



HOW CAN SHOW-ME FAITHFUL WORK IN MY CHURCH?

Show-Me Faithful is an emphasis designed to help your church focus on the faithfulness required of God's people to do ministry in your church, and literally around the world.

It is as simple as ABC

- A. It is adaptable to churches of all sizes. It is a four-session unit that utilizes preaching, drama, Bible study and worship. Several creative ideas are included for your use.**
- B. It is Biblical Stewardship presented in a way that every church needs to hear and have reinforced. Four principles of faithfulness are featured (1) Gratitude; (2) Surrender; (3) Obedience; (4) Love.**
- C. The Cooperative Program has been the glue of Southern Baptist Missions. Two of the four weeks specifically educate, illustrate, and support the overall work of the Cooperative Program.**

This emphasis involves the congregation in worship, drama, testimonies, Bible Study and fellowship – all helping to educate the church in the areas of Stewardship and Cooperative Program.

The CD includes:

- A preparation plan, complete with who to enlist, what they are to do and when they do it!**
- Four Show-Me Faithful dramas, two extra Stewardship dramas and a Catch-Up Sunday drama.**
- Promotion ideas**
- Sermon ideas (4)**
- Sample letters**
- Sample newsletter**
- Evaluation form**

If you do not have accessibility to open this CD, please call the MBC Communications and Development office, 1-800-736-6227, ext. 221, and we will send you the printed material needed to conduct Show-Me Faithful.

Sample Letter or Pastor's Column for Newsletter

Dear Church Family,

A popular movie a few years back had a line in it that said "show me the money." The implication from the secular viewpoint is that if there is value, there will be something to show for it.

From Jesus' parable found in Luke 16 of the unrighteous steward, faithfulness and trust are proof of righteousness. He used that story to illustrate that you can't serve two masters. He wants us to be faithful to Him.

In the center of the Missouri license plate is the phrase "Show-Me State." Missourians are known for their *show-me* attitude. I think our Lord expects us to do more than talk about our commitment to Him. He wants us to be found faithful. We are to demonstrate our commitment by faithful living.

A faithful steward is one who is trustworthy with another's property. All that we possess is not really ours; it belongs to Him. We belong to Him! Show-Me Faithful is a four-week emphasis that our church will participate in to lead us to be found faithful in all we do: Gratitude, Surrender, Obedience and Love. We will focus on faithfulness to the Lord as a church family. Join with us as we demonstrate (Show-Me) an attitude of faithfulness.

Your Pastor,



Preparation Plan

Show-Me Faithful is a four-Sunday emphasis designed to encourage faithful giving to the Lord's work through the church. It is not designed to be a budget promotion, however, it could benefit any size church as they plan their budget.

Show-Me Faithful is simple to use by following this preparation plan. Advance preparation is crucial to the success of the emphasis.

How to Use the Show-Me Faithful Emphasis

Six weeks before the emphasis begins:

1. Set the calendar:

- Block off four weeks on the calendar for the emphasis
- Allow 4-6 weeks of preparation time (Example: If emphasis is set for October, start preparation time for mid-August or early September.)
- Clear calendar of other events as much as possible. Build or focus on the Show-Me Faithful theme.

2. Enlist a Preparation Team:

- Pastor, Worship Leader, Sunday School Director and Emphasis Secretary. Each of these can enlist additional help as needed. (Optional preparation team members could be Children's Leader, Youth Leader, Fellowship Leader, WMU and Men's Ministries Leaders.

Pastor's role:

- Provide support and encouragement to the Preparation Team and from the pulpit.
- Preach the Show-Me Faithful theme sermon series (sermon ideas provided).
- Write an article for the Show-Me Faithful newsletter.

- Plan to use the Children's Object Lesson on week #1.
- Consider enlisting one testimony based on each week's theme. (Testimonies to last 2-3 minutes)

Worship Leader:

- Four weeks before the emphasis begins, get the dramas in the hands of either your drama team or creative people to work on this. This could be the beginning of an exciting area of ministry for your church.
- Four to six weeks ahead, introduce the theme song, 'Show-Me Faithful' and plan to use it in worship services during the emphasis.
- Work with the Pastor in planning worship services for the emphasis.

Sunday School Director:

- Meet with Sunday School Teachers/Leaders for the Youth and Adult areas three weeks before first week of emphasis to talk about using the lesson Christian Giving.
- Plan a Show-Me Faithful Day in Sunday School the day this special lesson will be taught in the Youth and Adult classes. This is a good time to plan *High Attendance Day*.
- Enlist one of your most creative teachers to prepare and preview the lesson for the other teachers two weeks before the first week.
- Involve Outreach Leaders from each area of the Sunday School to plan ways to assure high attendance on the first week.

Children's Leader:

- Four weeks before emphasis, organize a poster contest. The rules are simple: the children design a poster that portrays one of the four Show-Me Faithful themes.
- Find time with other Children's Leaders to set a time when the children can work on their posters.
- Display posters and have the children share their interpretation at the Show-Me Fellowship on week four.

Youth Leader:

- Four weeks before emphasis begins, organize a speaker's contest; speeches to be 2-3 minutes in length focusing on one of

the four Show-Me Faithful themes. A selected speech or speeches could be used on Sunday evening services during the emphasis.

Emphasis Secretary:

- Plan to assist other preparation team leaders in material preparation, i.e., copies, poster resources, etc.
- Plan a special Show-Me Faithful newsletter or utilize the church newsletter and/or bulletins to promote Show-Me Faithful (clip art and bulletin inserts included).

Fellowship Leader:

- Involve folks who like to plan a really great fellowship! (Perhaps you have that committee presently in place)
- Lead them to plan a Show-Me Fellowship on week four. The fellowship could be anything from a dessert fellowship to a meal. Remember, the key idea is to demonstrate (Show-Me) an attitude of faithfulness as well as a time of celebration. Decorations should include the theme and the four topics – Gratitude, Surrender, Obedience and Love.

Women's Ministry (WMU) and Men's Ministry:

- Two weeks of the four week emphasis are about the Cooperative Program-Southern Baptists' plan for funding missions in our state and throughout the world.
- These leaders need to be included in the planning and implementation of Show-Me Faithful.

DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES

Four weeks before Show-Me Faithful emphasis:

- Preparation Team meeting
- Worship Leader deliver dramas to the people selected.
- Worship Leader begins working with musicians on Show-Me Faithful theme song to prepare for worship services.
- Pastor and Worship Leader plan services for the emphasis.
- Children's Leader organizes poster contest.
- Youth Leader organizes speaker's contest.
- Fellowship Leader enlists team.

- Display posters in highly visible areas of the church.

Three weeks before Show-Me Faithful emphasis:

- Develop a newsletter to include Pastor's column, overview of emphasis calendar, specifics of special Sunday School lesson, and high attendance day.
- Show-Me Fellowship (other topics could be included, such as poster contest and speech contest details).
- Office prepares the newsletter.
- Sunday School Director meets with teachers/leaders from Youth and Adult areas.
- Children's Leader find time for children to work on posters.
- Youth Leader gives direction to speaker's contest.

Two Weeks before Show-Me Faithful emphasis:

- Newsletter mailed (office may need to enlist help for mailing, etc.)
- Pastor and Worship Leader finalize plans
- Pastor calls entire team together to make sure everything is on target.
- Pastor makes sure testimonies are enlisted.