CHURCH EVANGELISM!

" For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke 19:10

Bible Institute Series



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CHURCH EVANGELISM

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A WORD ABOUT RAMBLE ON BIKER BIBLE INSTITUTE

The *Ramble On Biker Bible Institute* is a ministry of *Ramble On Biker Church* in Anderson, South Carolina. It began as a vision of the pastor and several of its founding members after much prayer and research. The courses offered through this institute are solidly founded upon the Word of God. As long as individuals are willing to "*study to shew thyself approved unto God* ..." this ministry will continue.

I. OUR MISSION

Leading people to reach and teach other people to worship and experience a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and to share the Gospel message with a lost world, where we are to "shine as lights." Realizing that the biker community is a unique community, we seek to provide leaders within the local church a better understanding of the challenges within this ministry and provide tools necessary to equip them for success within the ministry to which they have been called

II. OUR MEANS

This ministry is supported solely by the contributions of God's people. None of the materials in this course are sold, as we do not believe you can put a price tag on God's ministry. Each student is also encouraged to give according to their means to support the ongoing efforts of the Institute, but no price is set, as one should give according to their ability and leadership of the Holy Spirit. Though we do not have a set fee for the courses or material, there are cost associated with operating such a ministry. Therefore, we gladly accept all donations designated for this ministry. We encourage all to give only as they would feel lead of the Lord.

III. OUR METHODS

Our methods of delivery for these courses are twofold:

A. Classroom setting. The classes are offered in the local church setting and taught by qualified personnel experienced in the various aspects of ministry. Courses offered through this program are by donation only and open to all who wish to study the Word of God. As the courses are by donation only, students are expected to be faithful to the particular course of study that they have enrolled in.

B. Hands-on Ministry. All courses of study are relevant to the ministry and each person enrolled will be expected to use the lessons-learned to enhance the ministry of the local church to which they belong.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this course is to express our love for the Church, which is the local body of believers, and to bring to mind the realization that the church is the only voice in which to express God's love for a lost and dying world. If people die and spend eternity separated from God, it will not be because God didn't love them. II Peter 3:9 says, "*The Lord is not slack concerning His promise as some men count slackness, but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*" Rather, it would be the fault of the Church, that has sat idly by, comfortable, complacent and content to do nothing for the Lord.

This attitude of complacency and procrastination is nothing new. Jesus told His disciples in John 4:35, "Say not ye there are four months and then cometh harvest? Behold I say unto you, Lift up your eyes and look on the fields for they are white, already to harvest." To put this in layman terms, the disciples wanted to wait until another time to do what Christ had commanded them, but He rebuked them and told them now was the time. The Lord's message for His church today is the same, "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white, already to harvest."

Do not get me wrong though, the church today is doing many things in the name of Jesus. We are inventing new ways to accommodate a Christ-rejecting generation of vipers without causing conviction to fall on their souls. We are changing the "programs" of the church to ensure we do not offend people, and instead of being a victorious church, we have allowed ourselves to become a church spewing vomit (Revelation 3:16).

Tract ministries, Bible institutes, outreach ministries, websites, newsletters, etc., as noble as they may be, will never (and must never) replace one-on-one, face-to-face personal evangelism. Of all the lessons I have learned over my Christian life, the most important one is this: We must stand at the water's edge! There is an old saying that goes, "Lord, let me stand at the crossroads of someone's life." As a member of THE Church, that should certainly be our prayer. May God bless you through this program as you "*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*"

Hear the Lord of harvest sweetly calling, Who will go and work for me today? Who will bring to me the lost and dying? Who will point them in the narrow way? Millions now in sin and shame are dying, Lsten to their sad and bitter cry; Hasten brother, hasten to the rescue, Quickly answer, 'Master, Here am I'

Pastor Joe "Mojo" Moore, D.Min.

Chapter One

PURPOSE OF EVANGELISM

Evangelism means "to proclaim the good news." The Biblical concept of evangelism is expressed in both the Hebrew word "Basar," and the Greek word "Evangelizo." In the Old Testament, in the family, someone might bring the "good news" of the birth of a child. Militarily, someone might bring the "news" about the outcome of a military battle. Every New Testament use of the term (except I Thess. 3:6) had a theological meaning as we proclaim great joy to all people. Though the act of evangelism is important (and we are all commanded to GO), it is the "good news" we proclaim that has power to transform lives.

There is possibly no other areas in the church that need more attention and reevaluation than the purpose and function of its' ministry. Research has shown that most churches that have been in existence for 20 or more years, have no established goals and are merely conducting activities.

We must realize that as a church, we are more than an organization, we are a living, breathing organism. Just as there are things one must do to nourish the earthly body, there are also things that must be done to nourish the Body of Christ. In order for us to become a vibrant, pulsating member of the Church, we must follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

Just because a church has many programs and activities, and appear to be doing "great works," doesn't necessarily mean that church the functioning organism Christ intended it to be. If the church is to be the properly oiled mechanism that it should be, it must have clearly defined and redefine its purpose. Here at Ramble On Biker Church and Bible Institute, we have summed up our purpose in this statement: "*Bring 'Em, Build 'Em, Send 'Em – Whosoever!*"

There are five (5) basic premises from which we developed this mission statement. They are:

| NOTES: | PREMISE 1: PEOPLE ARE LOST |
|--------|--|
| | Romans 3:23 says "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." |
| | Romans 6:23 says "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." |
| | As a born-again child of God and a joint-heir with Jesus Christ, we must become burdened for the souls of men. We must realize that there are men, women, boys and girls that are lost, dying |
| | and headed to a place where a great gulf will be fixed between them and God. NOW is the time! |

PREMISE 2: JESUS CAME TO SAVE THE LOST

Luke 19:10 says, "For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

John 3:17 says, "For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world, through Him, might be saved."

I am grateful for the day that the Lord Jesus Christ came looking for a poor, lost sinner like me! I was lost and without hope and Jesus found me right where I was and He rescued me from the perishing!

PREMISE 3: JESUS ASSUMES AND COMMANDS US TO EVANGELIZE

Matthew 28:19 and 20 are known as the "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰ Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Jesus commands His church to take the Gospel message to the lost world. It is the responsibility of every Christian and is at the very heart of our Lord. There are several reasons WHY we are to GO:

- 1. Because it's harvest time (John 4:35)
- 2. Because we are debtors (Romans 1:14)
- 3. Because it is what He did (Luke 19:10)

Evangelism is not just the responsibility of the pastor and leaders – it is the responsibility of every born-again Christian!

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NOTES:

PREMISE 4: IT IS THE OUTFLOW OF SANCTIFICATION

I Peter 3:5 says, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:"

A Christian without a testimony is contradiction! If a person truly has Jesus Christ in their heart, they cannot but help telling others about Him. We are conduits of that love!

Mark 12:33 says, "And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ is more than a Commandment to me, it is the Love of God inside of me flowing that causes me to want to share with others.

PREMISE 5: IT IS THE SOURCE OF HEAVEN'S JOY AND SPIRTUALLY WISE

Luke 15:7 states, "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."

The Bible tells us that while Christ was on the Cross, He could have called 10,000 angels to His side. Now, can you imagine all the angels in Heaven rejoicing over one sinner that has repented of their sin?

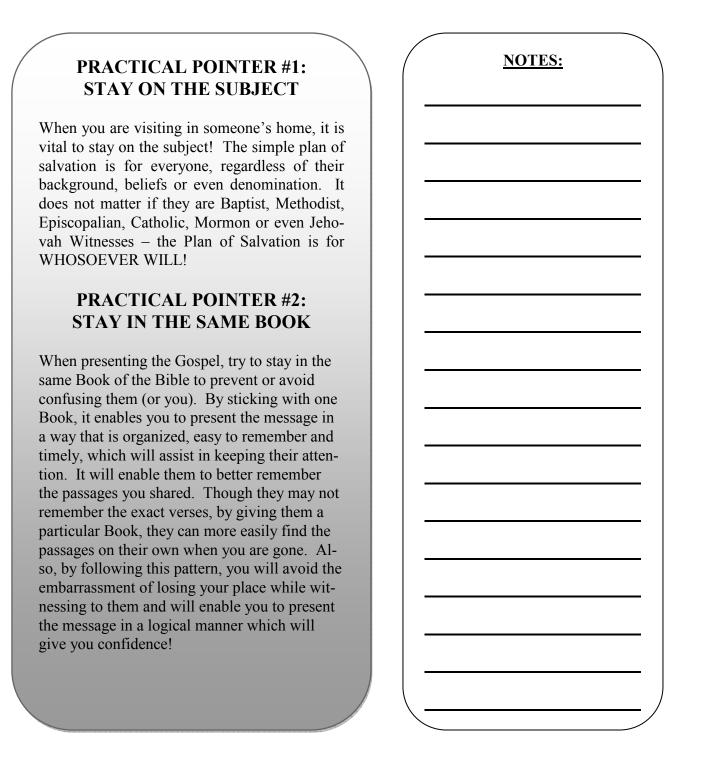
Proverbs 11:30, "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he that winneth souls is wise!

Bible Institute Series

Chapter Two

PRACTICAL POINTERS FOR EVANGELISM

One of the main reasons people do not go soul-winning is because they have no experience or knowledge on the subject matter. The purpose of this chapter is to give each practitioner several common-sense ideas that will encourage you, empower you and even protect you.



NOTES:

PRACTICAL POINTER #3: REMEMBER – YOU ARE A GUEST

Remember that you are a guest in their home, so be kind and courteous. Every person likes to feel like they are a king in their own kingdom. Avoid confrontations that would embarrass them or you. Remember – you are there as a guest, but more importantly, you are there as an Ambassador of Jesus Christ!

PRACTICAL POINTER #4: FIND SOMETHING TO COMPLIMENT THEM ON

If they have children, compliment them on what great children they have. You may not like the way they keep house, but find a way to compliment them anyway. You may be able to find a book, or a painting, or a specific piece of furniture that you like. Use your mind and be creative with your compliments – but don't be fake (or plastic).

PRACTICAL POINTER #5: GO BELIEVING AND PRAYING

Go believing and praying that God will put someone in your path that is receptive to the Gospel message. There are many times we witness out of obligation rather than expecting to make a difference in someone's life. There are certainly going to be more rejections of the Gospel message than there will be people accepting the Message, but remember – Luke 15:7 says, "*I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.*"

PRACTICAL POINTER #6: FIND A WAY TO PRESENT THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

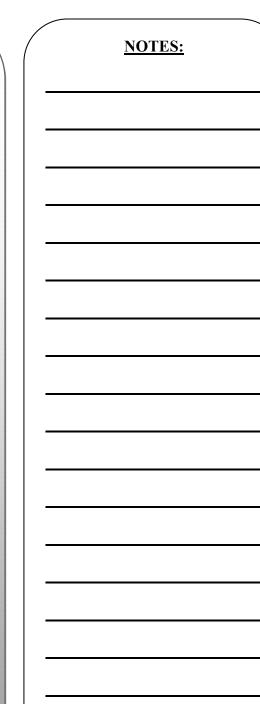
Either through your testimony, or through your prayer. When Christ saved the Samaritan women at the well, she did not know any Scriptures, she was in no way a theologian, she only knew that she was lost and now she is found. She was once thirsty, now she had water that she would never thirst again. That is the message she carried back to her village, and everyone in her village came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. If cannot get your testimony into the conversation, maybe find a way to get it to them in your prayer.

PRACTICAL POINTER #7: NEVER GO WITHOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

ALWAYS get prayed-up before going out to witness. It is the Holy Spirit that is going to convict and change lives. In and of ourselves, we can do nothing apart from the Holy Spirit. Seek Him first and then go expecting and believing!

PRACTICAL POINTER #8: BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS

Men should never go into the home of a woman on their own, and women should never go into the home of a man on their own. We live in very wicked times and it is best to guard your mind, as well as your testimony. There are people out there would think nothing of ruining your testimony. It is easier to guard your testimony than to repair your testimony.



NOTES:

PRACTICAL POINTER #9: BE A GOOD LISTENER

Talk about them and their interest. Find out what they do for a living, how large their family is, how long they've been married. Find out something about their background, for instance, maybe they are prior military, and if you are prior military, this will give you and in-road to them opening up to you. By talking about them, you are letting them know that you are interested in them, and this may give you opportunity to go further into the conversation.

PRACTICAL POINTER #10: THE ONE WITH THE IN-ROAD DOES THE TALKING

When witnessing, it is always a good idea to go in pairs – for a multitude of reasons). The one with the in-road should be the one doing most of the talking. By allowing the one with the inroad to do the talking, the other is able to better listen to what is being said and may be able to add wise counsel at the right moment. Additionally, if there are children present, if one has the in-road, the other can entertain the children so they do not get the conversation off track.

PRACTICAL POINTER 11: FIND A WAY TO GET THEM LOST

Somehow, we need to get the Gospel message to them. They need to realize they are lost and in need of a Savior. The Simply Plan of Salvation is for WHOSOEVER. Unless they feel lost, they will never receive the Gospel message.

Draw a map in your Bible to keep YOU on track with that message!

PRACTICAL POINTER #12: UNDERSTANDING BIKER CULTURE

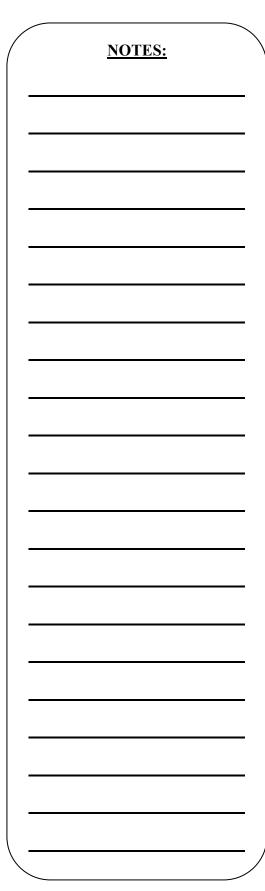
As a church founded with the specific purpose of reaching and ministering to the biker community, it is vital to have a basic understanding of biker culture. This can prevent many misunderstanding, as well as gain a mutual respect between the ministry and the biker community alike. Below are just a few pointers that can save the practitioner, as well as the ministry as a whole a great deal of trouble:

1. When evangelizing, NEVER place tracks, business cards, etc., on a person's motorcycle without their consent. This can cause you to get an "education" if done to the wrong individuals, but may also cause the name of your ministry to lose the respect of those you wish to reach through your efforts.

2. As club members never wear colors while riding in a cage, you may want to think about adopting this same practice. This will show that you understand their culture, and may even open the door of opportunity to present the Gospel.

3. When at biker events (such as Bike Nights, etc.) NEVER approach club members (especially club officers) when they are alone. Stand near by if you wish to speak with them and wait for them to acknowledge you.

There are a myriad of general practices among the biker community for you to become aware of and several websites to help you understand the proper methods to safely operate in this environment.



Chapter Three

PLACES OF EVANGELISM

In his book *Biblical Evangelism in Action*, Henry Sumner wrote, "Opportunities are what you make of them." We can find every excuse in the book to NOT go soul-winning, whether there are too many around, the place just isn't the right place, or the timing is not right. Folks, it is ALWAYS the right time to share the Gospel message! Our problem is that we have our eyes on the wrong things. If we get our eyes back on the Cross, we will make opportunities for witnessing rather than make excuses. In this chapter, our focus is going to be on the various places of evangelism. Keep in mind – IT IS ALWAYS THE RIGHT TIME AND THE RIGHT PLACE FOR WITNESSING.

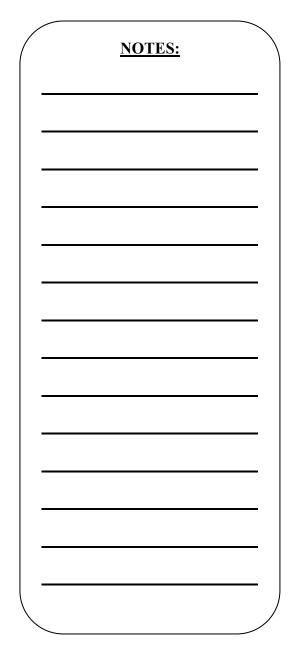
PLACE 1: THE ALTAR

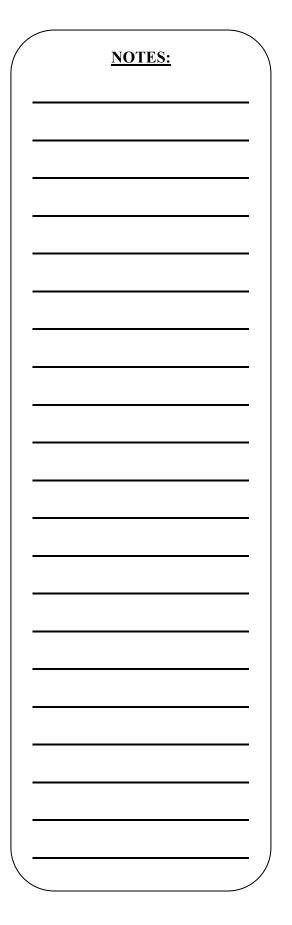
To begin with, the altar is a place of evangelism, but not everyone should work the altar. When deciding who the altar workers are going to be, there are certain prerequisites that should be considered:

1. The altar worker should have integrity - because those coming to the altar may share things they do not want everyone to know. People that do not live what they profess should NEVER work the altar.

2. Altar workers should come to the Altar praying and Believing God is going to do something – When I was a young pastor, it didn't take me but about two years to fall into the trap of not expecting. If we only had the faith to believe that God is still in the saving business!

3. Altar workers should also come and want God to use THEM during the service. I remember times when my pastor would look at me and nod for me to come help him at the altar – and boy I dreaded that nod. Even as a pastor, there have been times I've needed help at the altar, only to look around a see everyone acting like they can't see me! If we could also get as excited as the Angels in Heaven!





PLACE 1: THE ALTAR (continued)

4. A point about personal hygiene – Altar workers should dress modestly and not compromise the Scriptures (no low cut tops or mini-skirts). They should bath, have clean clothes and use breathe mints (nobody wants to kneel beside yesterday's work).

5. Those working the altar should sit with or near those in spiritual need and pray for them during the service. The Bible says that the effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. We should touch Heaven for those who are in distress. By sitting with or near them, this enables you to observe them during both the service and the invitation. If vou feel the Holy Spirit leading you to talk to them during the service or the benediction- do so. However, be careful not to embarrass them. Express to them your willingness to go to the altar with them. If no one comes to the altar – you come to the altar and pray for God to move on people's hearts. This might be what someone else is waiting for.

6. The Altar Workers Approach – If at all possible, deal with people at the altar according to sex and age. Women are more comfortable talking to women and men are more comfortable talking to men. If they are young, have youth speak with them, or if elderly, have someone elderly speak with them. The idea is to keep them as comfortable and at ease as you can. If you don't know them or they don't know you, introduce yourself. Ask for their name and once you have their name, use it while talking to them. This will do two things: 1) it will help you remember their name; and 2) it will give them a sense that they are important to you.

PLACE 1: THE ALTAR (continued)

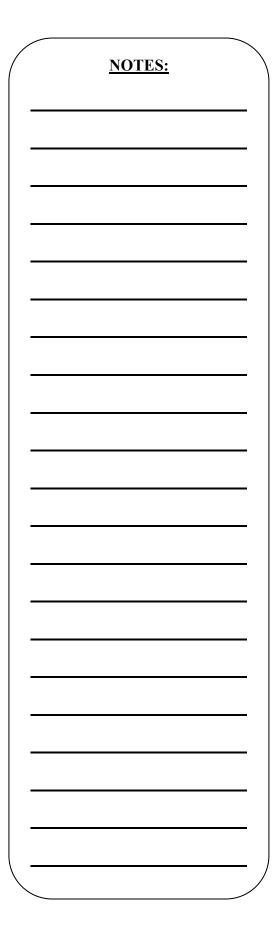
7. Determine WHY they came – it is very important that when working with people at the altar, meet them right where they are. If they are saved and came to the altar to pray for a lost loved one, you don't want to say the Sinner's Prayer with them. If they are lost already and came to accept Jesus as Lord, there is no reason at that point to try and get them lost, begin telling them how to accept God's Saving Grace. Now, you may have to "fish" for why they came. Be careful when fishing though to not put words in their mouths.

8. When working with children, REMEMBER that they are children – use words and concepts that they will understand. Do not disregard children at the altar, because EVERY life matters. If they are old enough to realize that they are lost and on their way to Hell without Jesus, then they are old enough to accept His saving Grace.

9. Don't worry about time when you're working the altar. We care more about the soul than whether or not we spent to long at the altar. If you feel you need more time and don't want to hold everyone up, take them to a private room or somewhere you can ensure they have the blessed hope.

PLACE 2: BIBLE STUDIES OR SUNDAY SCHOOL

Both these programs should be evangelistic arms of the church. It is within these two groups you will find the soul-winners of the church. It is here that and emphasis on evangelism should be placed. Remember, these two groups will have not only the soul-winners, but also the lost in their ranks. It is within these settings that hearts are prepared for the Gospel message. Both use the Bible as it's text book. By understanding our purpose, we can accomplish the mission.



NOTES:

PLACE 2: BIBLE STUDIES OR SUNDAY SCHOOL (continued)

Once our purpose has been defined, we must then set goals to achieve our purpose. There are three goals that are absolutely essential in Evangelism through these programs: *Evangelism*, *Education* and *Edification*:

- *Evangelism* is how to increase your attendance.
- *Education* is how you increase in Biblical knowledge;
- *Edification* is how we will increase in spiritual maturity.

Once our goals have been set, we must them develop plans to carry out those goals. Promoting our goals throughout the overall church program will ensure that all are aware of our established goals. For long-range planning, we must adopt our mindset to be – *Multiply to Divide*! This will enable us to both increase in size, as well as provide others the opportunity to step into leadership roles.

Probably the biggest problem that plaques many churches is the problem of inconsistency. Once we begin a program – STICK WITH IT. Evangelism is not a hit or miss program and is absolutely critical to the development of the Church. Acts 5:42 states "And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to preach and teach Jesus Christ." But not only should our efforts be consistent, they must also be inclusive. I Corinthians 9:22 says, "To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak; I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some."

Once we realize that we are to be consistent and inclusive, we must exercise enthusiasm, resolve, and prayer, as these will set the tone for the entire church. If we want people in church, we have to train people to lead these programs.

PLACE 3: CHILD EVANGELISM

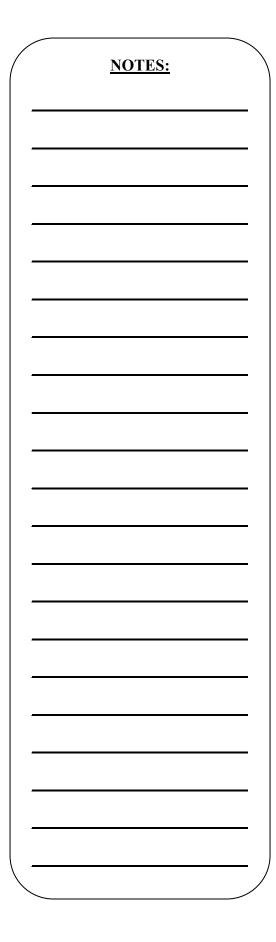
You could spend hours dispelling rumors about Child Evangelism, however, I choose only to give you the facts. The simple fact is, everyone has the "sin nature." According to Romans 3:23, 6:23 and 9:13, this also applies to children. Knowing this, and evangelistic appeal must be made to children and should be based on our understanding of their condition and how to respond to it. Children do not grow into a salvation experience, although growing up in a Christian home is conducive to this type of experience.

Children, at some point in their lives reach the age of accountability (that age is different for each child). Reaching the age of accountability means that they need to be saved just as an adult needs to be saved – and that is through a crisis situation.

Many make the mistake of underestimating the importance of child evangelism. According to Matthew 18:1-14, Christ place great emphasis on the child. In verse three, Christ gives the thought children do not have to become like a Ph.D. to enter into Heaven, but that a Ph.D. must become like a child.

The conversion of a sinner occurs on the child level. In verse six, Christ states plainly that a child can believe, and for an adult to downplay this fact is very dangerous. Christ said it was better for that person to have a millstone to be hanged around his neck.

In verse ten, Christ stated that to undervalue the child is to miss God's evaluation of them, as they are objects of heavenly concern. Children should be sought after just as the shepherd seeks after his lost sheep according to verses twelve and thirteen. In verse 14, Christ plainly states that it was not the will of God that any of these little ones perish.



NOTES:

PLACE 3: CHILD EVANGELISM (continued)

There are several reasons that a child should be evangelized. Not only does the Bible teach that Christ calls the little ones unto Him, but children are the most fertile soil for sowing seeds of God's Word. Children's hearts are more tender and receptive to the Gospel message. It is best to evangelize children while they are young because as they grow they become harder to win.

It is a proven fact that during the first seven (7) years of life, habits are indelibly established. Also, less time and effort are required to win children as compared to adults. By winning children, many homes are opened to the Gospel messages. If we can win them early in life, they have a lifetime of service to the Lord ahead of them. Think about all the lives that came to Christ at a late age. Though we rejoice in every life that is saved, when saved later in life, a whole lifetime was wasted that could have been used for the Lord.

Remember, when talking with children, use words and concepts that they can understand. Simply put questions are usually the best method. Ensure that they know it is important to be saved. They may not know big words, but they know the difference between Heaven and hell. Establish a list of questions that can be used at a child's level, such as: 1) Do you want to be saved? 2) Why do you think you need to be saved? 3) How do you know God will save you? 4) How can you be saved? 5) What do you have to do to be saved? 6) Would you like to pray and ask Jesus into your heart right now? 7) Now, is Jesus your Savior?

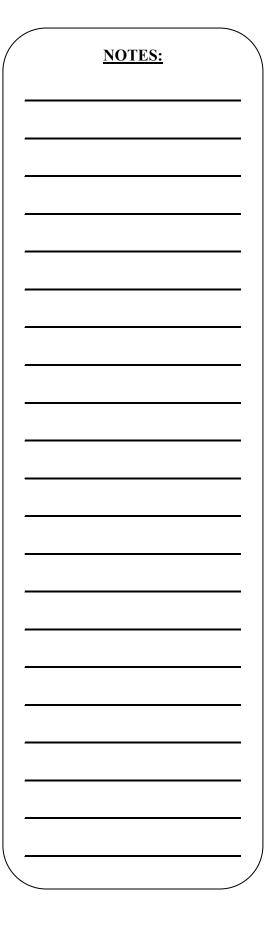
PLACE 4: HOME BIBLE STUDY

Another area to discuss in Church Evangelism is Home Bible Study. This is a guided study of a particular theme in the Bible. All of the scheduled themes or Book studies will eventually lead to salvation. The idea of Home Bible Study is to get people within the church that are capable of leading a Bible Study, to establish the study in his/her home and invite their lost neighbors, friends and family to come for a study. These studies should be targeted for a specific amount of time and conducted regularly.

It should be a relaxed atmosphere that is both friendly and neighborly. At least two church families should be present to assist in the study. The Bible study leader establishes the theme and guides the discussion. Keep in mind that this is not a "preaching" session where only one person is doing the talking. Rather, through purposeful, guided questions, the leader allows each person to ask questions and to openly discuss the answers. The desire of the Home Bible Study should be to establish a joint study rather than an orchestrated time of instruction.

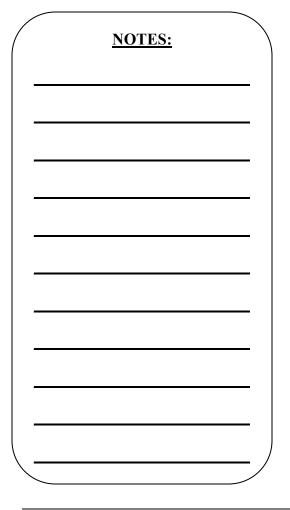
Since the Bible study has an established theme, side-issue questions can comfortably be addressed without fear of not accomplishing the initial purpose. After studying salvation-related themes, the leader should make appeals individually to win those unsaved couples to Christ. Keep in mind, after a reasonable amount of time has been spent in the Home Bible Study, conclude the study.

As with anything in life, there are certain "does" and don'ts" that go along with Home Bible Study. On the next page, we will list these "Does" and "Don'ts"



THE DOES AND DON'TS OF HOME BIBLE STUDY

| DOES | DON'TS |
|--|---|
| DO ensure those leading the study are trained (the last thing you want to do is fur- ther confuse the lost). | DO NOT Preach!)In fact, it's best if the pas- tor is not there). |
| DO choose a theme that will lead to salva- tion. | DO NOT chase rabbits! (Stay on point) |
| DO ensure to cover enough theme/Book re- lated information. | DO NOT invite others that may have alterior motives in mind – such as the Jehovah Wit- nesses, etc. |
| DO have cake/coffee or some sort of snacks afterwards (this will give some personal time for witnessing and fellowshipping). | DO NOT allow the study to stagnate or last to long. |
| DO establish friendships | DO NOT use substances that would cause someone to questions your own testimony. |
| DO Follow-ups on each person individually. (Some may not be willing to open up in a group setting, but may do so on a more per- sonal basis). | |



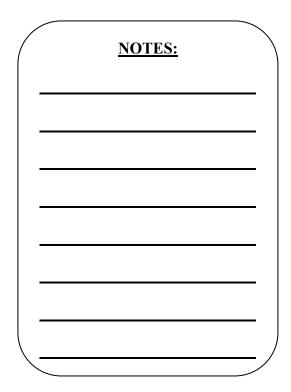
A great advantage with Home Bible Study is the fact that there is a wide range of subject matter that can be covered. The possibilities are endless. You can cover "Letters from Jesus" out of the Gospel of John. You can cover an Old Testament Survey or a New Testament Survey that are other good studies that can be used (especially given that Jesus is the theme throughout the entire Bible). Bible prophecy is another subject that strikes a lot of interest. Use your imagination, be creative and be proactive!

PLACE 5: SPORTS EVANGELISM

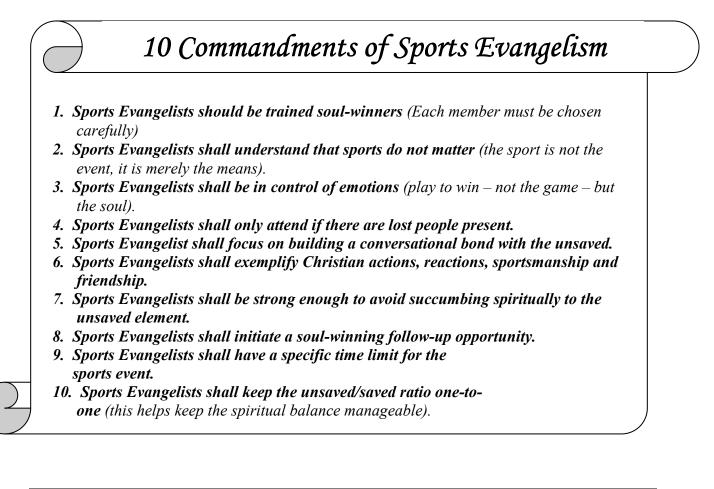
Sports evangelism is an evangelistic program whereby a church trains an evangelism team to use sports as a means of winning people to Christ. This ministry is a church sponsored function, however, the purpose of this ministry is personal evangelism. In order for this means of evangelism to be effective, people on the team invite friends to sporting events that are unsaved. By doing so, the Christian team members establish and maintain friendships with the lost. Genuine Christian character must be displayed at all times. There are several advantages to sports evangelism:

- Many friendships for life are established from sporting events;
- Sporting events help remove some church "barriers" with the lost. This means that the lost have the opportunity to see that Christians also have fun outside of church as well;
- Since most friends are won to the Lord by friends, this provides a platform for establishing these friendships;
- It utilizes and untapped resource within the church.

There are many programs within the local church, however, most do not involve the lost for the



Now that we know what Sports Evangelism is, there are certain rules that must be followed for this means of evangelism to be effective. Realizing there are rules, listed below are the *TEN COMMANDMENS OF SPORTS EVANGELISM:*



FINAL THOUGHTS ON PLACES OF EVANGELISM

The places that have been mentioned above are not the only places of evangelism. Door-to-door visitation, bus mi, Vacation Bible School and Youth activities, Sunday School Campaigns, birth announcements and weddings (send congratulations), funerals (send condolences), new move-ins (welcome letters), telephone surveys, bulk mailing programs, evangelistic meetings, newspaper adds, radio slots, Bike Nights, are all different places to evangelize the lost. Use all available resources you have and remember, opportunities to witness are what you make of them!

Chapter Four

PROBLEMS IN EVANGELISM

The emphasis on and efforts by Christians regarding evangelism are not without obstacles and challenges. Because of the vital importance of evangelism in helping people to find salvation in Christ, Satan will attempt to disrupt evangelistic efforts.

Apathy and indifference on the part of Christians certainly obstruct effective evangelism. The causes of such conditions are many, such as spiritual immaturity, lack of biblical understanding and a backslidden condition.

Fear plays a role in obstructing evangelism. People may fear failure, ridicule, rejection and even hostile responses if they endeavor to evangelize. Such obstacles may be overcome by realizing that the Holy Spirit is part of efforts to share the gospel (Acts 4:31). Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would empower "witnesses unto me" (Acts 1:8). The Holy Spirit, not the person witnessing, brings conviction and commitment in the heart of the lost person.

Doubt in the uniqueness of Christ for salvation can sabotage evangelistic efforts. Universalism (the belief that everyone ultimately will be saved), relativism (the belief that Christ is only a way and not the way to salvation) and materialism (the belief that nothing exists except matter in motion and thus there is no spiritual salvation) are prevalent and undermine evangelism.

PROBLEMS IN ECUMENICAL EVANGELISM

To fully understand *Ecumenical Evangelism*, there are certain terms that must be grasped. *Ecumenism* is a movement seeking to achieve worldwide unity among religions through greater cooperation and improved understanding. *Ecumenical Evangelism* is an evangelistic effort in the winning of souls that incorporate cooperation between religions of Christian churches, often referred to as *cooperative evangelism*. *New Evangelicalism* is an organization which advocates dialogue with and infiltration into liberal institutions. *New Evangelicals* are those who may (or may not) hold to the basic fundamentals of the faith, however, they will "hold spiritual hands" with those who do not for the purpose of spiritually related dialogue, cooperation, and evangelistic efforts. Then there is *Lifestyle Evangelism*. This is an evangelistic approach by only allowing your lifestyle to preach without ever saying anything. The initial premise of letting one's light shine before a sin-darkened world seems Biblical (and is), however, the problem is that it teaches you do not have to personally say anything to anyone concerning the Gospel. **NOTES:**

Church Evangelism

PROBLEMS WITH ECUMENICAL EVANGELISM

There are several problems that arise from the Ecumenical Evangelism movement:

1. This effort accepts sponsorship from councils of churches, or churches whose orthodoxy is suspect. In other words, churches that may or may not believe in the basic fundamentals of the faith.

2. It confuses young Christians (and older ones too) who may see theological liberals taking part in these meetings.

3. It allows counselors from theologically liberal churches. This participation tolerates converts being referred to churches that may not be evangelical in tradition, doctrine or the fundamentals of the faith.

PHILOSOPHY OF ECUMENICAL EVANGELISM

One philosophy of this movement is "People are being saved through this effort." Generally this is true, however, the problem is that this movement adopts the mentality "the end justifies the means." I spoke to an evangelist once that said many did not like his preacher or the music being played, but it did not matter what he preached or sang, all that mattered is what happened at the altar. But, it DOES MATTER what we preach, say and sing. We are not accountable for what happens at the altar – we are responsible for what we say and do.

Those who hold to the fundamentals of the faith believe that everything should be done to the Glory of God. We are responsible to provide a means of worship that is pure before the Lord. We believe that purity of method would result in greater and genuine results for Christ both in salvation decisions and in changed lives for Christ. Compromise in this area can only lead to destruction in the lives of new converts. God's plan has always been effective and will always be effective. A second philosophy of the *Ecumenists* is "Cooperative evangelistic efforts never censure the message of the Bible." For the Billy Graham Crusades, this has generally been true. The issue with this philosophy is that over time, the fundamental theological interpretations will slide downward. As a result, the message is weakened.

A third philosophy of the Ecumenical movement is "Once a person is converted, it is their choice where they go to church." Seems harmless enough. However, this philosophy clearly disregards the Biblical principle in I Peter 2:2. "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:" How can a new born baby decide who their parents should be? A spiritual baby should follow the person that lead them to the Lord. It is the responsibility of the evangelist before God to see that the newborns needs are properly cared for. The evangelist is the worst kind to abandon the newborn on the spiritual doorsteps of a Biblical or non-Biblical church.

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FOUR HELFUL CONCEPTS

We are called to minister and evangelize every creature.
 We must be careful to bring the Gospel to the sinner in spite of his sin.

3. We must be careful to NOT participate with the sinner in his sin while we bring the Gospel to him.

4. We must be careful to NOT hold spiritual hands with those who evangelize under a diluted Gospel.

Chapter Five

PASSAGES FOR EVANGELISM

In this chapter, we will share various passages of Scripture that will be of assistance to you while evangelizing a lost and dying world for our Savior, Jesus Christ. In Chapter One, we discussed various verses that gave the purpose of evangelism. In this chapter, we will cover other areas of evangelism Scripturally.

THE SPIRIT OF EVANGELISM

In order for your evangelistic effort to be productive for Christ, there is a certain spirit in which one must go.

First, the soul-winner should have a *Spirit of Desire*. The apostle Paul said in Romans 10:1, "*Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved*." This desire must be the driving force behind every soul-winner.

Second, not only must the soul-winner have a desire to see souls saved, but you must also have a **Prayerful and Faithful Spirit**. The psalmists displayed this spirit in Psalms 126:5, 6, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

Third, the soul-winner must also have a *Sacrificial Spirit*. We must be willing to give our own lives if we knew it would help others. Again, the Apostle Paul said in Romans 9:3, "For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:" Paul said part of his suffering was knowing that he could not pay the price for others sins. We must be willing to give all for the sake of souls.

Fourth, we must have a *Spirit of Flexibility*. Paul said in I Corinthians 9:22, "*To the weak became I as weak*, *that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some*." Paul said that he would go into all neighborhoods, all jobsites, all backgrounds to reach the lost.

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ROMANS ROAD TO SALVATION

Perhaps the most well-known and used section of the Bible for soul-winning is found here in the Book of Romans, partly because this enables the user to stay within one Book of the Bible without causing confusion for the witness or those being witnessed to. By drawing a "map" in your Bible, you will easily and quickly get your message across to the lost.

The first thought that must be planted in the mind of those you are witnessing to is the fact that *ALL HAVE SINNED*. Romans 3:23 says, "*For all have sinned and come short of the Glory of God*." This means the preacher, the Minister of Operations, the Core Team, youth workers – *ALL HAVE SINNED*. Knowing that we have sinned beings the realization that we are in need of a Savior.

Even those you and I have sinned, isn't it good to know that *GOD STILL LOVES YOU*. Romans 5:8 says, "*But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*" Even though you and I are not worthy of God's saving Grace, He sent His only Begotten Son to die for us anyway. That is love!

So, you are probably asking yourself, "*WHY AM I GUILTY OF SIN*?" Because according to Romans 5:12, the Bible says, "*Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned*:" Man was created in the image of God, but through the sin in the Garden of Eden, man marred that image, and that sin has passed to all through all.

Realizing that we are guilty of sin, we must also realize *THERE IS A PENALTY FOR THAT SIN*. Romans 6:23 says, "*For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord*." You and I are hopeless without the shed blood of Jesus Christ. There are consequences of our sin.

But thank God He wouldn't diagnose our problem without giving us a solution – *THERE IS SALVATION TO THOSE THAT BELIEVE.* Romans 10:9 states "*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*" If we confess and believe, He will forgive!

ADDITIONAL VERSES FOR SALVATION

The Book of Romans is not the only place that one can find verses dealing with salvation. The Bible is full of verses, as the Bible is a Book about a Person – the Lord Jesus Christ. The Scarlet Thread runs through every Book, every chapter and every verse. The verse we will now cover are by no means exhaustive, but a simply a few additional verses to assist the witness of Christ to share the message of salvation.

Isaiah 53:6, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

Matthew 5:48, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

I John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

John 1:12, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:"

VERSES FOR ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

Jesus promises in His Word that *HE WILL FORGIVE ALL WHO COME*. John 6:37 says, "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."

We are further assured through **OUR BELIEF IN GOD'S ABILITY**. II Timothy states "For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day:"

We can also have assurance **BY FOLLOWING GOD'S PROCESS**. John 5:24 says, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

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VERSES FOR ASSURANCE OF SALVATION (Continued)

You can also have assurance by *ENCOURAGING FURTHER BELIEF*. I John 5:13 states, "*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.*"

A final assurance of salvation is founded in the fact that **YOU LOVE THE BRETHREN**. I John 3:14 says, "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death."

ANSWERS TO COMMON PROBLEMS

While evangelizing, there are many problems that may arise. Though many of these problems have to be worked on through your experience, there are certain problems that arise you can deal with through knowledge of the Bible. The verses below will deal with the most common reasons people will not accept Christ:

The first excuse we will deal with is *GOD CANNOT FORGIVE ME OF MY SIN.* According to I John 1:9, "*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*" If we confess – He WILL forgive!

Another excuse is *WELL*, *I JUST DON'T HAVE THE FEELING*. According to Romans 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." It does not say "Whosoever has the feeling shall be saved," but rather "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord." Our salvation is based on a FACT not a feeling.

Another common excuse is *I HAVE TO MUCH SIN IN MY LIFE*. Romans 5:20 says, "*Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound*:" GRACE is bigger than your sin!

Some have even said they've **COMMITTED THE UNPARDONABLE SIN**. Jesus said in John 6:44, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day." If the Holy Spirit is dealing with your heart, you are not beyond God's mercy!

BIBLE ANSWERS TO CULTIST

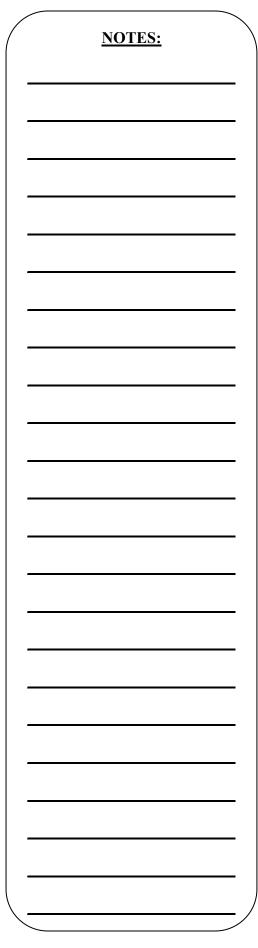
Most cult groups deny the deity of Christ. According to the Word of God, **JESUS IS THE TRUE GOD**. I John 5:20 says, "And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life." John 1:1 says, "In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God." John1:14 follows-up by stating "And the word became flesh and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth."

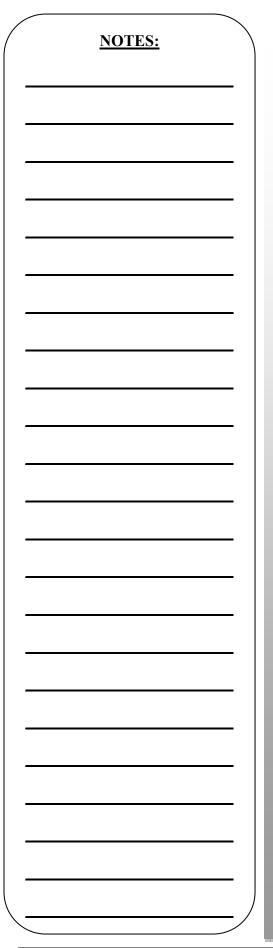
But not only is Jesus Christ the true God, *HE IS THE ONLY SAVIOR*. Titus 2:13 states, "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;" Jesus further stated that He and the Father were one – John 10:30, "I and my Father are one." Jesus is also identified as the Great I AM. John 8:58, "Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am."

VERSES DEALING WITH CHURCH ATTENDENCE

In a day when commitment is a rare commodity, it should come as no surprise that commitment to a local, organized church is such a low priority for so many believers. Sadly, it is not uncommon for Christians to move from church to church, never submitting themselves to the pastoral care of the church and never committing themselves to a group of fellow believers. Even more sad, is when Christians who are not committed to a local body think they are being spiritual when they publically mock, bash, ridicule, or deride the local church (See "Church-Hating" Christians, Part #1).

To neglect – or refuse – to become committed to a local church family, reflects a misunderstanding of the believer's responsibility to the body of Christ. It also cuts one off from the many blessings and opportunities that flow from this commitment. It is essential for every Christian to understand why they should be committed to building up and supporting the local church. You cannot say things like, "I love Jesus, but I hate the church" without violating everything Christ and the writers of the New Testament called you to do.





There will be many times while witnessing that you will be confronted with people that feel they do not need to attend church in order to have a proper relationship with the Lord. Now, it is true that you do not have to attend church to accept Christ as Lord and Savior, but I do believe it is absolutely necessary it you are to "earnestly contend for the faith."

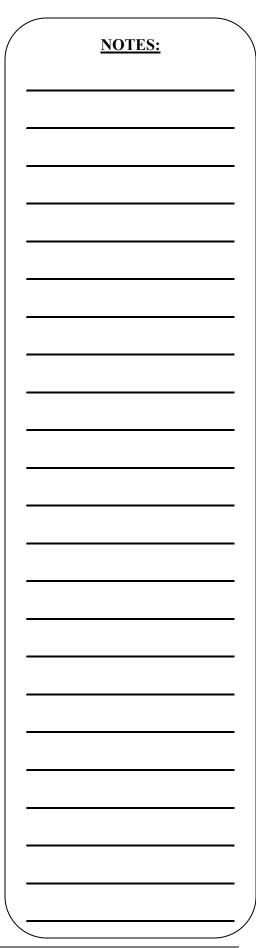
- Church Attendance is Expected of Those Committed to Christ Return. Hebrews 10:24, 25 says, "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."
- Church Attendance is Expected Because the Early Church Gathered Together. I Corinthians 16:2 states, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come."
- Church Attendance is Expected Because the Apostles Gathered Together. Acts 20:7, says, "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight."
- Church Attendance is Expected Because the Lord Jesus Christ Himself Followed the Custom of Attending Church. Luke 4:16 states, "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.
- Church Attendance is Expected Because there has been an Established Principle of a Day of Worship Since the Beginning of the Law. Deuteronomy 5:12 says, "Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee."

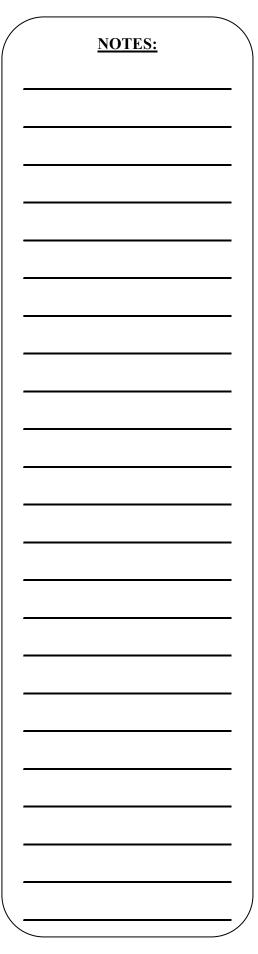
Church Commitment

(This portion of study on church commitment was written by Mike Melon, founder of **Bare Bones Biker Church** in Spartanburg, SC. Mike is now at home with the Lord – resting from his labors, and his works do follow him – Rest in Peace my brother!)

Beginning with the Old Testament, if you were part of the people of God you belonged to a particular tribe and a particular family within that tribe (some examples: Numbers 4; Joshua 7:16-18; 1 Samuel 10:20-21). There was no such thing as a free-lance, unconnected Israelite. There was no such thing as an Israelite who said, "I'm part of the covenant people of God, but I'm not part of a tribe or family." In the New Testament, when an individual is saved, he or she becomes united to the body of Christ (1 Cor 12:13). Because he or she is untied to Christ, they need to unite with a local expression of that body in order to grow in their faith within the context of a faith community.

To commit oneself to a local church is to commit oneself to an identifiable, local body of believers who have joined together for specific, divinely ordained purposes as outlined in Scriptures. These purposes include receiving instruction from God's Word (1 Tim 4:13; 2 Tim 4:2), serving and edifying one another through the proper use of spiritual gifts (Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor 12:4-31; 1 Pet 4:10-11), participating in the ordinances of communion and baptism (Luke 22:19; Acts 2:38-42, 1 Cor 11:23-26), and proclaiming the Gospel to those who are lost (Matt 28:18-20). In addition, when you commit yourself to a local church, you submit yourself to the care and authority of the biblically qualified leaders that God has placed in that assembly as outlined by the Apostle Paul in 1 Timothy 3:1-10, 2 Timothy 4:1-5, Titus 1:5-9, and also to the church in Ephesus: "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:" Nowhere in Scripture in do you see anyone called to pastor or shepherd some "Universal Church" to which all believers belong. Yes, all believers belong to the world-wide body of Christ which is composed of people from every tribe, tongue, people, and nation (Rev. 5:9).





The Basis for Church Commitment

Commitment to a local, God-ordained and equipped church permeates the New Testament. This can be seen most clearly in (1) the example of the early church, (2) the existence of church government, (3) the exercise of church discipline, and (4) the exhortation to mutual edification.

1. The Example of the Early Church.

In the early church, coming to Christ also meant coming to the church. The idea of experiencing salvation without belonging to a local church is foreign to the New Testament. When individuals repented and believed in Christ, they were baptized and added to the church (Acts 2:41, 47; 5:14; 16:5). More than simply living out a private commitment to Christ, this meant getting together on a regular basis with other believers in a local assembly and devoting themselves to the Apostle's teaching, fellowship, the breaking of bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42).

The epistles (letters) of the New Testament were written to churches in well-defined geographical areas (Rome, Corinth, Galatia, Ephesus, Philippi, Colossae, Thessalonica). In the case of the few epistles written to individuals – such as Philemon, Timothy and Titus - these individuals were leaders in churches. The New Testament epistles demonstrate that the Lord assumed that believers would be committed to a local assembly. There is also evidence in the New Testament that just as there was a list of widows eligible for financial support (1 Tim 5:9), there may have been a list kept by the church as people experienced salvation (cf. Acts 2:41, 47; 5:14; 16:5). How do we know that about 3000 people were saved on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:41)? Somebody counted and wrote it down. In fact, when a believer moved to another city, his church often wrote a letter of commendation to his new church (Acts 18:27; Rom 16:1; Col 4:10; cf. 2 Cor 3:1-2). The letters and recommendations were not written to some "Universal Church" but were written and sent between local churches by their leaders.

In the book of Acts, much of the terminology fits only with the concept of commitment to a local church. Phrases such

as "the whole congregation" (6:5), "the church in Jerusalem" (8:1), "the disciples" in Jerusalem (9:26), "in every church" (14:23), "the whole church" (15:17), and "the elders of the church" in Ephesus (20:17), all assume organized and recognizable churches with responsibilities to their local flock (also see 1 Cor. 5:4; 14:23; and Heb. 10:25).

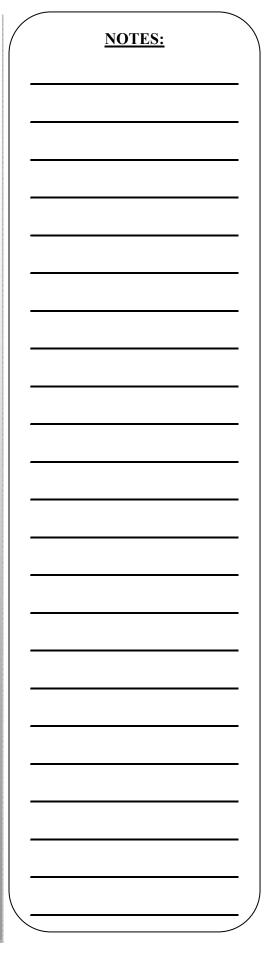
2. The Existence of Church Government.

The consistent pattern throughout the New Testament is that Pastors and/or Elders were to oversee each local body of believers. The specific duties given to these men presuppose a clearly defined group of believers who are under their care. Among other things, these godly men are responsible to shepherd God's people (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:2), to labor diligently among them (1 Thess. 5:12), to have charge over them (1 Thess. 5:12; 1 Tim. 5:17), and to keep watch over their souls (Heb. 13:17). Scripture teaches that Pastors and Elders will give an account to God for the individuals allotted to their charge (Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 5:3), not for all believers everywhere throughout the world.

3. The Exhortation to Mutual Edification

The New Testament teaches that the church is the body of Christ, and that God has called every part of the body to a life devoted to the growth of the body. In other words, Scripture exhorts all believers to edify the other members by practicing the "one-anothers" of the New Testament (e.g., Heb. 10:24-25) and exercising their spiritual gifts (Rom. 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-7; 1 Pet. 4:10-11). Mutual edification can only take place in the context of the corporate body of Christ.

Living out a commitment to a local church involves many responsibilities: exemplifying a godly lifestyle in the community, exercising one's spiritual gifts in diligent service, contributing financially to the work of the ministry, giving and receiving admonishment with meekness and in love, and faithfully participating in corporate worship. Much is expected, but much is at stake. For only when every believer is faithful to this kind of commitment is the church able to live up to her calling as Christ's representative here on earth. To put it simply, commitment matters.



Chapter Six

PRESENTING EVANGELISM (FISHER'S OF MEN)

INTRODUCTION: SPIRITUAL PREPARATION

- *Be* personally saved II Timothy 1:12
- *Be* a witness by your life Ephesians 5:8
- *Be* clean within and without II Timothy 2:21, 22
- *Be* in love with Christ and sinners Luke 10:27
- *Be* a Prayer Warrior John 15:16
- *Be* controlled by the Holy Spirit Ephesians 5:18
- *Be* fully aware that all men are lost without Jesus Christ Luke 19:10
- *Be* on the offensive for Christ Psalms 31:17

I. THE APPROACH

- A. If you were to die tonight and were to stand before God, and He were to ask you "Why should I let you into My kingdom?" What would you tell Him?
- B. If you were to die tonight, do you know for sure that you would go to Heaven?
- C. Would you like to know how you can be sure?

II. THE PLAN

- A. The individual must know they are a sinner and lost. *Romans 3:23* says that have sinned and come short of the glory of God.
- B. The individual must know there is a pay-day someday for sin. Romans 6:23 says *"For the wages of sin is death, BUT the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."*
- C. They must know that Christ has already paid their sin-debt. Romans 5:8 says, "But God commended His love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."
- D. To receive this free-pardon of sin, one must put their faith in Jesus Christ.
 Romans 10:9 says that if we confess with our mouth, and believe with your heart

 YOU will be saved.

III. THE PRAYER

"Dear Lord, I realize that I am a sinner. Right now, I repent of my sins and receive Jesus Christ as Lord of my life." Once you have gotten them to pray this prayer, say a prayer of thanksgiving!

IV. THE FOLLOW-UP

Show the new Christian verses that will confirm their faith. I John 5:13, John 1:12, II Corinthians 5:17 and I John 5:10. Ask them, "If you now were to die in your sleep tonight, do you believe you'd go to Heaven?" Then have them read I John. Be sure to give them a follow-up packet and invite them to church, baptism, church membership and then personal soul-winning (Bring Em, Build Em, Send Em).

V. FURTHER HELPFUL HINTS

When dealing with people that are backslidden, us I John 1:9, as it applies to the Christian. Be sure when witnessing, have a Bible or a New Testament with you at all times.

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTORS:

Joe "Mojo" Moore. Joe is the Founder and Senior Pastor of *Ramble On Biker Church*. Mojo is also the Chaplain and Sgt-at-Arms for the US Military Vets M/C, SC1 in Greenville, SC. Though a Biker Church, ROBC is a church first, and has members from all walks of life. *ROBC* is a non-denominational church that adheres strictly to the Word of God as it's road map. Joe has attended Southeastern Free Will Baptist Bible College, Andersonville Baptist Seminary, Liberty University, Tabernacle Baptist College, Madison University and Andersonville Theological Seminary. Joe holds the degrees of *Bachelor of Theology* (Andersonville Baptist Seminary), *Master of Ministry* (Andersonville Baptist Seminary), *Master of Theology* (Tabernacle Baptist College), *Executive Master of Business Administration* (Madison University) and the *Doctor of Ministry in Pastoral Leadership* (Andersonville Theological Seminary).