend your Church. Prior distribution experiences suggest that one to two items are much more likely to be opened and read. We strongly suggest the “Find It Here” and Church brochure, be the only two materials in the distribution bag. You will need to develop a distribution plan for your Church. In larger communities, you will want to develop a strategy with your local association and the other cooperating churches in your community so that there will not be a duplication of efforts. Here are steps for the distribution of the Gospel.

1. Enlist All Ages for Gospel Distribution

The Gospel distribution will take place on two Saturdays, March 20 and 27. These are the suggested days for distribution; however, they may not be the best days for your Church. You will not want to begin the Gospel distribution though until after you have prayerwalked your area. If there is a spring break that coincides with a suggested distribution day, you may want to use another time to canvass.

2. Develop an Invitation to the Easter Service at Your Church

This Easter invitation is for April 4 and should look as nice as you can make it. The look of the invitation will make a huge impression on your community.

3. Secure and Organize Across Missouri Materials (“Find It Here”)

The “Find It Here” materials consist of a clear hanging bag along with a Gospel flyer that reflects the theme. The hanging bag and Gospel flyer are sold to churches for 7 cents each. They will be available at your Associational Office, or, the Evangelism Office of the MBC. The second piece in the hanging bag will be the brochure from your Church containing the invitation to Easter services. You will want to place both flyers in the door hanger bag prior to the day of distribution.

4. Implement the Gospel Distribution Plan

Enlist two person teams for the door-to-door delivery, using the prayerwalk routes and maps established earlier. Give each team the exact location on the map that you want them to work. This should allow you to know how much of your community you covered, and protect you from duplicating your coverage.

5. Distribute the “Find It Here” Material

On Saturdays March 20 and 27, make your assignments for the distribution, asking people to continue to work until all of your community is covered.

Encourage them to leave the packet on the door (**NOT THE MAILBOX!**) and to pray for each home as they deliver the materials.

GETTING YOUR CHURCH READY FOR COMPANY

It's Easter Sunday morning. The Smith family has decided to attend church for the first time in over 12 years. They choose First Church because of its convenient location. As they turn into the parking lot it becomes difficult to find a parking place. After driving around for several minutes, they finally park but aren't sure where to go. The first door they come to is locked and there is no one in sight to help them. Mr. Smith notices a couple walking toward the front of the church so they quickly turn and follow them. Once inside, a bulletin is shoved in their hands, and they are told to find a seat quickly because the service is about to begin. After stepping over three families who would not move down the pew, they are finally seated as the music begins and everyone is told to stand.

After the service, the Smith family left without anyone speaking to them, inviting them to Bible Study, or expressing any interest. However, the Smiths did make a decision that day-they decided never to go back to First Church again.

It was not because they did not like the sermon. It was not because they did not like the music. It was because First Church was not ready for company.

Your Easter Sunday is quickly approaching. Plans are being finalized to make sure those in your community receive an invitation to attend your church. However, a question demands to be asked. With all this work you are doing to invite people to church Easter Sunday, "Is your church ready for company?"

This day cannot be viewed as business as usual. There must be a plan to make sure each guest feels welcomed, loved, and wanted. Many of the people who will be visiting on Easter Sunday may have never attended church. Their attendance might be revealing a new receptivity to spiritual things or a personal search for answers to life issues. Not being ready for company could mean they will never return or worse, never respond to the Gospel.

Some might think that too much attention is being given to Sunday guests. Well let's take a look at what Jesus says on this issue. In Matthew 25:35 Jesus said, "...I was a stranger and you took me in" (NIV). It sounds like Jesus wants us to be hospitable to strangers. Another passage is Hebrews 13:1-2 where we read, "Let brotherly love continue. Do not forget to entertain strangers..." (NKJV). "Brotherly love" should not stop with the brothers. It should continue beyond the borders of those we know. The word "entertain" means hospitality. God's Word commands us to show love to everyone...even to "strangers!"

So what should our church do to get ready for company? In the pages that follow are several easy, yet essential, steps every church can take to make certain they are prepared.

Some churches might feel what they offer is simply okay. It might not be the best, but it is good enough. What is an acceptable level of quality performance? Is it fifty percent of your guests feeling welcomed? Seventy-five percent of your guests feeling loved? Ninety percent of your guests feeling wanted?

Well, if 99.9 percent is an acceptable goal for your church, how would this goal impact other areas of life?

- 12 babies would be given to the wrong parents each day in America.
- 200,000 drug prescriptions would be filled incorrectly in the next 12 months.
- 107 incorrect medical procedures would be performed each day.

Since 99.9 percent is not good enough for parents, pharmacists, and doctors, it should not be good enough for churches.

We have one chance to make a good first impression. The following are suggestions, if followed, that could enable you to make the best impression for Him who gave His best (His all!) for us.

On the Outside

1. Your Church Campus Must:

- Have directional signs in parking areas and outside of buildings
- Be well landscaped
- Be clean, well maintained
- Be inviting cosmetically

Everyone has heard of body language. Well, there is building language as well. Your building communicates how much the members of your church value their church facility and the ministries offered.

2. Parking Areas Must:

- Have adequate number of guest parking areas
- Have guest parking that is easy to locate and identify
- Allow guest parking to be your best parking spaces
- Have greeters outside in the guest parking area

Why do we need guest parking spaces? Researchers have discovered that church guests decide whether or not to return to the church they are visiting in the first 10-12 minutes upon entering the church campus. Greeters can ensure the first 10 minutes for your guest are the best. If you do not have guest parking with greeters, you cannot be certain their first 10 minutes will be a positive experience.

3. Guest Parking Greeters:

- Should be your friendliest people
- Must wear name tags
- Need to understand the value of this ministry

This time is critically important and should be used to discover useful information about the guest(s), such as their names, where they are from, how long they have lived in the area, information about their family, interests, and possible needs.

4. Transitioning Your Guests to the Inside

Guest parking greeters should escort all guest from the parking lot to the Welcome/Information Center and introduce them to the Welcome Center staff.

On The Inside

Why should our church have a welcome/Information Center? Most families do not visit a church when things are going well. Usually, they attend during a crisis or other personal matters. They might be looking for help, friendship, or fulfillment in life. If your church does not have a Welcome/Information Center, how will a guest find out about your youth ministry, parenting classes, marriage retreat, women's Bible Study, or, any of the other wonderful ministries and activities your church offers?

At the Welcome/Information Center, guests can discover many of the benefits your church offers those who attend. You may, unknowingly, discuss how your church can meet one of their most critical needs. They probably will not receive this information during a worship service and certainly will not have the opportunity to ask questions. At the Welcome/Information Center, guests are informed and encouraged to get involved in the life of your church.

1. Welcome/Information Center

- Should have greeters who are very friendly
- Should have greeters who are well-informed about all of the ministries of your church

- Should provide up-to-date information on
 - Upcoming events for all ages
 - Recreational leagues and opportunities
 - Discipleship classes/small groups
 - Church staff and ministry directors
 - All age-graded and affinity ministries
 - Contact information
 - Campus map

After visiting the Welcome/Information Center, the greeter should escort the guest to the appropriate area, such as nursery, children's church, youth ministry, discipleship classes or worship center. The greeter should introduce the guest to the ministry staff or leader and make sure they are accommodated.

2. Nursery Area Must Be:

- Clean
- Safe
- Secure
- Organized

Some guests may not be ready to leave their newborn in your church's nursery. To assist visiting parents with this emotional dilemma, it might help to encourage them to tour the nursery area and make their own decision. If they do not feel comfortable leaving their baby at this time, you can suggest they sit in the back of the worship center to allow easy access to the foyer if there is a need.

3. Acknowledging Guests During a Worship Service

- Most guests prefer anonymity while visiting a church. They do not want to raise their hand, stand up, or stay seated while everyone else stands. They want to do what everyone else is doing and feel as comfortable as possible.
- It is important for someone to acknowledge them in a way that makes them feel welcomed and wanted. Since they will be blending into the crowd, church leaders must teach their members to value their guests and speak to those seated around them with a kind word and inviting smile.
- It is critical for church leaders to gather the contact information of their guests to follow up with them. Guest cards may be placed in pew racks or in bulletins. Whoever acknowledges the guests should politely encourage them to fill out a guest card and place it in the offering plate or preferred areas.

- Some churches are successfully using a Guest Reception following each worship service to give them an opportunity to meet the pastor and staff.

4. WHAT TO DO WITH THE GUEST CARD?

- Once the Guest Card has been turned in, the Pastor, appropriate Staff, or designated Church leader should see that the information is processed and turned in to the appropriate Sunday School class for follow-up and enlistment.

Most churches consider themselves to be very friendly. The truth is they are, but usually to themselves. It is important for your church to do its best to make sure every guest feels loved and welcomed. People are not looking for a friendly church as much as they are looking for a church where they can make friends. Pray for that attitude to permeate your church!

As you incorporate these ideas and your own into the life and ministry of your church, you will be well on your way to “Getting Your Church Ready For Company.”

SMALL GROUP LEADERS FOLLOW-UP GUIDE

From Across Missouri to Across the Room

Your church has worked hard and gone door-to-door inviting your community to church for Easter. All across your area, churches have hosted prayerwalks and prayed for people and families. And on Easter Sunday, you witnessed some of the fruit of your effort-new faces appearing in your worship services.

You have now entered “The **RED** Zone!” The **RED** Zone is the last 20 yards of the football field before you reach the goal line. The team that can best execute in the **RED** Zone is the team that will win the game. When someone attends your worship services, your Sunday School or small group Bible study has entered the **RED** Zone.

Your church’s goal for **ACROSS MISSOURI** as stated earlier, is to reach every home in your area with a Gospel distribution and invitation to attend a local congregation for an evangelistic Easter service. When they attend, involving newcomers in small group Bible study or Sunday School is one of the most effective ways to help people discover Christ as their personal Savior and grow them to maturity.

1. Small Group or Sunday School and Evangelism

The small group, relationship-oriented ministry of your Sunday School or Bible study class is a great ingredient for people to explore Christianity. In small groups, not only can they ask questions about Jesus Christ, but they experience Christian living and see firsthand a changed life because of the Gospel.

2. The Six-Week Window

Experience tells us that the first six weeks following a non-churched person’s first visit to a church is critical. It is when they are most receptive to the church and to the Gospel. This receptivity gradually declines. If no contact has been made between the church and the newcomer in six weeks, the newcomer will become indifferent to the church again.

Five Step Follow-Up

1. Visit

They have already expressed an interest in your church by attending worship, so express interest in them:

- Transfer names of guests and all information gathered from them into a Master Prospect File which is in the Church Office. From the Master File, prospects should be assigned to the class they would attend if they came to Sunday School. This creates a class file.
 - Prospects should be assigned to class members and a contact made. The most effective contacts are still personal visits. Bring something with you when you visit.
For example: > Pupil book from your Sunday School Curriculum along with Church newsletter.
> Gift Basket – include mints, church information, tea and coffee, or other small gifts your church may have.
- * The results of the contact are to be written on the assignment card and returned to
The church outreach leader.
- Once a contact is made and report given, the record should be updated on the master file. Once the Master File is updated, the process starts all over again.
Contact the MBC Sunday School Office for help in setting up a Prospect File.

2. Prayer and Answers

When making a visit, don't just thank them for attending. Get acquainted and ask them if there is anything that you could pray about for them. Answer their questions about salvation and the church. Be prepared to give a testimony of how the Lord changed you.

3. Enroll

Belonging to a Bible Study class is a vital part of sharing the Gospel. When unsaved people join a Bible study, they have the opportunity to see first-hand what Christianity is like and study God's Word.

Research gives us the following information:

- A Church will baptize one out of four hundred (1:400) lost people it tries to reach outside of its Sunday School or small group Bible study.
- A Church will baptize one of two (1:2) lost people it enrolls in Sunday School or small group Bible study.

Many people think that they have to be a church member to belong to a class, so be sure to ask them if they would like to join a Sunday School class or enroll their children. Enroll them on the spot. They do not have to attend first before they can enroll.

4. Minister

Always look for opportunities for your class to minister to the person you are visiting. Perhaps they need prayer. They may have a loved one in the hospital you can visit, or you could offer to bring food for the family during a time of need.

5. Invite

Invite people you visit to your small group or Sunday School class. Give them information such as what time the class starts, where the class is located, and so forth. Offer to meet them at one of the church's main entrances and help them find classes for their kids.

Research tells us that 82 percent of nonchurched Americans will attend a small group or Sunday School class if asked. However, only 20 percent have ever been invited.

Invite these new people to one or more of the following:

- Small Group
- Sunday School class
- A class fellowship
- Off-campus Bible study

Follow-Up Strategy

1. Resources for Follow-Up

- Bible Study Curriculum
- Enrollment Cards
- Church newsletters
- Develop a Prospect File

2. Sample Follow-Up Plan

• Week One

- Pastor letter to all of Sunday's guests. Letter includes: a list of all Sunday classes and small groups; an invitation to attend a Coffee Fellowship hosted by the pastor and Sunday School leaders.
- Pastor makes personal phone call to all visitors. Call shouldn't be over 2-3 minutes long. The pastor could say something like this: "Hello, I'm Gary Taylor, pastor of First Baptist Church, O'Fallon. I am so glad you visited with us Sunday. I hope you enjoyed the services and that you will return and worship with us again soon. If you have any questions, I will try to answer them now, or, you can let me know later. Do you have any questions right now? Thank you again for coming, please let me know if there are any things we can pray for you about, or, any ways we can serve you. God bless you and have a great evening." If there is no answer and you get their answer machine, leave the basic message above with the exception of "Do you have any questions right now?" Sign off by repeating who you are and where you are from.
- Begin visiting homes.

• Week Two

- Mail postcards from Sunday School classes and small groups to all visitors, inviting them to Sunday school or small group Bible study.
- Host a Coffee Fellowship
- Continue visiting in homes.

• Week Three

- Continue visiting in homes
- Sunday School or small group classes make phone calls inviting guests to class fellowships.

- **Week Four**

- Continue visiting in homes.
- Sunday School class or small group fellowships

- **Week Five**

- Follow-up so that all guests have had several contacts from the church and Sunday School or small group.
- Hand “invitations” to baptismal candidates. Candidates send invitations to their baptism to family members and friends.
- Baptist Sunday! Celebrate! Invite guests of baptismal candidates to meet the pastor.
- Have a prepared, ongoing discipleship plan for the new believer. Your best choice is to continue to use the Sunday School or small group Bible study in their spiritual development.

BECOME A COVENANT CHURCH

Covenant Churches are a network of local Churches that agree to provide immediate follow-up and encouragement to people who have made salvation decisions with Telephone Encouragers and/or Internet Encouragers. The new converts contact information is sent to the nearest Covenant Church. The Covenant Church agrees to contact them within 3 days. Due to the Media Blitz taking place the 3 weeks before Easter, we can anticipate a large volume of phone calls and Internet responses to 1-888-Jesus2000 and www.findithere.com.

How does my Church become a Covenant Church?

- Enlist a Follow-up Coordinator. This person will process the follow-up information that comes to your Church and assign someone(s) to follow-up on the ones making decisions for Christ.
- Establish a referral follow-up plan and provide resources (Gospel tracts, Bibles, Information about your church, appropriate Sunday School classes, and Church ministries).
- Send timely follow-up reports to the Evangelism Response Center at The North American Mission Board.
- Develop a Prayer Team who will regularly pray for the referrals.
- Train members to share Christ and disciple referrals.
- There is no cost to become a Covenant Church.

Contact information for Covenant Church Registration is as follows:

EVANGELISM RESPONSE CENTER

4200 North Pointe Parkway

Alpharetta, GA 30022-4176

Phone: 770-410-6383

Email: erc@namb.net

Fax: 678-624-3389

www.erconline.net (To fill out and send an on-line report)-click on "Get Involved" button

TELEPHONE AND INTERNET ENCOURAGERS

Telephone (TEs) and Internet Encouragers (IEs) are members of MBC churches who have been trained to share the Good News of Christ from their own homes, through the Telephone and Internet. They will commit two and one-half hours per month (more, if they so desire) and send in a report after each session. TEs and IEs will be prepared by attending a two hour training session. Training sessions will be offered in each region of Missouri, beginning in the Fall, 2009, and should be concluded by February, 2010, so that those trained will be prepared to receive the responses to the Media Campaign contacts.

- Seekers/Inquirers come from:
 - Toll Free numbers
 - Internet addresses
 - TV ads
 - Radio ads
 - Printed materials (Your Church flyers can have the telephone and internet numbers on them)
 - Billboards
- There is no cost involved, and the privacy of the TEs and IEs phone/internet numbers and addresses is insured.
- Why should I want my Church to be involved in the Evangelism Response Center?
 - Encouragers from your Church will be trained in evangelism
 - As encouragers become comfortable witnessing by telephone and Internet, they will be more comfortable with face-to-face witnessing, leading to growth in discipleship.
 - You can publish the 888-JESUS-2000 number, and/or the Website www.findithere.com on any promotional or evangelistic materials your church distributes, including your Web site, increasing the potential for contacts in your area.
 - Your Church will receive referrals of respondents in your area, leading to numerical growth.
 - You will be a part of Kingdom growth as well as Church growth. A higher percentage of those who call ERC make Salvation decisions than most other evangelistic approaches.

MEDIA CAMPAIGN

Three weeks before Easter (Easter is April 4, 2010) will begin a Media Campaign in many areas of Missouri. The main focus of this campaign in Kansas City, St. Louis and Springfield will be TV advertising, utilizing the 30 second spot. Churches and Associations in other areas can unite resources and utilize the 30 second spot as well. Billboards, Church Yard signs, and Newspaper advertising are means any Church or group of Churches can successfully utilize. Non-traditional avenues such as: gas-pump toppers, web banners, and indoor billboards may also be utilized. Our purpose is to capitalize on outlets that provide maximum return for minimum investment in order to encompass as much of Missouri as possible. If you have questions about utilizing TV, Radio, Billboards, or Church Yard Signs, contact the MBC Evangelism Office.

You may contact us by email at gtaylor@mobaptist.org or, bpeeper@mobaptist.org . Or you may contact us by calling 800-736-6227, extension 650 (Gary Taylor), extension 651 (Beth Peeper).