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# Beaverdam

where members become missionaries

## Mission Statement

*“Where Members Become Missionaries”*

At Beaverdam, we aim to examine every expression of our church against the biblical mandate to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe all that Jesus commanded. We think that the greatest obstacle to obeying the great commission is assigning our highest priority to “doing church better” in hopes of attracting an increasingly de-churched and unchurched population that will not attend church no matter “how good it is.”

However, we think that the greatest catalyst to obeying the great commission is assigning our highest priority to discipling our members to share the love and message of Jesus Christ authentically in ways meaningful to their family members, friends, neighbors, classmates, coworkers, and others beyond. What this means for us is that membership can no longer be viewed only as the entryway to voting or church leadership but also as submitting oneself to the journey of being a missionary.

## **A Theology of Church and Mission**

The church is not a provider of a range of services, from fellowship options to travel opportunities for members. In this view, other churches become competitors. The

Bible describes the church in terms of people. This means that wherever followers of Jesus are, the church is there—at home, at work, at school, in the neighborhood, at the ballpark, in the theater, in the homeless shelter. This is what it means to be a missionary. This is not something that is done in addition to daily life, something outside the typical range of activity. It is a way of seeing oneself as glorifying God in everyday life, intentionally blessing people, and sharing the gospel with them.

Being a missionary is not attracting people to church and socializing them into a church home. This kind of outreach leads Christians to feel no responsibility to have spiritual conversations. The idea is to live your life as you are on a mission trip. On mission trips, people focus on the work of God around them, alert to the Spirit's prompting, usually serving people in very tangible ways, often in ways that involve some sacrifice or even discomfort. While the concerns of life (family, work, leisure) are pursued, they are part of a larger picture of being a missionary.

## **What Does It Take to Be a Missionary?**

Being a missionary is about seizing everyday opportunities to demonstrate God's grace and communicate your stories of the gospel. If you have not noticed already, we believe that the person that you see in the mirror is exactly the kind of person God wants to use.

Moreover, for those who are parents and particularly fathers, you are the greatest influencers in the

evangelism and discipleship of your children. In fact, your household, workplace, and schoolhouse, not the church building, should serve as the context for the majority of evangelism and discipleship. We are here to equip you and encourage you on your missionary journey.

## **The first thing required to be a missionary is worship.**

Biblical worship is not confined to here at Beaverdam but is available in all places at all times. Jesus declared that forms do not matter to the Father. He must be worshiped with the heart. When we direct our attention toward God and release our affection for Him by the assistance of His Spirit, our praise, prayers, and preaching receive His acceptance.

Also, when we love something, we talk about it. We encourage others to experience it. We want them to share in our joy. Without a heart deeply in love with God, every strategy, system, program, or presentation is useless.

### **Get involved!**

- Take time to join one of our Sunday Morning worship services at 8:45 am or 11 am. We believe singing, giving, and preaching work together to lift up our hearts in worship to God. We aim to edify believers and evangelize unbelievers in these services. (We provide children's programming and nursery for

every service.)

- Take time to join our choir. Choir practice starts at 5 pm on Sunday. For more information, contact James Arcuri at 864-529-8127.

## Ideas!

- Pray this simple prayer: "God, help me realize Your love."
- Cultivate a private worship life. Get in the habit of praising God around your family, on your way to or from home, school, or work, doing your housework, schoolwork, or job, or performing an errand, chore, or activity.
- When driving to Beaverdam, pray for God to speak to you and your family in corporate worship. On your way home, ask and share about what they and you learned in worship.
- In service if kids are making noise or if someone up front is stumbling over their words, pray a blessing on them.



**The second thing required to be a missionary is compassion.**

## **Hand**

Many people will never reach out and take our hand no matter how much they might need to

or even want to. They need us to stop and extend a hand to them. Jesus saw people as far from God and attempted to care for them. As followers of Jesus, we should have eyes ready to see the needs of those around us and hands to extend mercy and service.

At the same time, do not view your family member, friend, neighbor, classmate, or coworker as a project or duty. If evangelism is nothing more than a religious homework assignment to you, then they will sense your lack of sincerity, and your efforts will become counterproductive. Develop a discipline of genuinely seeing the sick, stopping for the broken, making space for children, and authentically spending time with the lonely and marginalized, even by other Christians.

### **Get involved!**

- Take time to have your children (preschool through 5th grade) join Mission Friends, G.A.'s, and R.A.'s on Wednesdays at 7 pm. These groups learn about missionaries and participate in mission projects. For more information, contact Michelle Middleton at 864-940-3846.
- Take time to join the Men's Brotherhood. The Brotherhood carries out mission projects throughout the year. This ministry meets on the Wednesday night after the first Sunday of each month. For more information, contact Preacher Chris.
- Take time to join the Woman's Missionary Union. The WMU carries on mission projects throughout the

year. This ministry meets on the Wednesday night after the first Sunday of each month. For more information, contact Catherine Weaver at 864-224-5771.

- Take time to join BLOOM, a group of young women who are on mission for Christ. For more information, contact Amy Weaver at 864-940-1405 or Brandee Lewis at 864-314-0200.
- Take time to join the Good News Club. The Good News Club is a weekly Bible club for Palmetto Elementary students. The club meets one hour per week during the school year. Our church members teach it. If you would like to be involved, contact Sandra Tucker at 864-221-2031.

### Ideas!

- Identify one person you know who is far from God. Commit to pray for this person for the next week.
- Seize opportunities to converse about the presence and power of God. Also, be willing to admit your pain and uncertainty with life. This helps others see that we do not need to have everything figured out before believing in Jesus.
- When someone asks you, "What did you do this weekend?" Share with them one or more elements of Sunday worship that affected you, like a lesson learned from the sermon or an encouragement

received from a member.

- Look at your schedule for the next week and make sure you have some time blocked out for contacting people who are not believers. If you do not have any time to block out, adjust your schedule.
- If you live in a place where you have neighbors, spend at least fifteen minutes sitting in front of your house or apartment this week. As you sit, ask God to help you begin conversations and contact new people.
- Invite someone to go with you as you carry out some responsibility or activity in the coming week.
- In the coming week, take time to listen to people who are not believers. What are their everyday worries? What are their common dreams?
- Think of one extreme and undeserved act of compassion you can offer to a person in your life who is not a believer. Offer it prayerfully and with no strings attached. If they ask you why you did what you did, tell them about the love and message of Jesus Christ.
- People who are not believers probably will not want to sit and study with you but will be open to listening to a CD, visiting a website, or reading a book. Christians should possess and provide reliable



resources to keep the door open for conversations.

- Make plans in the coming month to get a group of friends who are not believers together for a meal, a barbecue, a game night, or just a hangout time outside of church!



**Head**

## **The third thing required to be a missionary is doctrine.**

The discipline of studying the Word of God continually shapes our theology and understanding of truth. God's Word is truth. Our understanding of reality should be developed by the authoritative teachings of Scripture.

When Christians start to compromise the truth, their passion for evangelism wanes and they quickly lose focus of their commission.

### **Get involved!**

- Take time to join a Sunday School Class at 10 am. We practice open enrollment. While lessons build from week to week, no topic is longer than twelve weeks. This gives members a chance to enroll in other classes to explore different subjects in diverse settings. (We provide classes that teach Scripture to children from Preschool to 5th grade and teenagers.)
- Take time to have your children (preschool through 5th grade) join "Bible Skills, Drills, and Thrills" on 3/2/16

Membership Booklet

Sundays at 6 pm. Here children learn about the Bible and how to use it effectively. For more information, contact Michelle Middleton at 864-940-3856.

- Take time to join our Wednesday Evening Service at 7 pm. This time is a more intimate opportunity for people to ask questions that arise from their observations of Scripture and wrestle through them with our pastors. (Our students have own their unique service to equip them.)

### Ideas!

- Read and study the Bible in private and with your family.
- Read and study the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7).
- Read the Gospels, repeatedly.
- When you read the Gospels, note Jesus' attitude toward the Pharisees, the Samaritan woman, the woman caught in adultery, the blind and the crippled, and Pilate. Write down your insights.
- When you read the Gospels, take note of how Jesus responded to interruptions in the busyness of life.

# Southern Baptist Convention

You become a Southern Baptist by uniting with a Southern Baptist church, one in friendly cooperation with the general Southern Baptist enterprise of reaching the world for Christ. Typically church membership is a matter of receiving Jesus as your Savior and Lord and experiencing believer's baptism by immersion.

Southern Baptists have prepared a statement of generally held convictions called **The Baptist Faith and Message**. It serves as a guide to understanding who we are. The topics here provide a brief summary.

## The Baptist Faith and Message

### I. The Scriptures

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

## **II. God**

There is one and only one living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is all powerful and all knowing; and His perfect knowledge extends to all things, past, present, and future, including the future decisions of His free creatures. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being.

### **A. God the Father**

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men.

### **B. God the Son**

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from

the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion. He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever present Lord.

### **C. God the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Savior, and effects regeneration. At the moment of regeneration He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

## **III. Man**

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the

beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

## **IV. Salvation**

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

**A.** Regeneration, or the new birth, is a work of God's grace whereby believers become new creatures in Christ Jesus. It is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit through conviction of sin, to which the sinner responds in repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance and faith are

inseparable experiences of grace.

Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God. Faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ and commitment of the entire personality to Him as Lord and Savior.

**B.** Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God.

**C.** Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person's life.

**D.** Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed.

## **V. God's Purpose of Grace**

Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.

All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach on the cause of Christ and temporal judgments on themselves; yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

## **VI. The Church**

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. Each congregation operates under the Lordship of Christ through democratic processes. In such a congregation each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

The New Testament speaks also of the church as the Body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation.



## **VII. Baptism and the Lord's Supper**

Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.

## **VIII. The Lord's Day**

The first day of the week is the Lord's Day. It is a Christian institution for regular observance. It commemorates the resurrection of Christ from the dead and should include exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private. Activities on the Lord's Day should be commensurate with the Christian's conscience under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

## **IX. The Kingdom**

The Kingdom of God includes both His general sovereignty over the universe and His particular kingship over men who willfully acknowledge Him as King.

Particularly the Kingdom is the realm of salvation into which men enter by trustful, childlike commitment to Jesus Christ. Christians ought to pray and to labor that the Kingdom may come and God's will be done on earth. The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age.

## **X. Last Things**

God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring the world to its appropriate end. According to His promise, Jesus Christ will return personally and visibly in glory to the earth; the dead will be raised; and Christ will judge all men in righteousness. The unrighteous will be consigned to Hell, the place of everlasting punishment. The righteous in their resurrected and glorified bodies will receive their reward and will dwell forever in Heaven with the Lord.

## **XI. Evangelism and Missions**

It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests thus upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness

undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.

## **XII. Education**

Christianity is the faith of enlightenment and intelligence. In Jesus Christ abide all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. All sound learning is, therefore, a part of our Christian heritage. The new birth opens all human faculties and creates a thirst for knowledge. Moreover, the cause of education in the Kingdom of Christ is co-ordinate with the causes of missions and general benevolence, and should receive along with these the liberal support of the churches. An adequate system of Christian education is necessary to a complete spiritual program for Christ's people.

In Christian education there should be a proper balance between academic freedom and academic responsibility. Freedom in any orderly relationship of human life is always limited and never absolute. The freedom of a teacher in a Christian school, college, or seminary is limited by the pre-eminence of Jesus Christ, by the authoritative nature of the Scriptures, and by the distinct purpose for which the school exists.

## **XIII. Stewardship**

God is the source of all blessings, temporal and spiritual; all that we have and are we owe to Him. Christians have a spiritual debtorship to the whole world, a holy trusteeship in the gospel, and a binding stewardship in their possessions. They are therefore under obligation to serve Him with their time, talents, and material

possessions; and should recognize all these as entrusted to them to use for the glory of God and for helping others. According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute of their means cheerfully, regularly, systematically, proportionately, and liberally for the advancement of the Redeemer's cause on earth.

#### **XIV. Cooperation**

Christ's people should, as occasion requires, organize such associations and conventions as may best secure cooperation for the great objects of the Kingdom of God. Such organizations have no authority over one another or over the churches. They are voluntary and advisory bodies designed to elicit, combine, and direct the energies of our people in the most effective manner. Members of New Testament churches should cooperate with one another in carrying forward the missionary, educational, and benevolent ministries for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. Christian unity in the New Testament sense is spiritual harmony and voluntary cooperation for common ends by various groups of Christ's people. Cooperation is desirable between the various Christian denominations, when the end to be attained is itself justified, and when such cooperation involves no violation of conscience or compromise of loyalty to Christ and His Word as revealed in the New Testament.

#### **XV. The Christian and the Social Order**

All Christians are under obligation to seek to make the will of Christ supreme in our own lives and in human society. Means and methods used for the improvement

of society and the establishment of righteousness among men can be truly and permanently helpful only when they are rooted in the regeneration of the individual by the saving grace of God in Jesus Christ. In the spirit of Christ, Christians should oppose racism, every form of greed, selfishness, and vice, and all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography. We should work to provide for the orphaned, the needy, the abused, the aged, the helpless, and the sick. We should speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death. Every Christian should seek to bring industry, government, and society as a whole under the sway of the principles of righteousness, truth, and brotherly love. In order to promote these ends Christians should be ready to work with all men of good will in any good cause, always being careful to act in the spirit of love without compromising their loyalty to Christ and His truth.

## **XVI. Peace and War**

It is the duty of Christians to seek peace with all men on principles of righteousness. In accordance with the spirit and teachings of Christ they should do all in their power to put an end to war.

The true remedy for the war spirit is the gospel of our Lord. The supreme need of the world is the acceptance of His teachings in all the affairs of men and nations, and the practical application of His law of love. Christian people throughout the world should pray for the reign of the Prince of Peace.

## **XVII. Religious Liberty**

God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are contrary to His Word or not contained in it. Church and state should be separate. The state owes to every church protection and full freedom in the pursuit of its spiritual ends. In providing for such freedom no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be favored by the state more than others. Civil government being ordained of God, it is the duty of Christians to render loyal obedience thereto in all things not contrary to the revealed will of God. The church should not resort to the civil power to carry on its work. The gospel of Christ contemplates spiritual means alone for the pursuit of its ends. The state has no right to impose penalties for religious opinions of any kind. The state has no right to impose taxes for the support of any form of religion. A free church in a free state is the Christian ideal, and this implies the right of free and unhindered access to God on the part of all men, and the right to form and propagate opinions in the sphere of religion without interference by the civil power.

## **XVIII. The Family**

God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption.

Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church

and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race.

The husband and wife are of equal worth before God, since both are created in God's image. The marriage relationship models the way God relates to His people. A husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church. He has the God-given responsibility to provide for, to protect, and to lead his family. A wife is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband even as the church willingly submits to the headship of Christ. She, being in the image of God as is her husband and thus equal to him, has the God-given responsibility to respect her husband and to serve as his helper in managing the household and nurturing the next generation.

Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Parents are to demonstrate to their children God's pattern for marriage. Parents are to teach their children spiritual and moral values and to lead them, through consistent lifestyle example and loving discipline, to make choices based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents.

## **The Cooperative Program**

## **How it came about**

Since its inception in 1845, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) has always had one mission—the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20). To fulfill its assigned part of this divine mandate, each SBC entity made special offering appeals to the churches. This method was referred to as the “societal” approach to missions and resulted in severe financial deficits, competition among entities, overlapping pledge campaigns, and frequent emergency appeals which greatly hampered the expanding ministry opportunities God was giving Southern Baptists. Some entities took out loans to cover operating costs until pledges or special offerings were received.

In 1919, the leaders of the SBC proposed the 75 Million Campaign, a five-year pledge campaign that, for the first time, included everything—the missions and ministries of all the state conventions as well as that of the Southern Baptist Convention. Though falling short of its goals, a God-given partnership of missions support was conceived—The Cooperative Program. Since its launch in 1925, the effectiveness of the Cooperative Program has been dependent upon individuals, churches, state conventions, and SBC entities cooperating, working toward a common goal of sharing the gospel with every person on the planet.

## **How it works**

Simply put, it begins with you. You give yourself first to God (2 Cor. 8:5). Next, out of gratitude and obedience to God for what He has done for you, you commit to



give back to Him, through your church, a portion of what He provides. This is commonly called a tithe and represents ten percent of your income (Lev. 27:30, Mal. 3:10).

Your church decides the next step. Every year your church prayerfully decides how much of its undesignated gifts will be committed to reaching people in your state and around the world through Cooperative Program. This amount is then forwarded to your state Baptist convention.

During the annual meeting of your state convention, messengers from your church and other churches across the state decide what percentage of Cooperative Program gifts contributed by local congregations stays in your state to support local missions and ministries. The percentage to be forwarded to the Southern Baptist Convention for North American and international missions and ministries is also determined at this time.

At the Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting, messengers from across the country decide how the gifts received from the states will be distributed among SBC entities. These gifts are used by Southern Baptist entities to send and support missionaries, train pastors, and other ministry leaders; provide relief for retired ministers and widows; and address social, moral, and ethical concerns relating to our faith and families.

The bottom line – people around the world hear the gospel and receive Christ.

Note: Your local Southern Baptist association does not receive Cooperative Program gifts directly. It ministers through gifts received directly from churches and often receives Cooperative Program gifts indirectly in the form of support from state conventions and the North American Mission Board.

## **What it does**

Churches in your state work together through your state convention to support a wide array of ministries and missions including: evangelism efforts, children's homes, volunteer missions, missions education, new churches, colleges and universities, collegiate ministries, camps, and much more. For additional information concerning your state convention, log on to [www.sbc.net](http://www.sbc.net) and click on state conventions.

Through the International Mission Board ([www.imb.org](http://www.imb.org)), Southern Baptists support approximately 5,624 missionaries who are engaging 655 people groups, of populations greater than 100,000, around the world.

New churches numbering over 1,364 are planted through the efforts of more than 5,304 North American Missionaries, whose efforts are coordinated through your North American Mission Board ([www.namb.net](http://www.namb.net)) and individual state conventions.

Six Southern Baptist seminaries (Southern, Southeastern, Midwestern, Southwestern, Golden Gate, and New Orleans) educate in excess of 16,000 pastors, missionaries, and future church leaders each year.

The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission is dedicated

to addressing social, moral, and ethical concerns, with particular attention to their impact on American families and their faith. They also provide print resources that offer scriptural responses to the moral and ethical problems of our culture.

Although they receive no Cooperative Program support, LifeWay Christian Resources, Guidestone Financial Resources and the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) actively promote Cooperative Program in publications and missions resources.

## **Its Potential**

If "two are better than one" (Eccl. 4:9), how much better are more than 16 million? This is the current membership in more than 45,000 Southern Baptist churches across the United States. With a global population exceeding 6.5 billion and a command to take the gospel to every nation, we must enhance our cooperative efforts if we are going to fulfill Christ's command.

To help Cooperative Program reach its potential, would you please:

**Pray.** Pray regularly for your Southern Baptist missionaries in your state and around the globe. "Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers." Matthew 9:38 (HCSB)

**Go.** Be involved in some sort of missions endeavor. Talk with your pastor about the available opportunities. You are God's missionary right where you live. "Go...and

make disciples of all nations." Matthew 28:19 (HCSB)

**Give.** Out of love for the Lord, give regularly to Him through your church. If you are not tithing, begin to do so and also discover the blessings of giving beyond the tithe. Encourage your church to increase its participation in Cooperative Program.

"Since you excel in so many ways ... now I want you to excel also in this gracious ministry of giving." 2 Corinthians 8:7 (NLT)

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse." Malachi 3:10 (NKJV)

## **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering**

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is much more than an offering envelope and an annual missions-giving emphasis. When people give to the offering, 100 percent of their gift will be transformed into missionary salaries and ministry supplies. Those missionaries and supplies will help others hear the message of Christ and respond in faith to His offer of salvation. Time and again our missionaries relate how the offering is their lifeblood. They know that behind each penny given, there is a Southern Baptist who believes in what they do and are affirming the need to equip them to share the gospel with those who need a Savior.

## **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**

Southern Baptist churches collect the Lottie Moon

Christmas Offering for the sole purpose of supporting international missions. Every penny of the offering goes to the International Mission Board's overseas budget, thus supporting our missionaries and their work.

## Evangelism Equipping

The uniqueness of this training process is that you will learn how to:

1. **Become aware of the people who need Jesus**
2. **Put your story into words**
  - Your story is an account of the activity of God in your life, when Jesus saved you, and how He changed your life.
  - Your story lifts up Jesus.
  - Your story is what the Holy Spirit will use to draw people to Jesus.

- “And if I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men to me.” (John 12:32)

**3. Enhance it with Scripture verses**

**4. Lead the lost in taking a step of faith**

## **Relational Witnessing Opportunities**

Most relational witnessing opportunities are with people in your sphere of influence. I know of a pastor who intentionally entered a community basketball league in order to meet new people and another pastor who regularly spent a day at a local coffee shop instead of the office in order to build relationships. One other very effective way of meeting new people is through works of service. I personally experienced a man seek Jesus after I offered to merely pay for his laundry mat expense.

## **Divine Encounters**

These opportunities will come in the middle of your daily activities. They may be chance meetings with people you know or people you have never met. In the daily lifestyle of a witness for Jesus, chance meetings are not really a chance.

## **Identifying the Lost**

Do you ever think much about the individuals whom

God used to influence you to come to Jesus? Where would you be today if they had stayed silent and safe? Now think of the people you know who are in your network of relationships who do not know Jesus. Take inventory of all your contacts lists (cell phones, e-mail accounts, and Facebook accounts). In a few weeks, months, or years, some of these can know Jesus because they are part of your network.

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## **Turning Your Story into A Witnessing Tool**

### **1. “My life before I made a commitment to follow Jesus.”**

Think back to the time before you knew Jesus. What was your life like without Him? Write several words or phrases that describe your life situation before you made a commitment to follow Jesus. If you were converted at a very young age, write what you imagine your life would be like without Him.

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List the names of a few people that you knew before Jesus who influenced you or people whom God used to point you to Him.

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List some events that you remember taking place before you knew Jesus – events that God used to draw you to Himself. Where were you when you were saved?

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**Verses to Memorize:**

Why memorize verses to weave into your story? Rom. 10:17 says, "Faith comes from hearing what is told, and hearing through the message about Christ." The power of God is the gospel, which perfectly matches our experience.

Q "Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Cor. 15:3-4)

Q "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of



God" (Rom. 3:23)

Q "For the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23)

Q "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16)

Q "Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out" (Acts 3:19)

Q "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Rom. 10:9)

## **2. "How I came to know Jesus personally."**

Tell about how you realized the gravity of three or four of the memory verses. (The biblical concept of "death" is separation from God and all He has to offer in this life and eternal separation from God in hell at the conclusion of this life.) How did you respond when you were invited to call out to Jesus?

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## **3. "My life since I came to know Jesus personally"**

The Bible says, "For if anybody is in union with Christ, he is the work of a new creation; the old condition has

passed away, a new condition has come." (2 Cor. 5:17)  
Has Jesus made a real difference in your life? Try to put that difference into words so you can tell someone about it. One witness said, "I am convinced that if my neighbors could know what a difference He has made in my life, they would chase my car to find out that I have. Check all the following that apply to you personally?

# Personal Peace: I have peace with God.

# Joy: I have more joy than before I was saved.

# Guidance: I see evidence that God is helping me.

# When I Sin: The Holy Spirit convicts me.

# Church: I love to worship with other Christians.

# Bible and Prayer: I read the Bible and pray as a lifestyle.

# Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Drawing the Net**

No evangelism is complete without sharing some good ways to help lost people take the step of becoming followers of Jesus. There is no way to avoid the impact of that incredible moment of decision time. In the moment of decision, to accept or reject Jesus, we experience the true meaning of being "His fellow-

workers.”

Let me set the stage: You have engaged in a serious conversation with a lost person. You have shared your story, and now you need to share briefly how you “stepped across the line.” Permit me to pose this question, could it be that multitudes of lost people are hearing about Jesus and hearing testimonies of how He has changed lives, but have no one to help them take the step of becoming a Christian? Remember the Philippian jailer, “What must I do to be saved?” (Acts 16:30) Do you recall how you were saved?

1. When you began your journey with Jesus, did you pray alone, without prompting, except from the Holy Spirit?

# Yes # No

2. Were you in a large group?

# Yes # No

3. Were you with someone who shared Jesus and led you in a prayer of repentance and faith?

# Yes # No

There is no “wrong way” to be born again. Allow me to share with you a great way to help someone respond to Jesus’ invitation using three simple questions.

- 1. Does what I have been sharing make sense?**
- 2. (If yes,) would you be interested in knowing how to pray and turn from your sin and trust Jesus?**

### **3. (If yes,) would you like me to lead you in that prayer now?**

Please allow the person to respond. Do not interrupt. Suppose the person does not answer “yes” to your questions; do not allow yourself to become defensive. This does not mean that he has rejected you and/or Jesus. It may just mean that a little clarification is needed. You do not need to try to “talk him” into accepting Jesus. Take the questions one at a time:

#### **Question #1**

If he says, “no,” or “I’m not sure,” to this question, your response can be, “May I ask what parts are not clear?” Listen carefully and take him back to the part of your presentation where he is unclear. If you cannot answer his question, you might want to call on someone else to respond. Say to one of them, “How would you respond to this question?” In some cases, you may want to ask for the opportunity to study his question and get back to him. Regardless of what he says, do not allow it to shake your faith in the fact that Jesus is the answer to his needs.

#### **Question #2**

He may hesitate or say “no,” when you ask this question. If this happens, deal with his response in a positive manner. You may say, “What do you feel is keeping you from making this decision?” It is very important for you to spiritually discern whether the Holy Spirit is drawing this person. If this is not happening, no amount of persuasiveness will accomplish any eternal good. If you realize that the Holy Spirit is drawing him,

help the person to respond positively. Remember Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 5:11, "So, since I know what the fear of God can do, I am trying to persuade men." If the person continues to hesitate or refuse, leave the door open for opportunities to discuss spiritual matters later.

### **Question #3**

If the person hesitates or says no, you may say, "Let me share with you a prayer that is very much like the one I prayed?" Ask, "Does this prayer say what you would like to say to God?" Again, seek discernment from God to know whether to continue. It is not usually wise to press a person beyond this receptivity, but it is always wise to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Only He knows whether this is the last invitation to accept Jesus this person will ever receive before eternity.

Write down the prayer you prayed or a prayer you would feel comfortable with leading others.

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## **Constitution**

## **ARTICLE II– OBJECTIVES**

The Beaverdam Baptist Church is a dynamic spiritual organism empowered by the Holy Spirit. The purpose of this body is to live under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and to glorify God by working together to advance His mission through worship, outreach, education, fellowship, support, missions and service.

## **ARTICLE III– STATEMENT OF FAITH**

This church recognizes the Holy Bible to be the basis of any statement of faith and subscribes to the doctrinal statement of “The Baptist Faith and Message” as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention. The ordinances of the church are Baptism and the Lord’s Supper.

## **ARTICLE IV– RELATIONSHIPS**

The government of the Beaverdam Baptist Church is vested in the body of believers who compose it and is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body. The body recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual counsel and cooperation which are common among Baptist churches. This church is voluntarily affiliated with the Palmetto Baptist Association, the South Carolina Baptist Convention, and the Southern Baptist Convention

## **ARTICLE V– COVENANT**

Having been led, as we believe, by the spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the

profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, in the presence of God and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness, and comfort, to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, and the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all the nations.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember one another in prayer; to aid one another in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and Christian courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Savior to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we move from this place we will as soon as possible, unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

## **ARTICLE VI– Amendments**

This Constitution may be amended or repealed at any regular or called business meeting of the church provided each amendment shall have been presented

in writing and copies of the proposed amendments given to members present at a previous meeting. Amendments to the constitution shall be by two-thirds vote of all members present and voting.

## **By-Laws**

### **ARTICLE I– MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Section 1. Candidacy**

Any person may offer himself (herself) as a candidate for membership in this church. All such candidates shall be presented to the church at any regular church service for membership in any of the following ways.

- (1) Upon profession of faith and request for baptism by immersion
- (2) Upon promise of a letter of recommendation from another Baptist Church
- (3) Upon personal statement of a previous profession of faith and baptism by immersion at a Protestant church when no letter is available.

#### **Section 2. Voting Rights of Members**

Every member of the church (as described in Article 1, Section 1) is entitled to vote in all elections and on all questions submitted to the church in conference, provided the member is present.

#### **Section 3. Termination of Membership**

Membership shall be terminated in the following ways:



(1) death, (2) expelled by action of the church, (3) transfer of letter to another Baptist church, and (4) written request by the member or a church writing on his (her) behalf that his (her) name be removed from the membership roll.

#### **Section 4. Discipline**

It will be the basic purpose of the Beaverdam Baptist Church to emphasize to its members that every reasonable measure will be taken to assist any troubled member. The pastor, other members of the church staff, and deacons are available for counsel and guidance. Redemption, rather than punishment, should be the guideline that governs the attitude of one member toward another.

Should some serious condition exist which would cause a member to become a liability to the general welfare of the church, every reasonable measure will be taken by the pastor and by the deacons to resolve the problem. Any action taken will be in accordance with Matthew 18: 15-20. All such proceedings shall be pervaded by a spirit of Christian kindness and forbearance. But, finding that the welfare of the church will be best served by expelling the church member, the church may take this action by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a meeting called for this purpose; and the church shall proceed to declare the offender to be no longer in the membership of the church.

Any person whose membership has been terminated for any condition which has made it necessary for the

church to expel him may upon his request be restored to membership by a two-thirds vote of the membership voting upon evidence of his repentance and reformation.

## **ARTICLE II– STAFF, OFFICERS AND MESSENGERS**

Any person serving in any capacity must be an active member in good standing of Beaverdam Baptist Church. Duties and responsibilities for each position are found in the Beaverdam Baptist Church Staff Handbook.

### **Section 6. Deacons**

In accordance with the meaning of the work and practice of the New Testament, deacons are to be servants of the church. The task of the deacons is to serve with the Pastor and staff in performing pastoral ministries tasks: proclaim the gospel to believers and unbelievers; care for church members and other persons in the community; lead the church to engage in a fellowship of worship, witness, education, ministry, and application; and lead the church in performing its tasks.

There shall be twelve active deacons elected by secret ballot. At an August business meeting, members of the church shall write three names on the ballot. Proposed deacons must be qualified according to the teachings of I Timothy 3:8-13. The four men who receive the most votes and are willing to serve shall serve as deacons for

a period of three years. The church shall hold elections to fill unexpired terms. Deacons shall serve on a rotational basis. After serving a three-year term, a deacon shall be eligible for reelection after a lapse of one year. Only deacons serving unexpired terms of less than one year shall succeed themselves.

Staff members will be allowed to serve deacons if elected.

## **Section 7. Church Trustees**

Three church trustees shall hold in trust the church property. They shall have no power to buy, sell, mortgage, lease, or transfer any property without a specific vote of the church authorizing each action. It shall be the function of the trustees to affix their signatures to legal documents involving the sale, mortgage, purchase, or rental of property or other legal documents where the signatures of trustees are required

Trustees shall serve on a rotational basis with one new trustee being elected by secret ballot each year. This election shall be by the last Sunday in August. A church trustee shall be eligible for reelection after a lapse of one year. Church members will write one name on their ballot. The person who receives the most votes and is willing to serve shall be elected.

## **Section 8. Cemetery Trustees**

### **1. Election of Cemetery Trustees:**

Three cemetery trustees shall hold in trust the church

cemetery. By the last Sunday in August the church shall elect one (1) cemetery trustee to serve for the next three (3) years. A cemetery trustee shall be eligible to succeed him/herself.

### **Section 9. Moderator**

The pastor shall serve as moderator of the church. In the absence of the pastor, the vice-moderator shall preside. In the absence of both the moderator and vice-moderator, the clerk shall call the church to order and an acting moderator shall be elected.

The church nominating committee shall recommend a vice-moderator for election by the church.

### **Section 10. Clerk**

The church nominating committee shall recommend a clerk for election by the church.

The clerk shall keep in a suitable book a record of all the actions of the church, except as otherwise herein provided. He/she is responsible for keeping a register of the names of members, with dates of admission, dismissal, or death. The clerk shall keep a record of baptisms.

The clerk shall issue letters of dismissal voted by the church, preserve on file communications and written official reports and give legal notice of all meetings where legal notice is necessary as indicated in these by-laws. The church may delegate some of the clerical responsibilities to the church secretary. All church records are church property and should be filed in the church office.

## **Section 11. Treasurer**

The treasurer shall be recommended by the personnel committee to the church for election.

It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive, preserve, and pay out upon receipt of vouchers, approved and signed by authorized personnel, all money or things of value paid or given to the church with the exception of money or things of value given to either the Cemetery Trust Fund or the Church Barbecue Fund. The treasurer shall keep at all times an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements. Financial statements shall be distributed to church members and approved by the church monthly.

The church treasurer shall be bonded.

The financial records shall be audited by an auditing committee annually. This committee shall be nominated by the deacons and presented to the church for election.

## **Section 13. Messengers**

Messengers to meetings of the Palmetto Baptist Association, The South Carolina Baptist Convention, and The Southern Baptist Convention shall be elected by the church. Messengers shall be nominated by the nominating committee. The number of messengers the church may elect to attend each meeting is stated in the Constitution and By-laws of these respective bodies. The church's pastors are authorized messengers to the above stated meetings without the need of an election.

# ARTICLE III– COMMITTEES

## Section 1. General

Unless herein stated otherwise, all church committee members shall be recommended by the nominating committee and elected by the church in the nominating committee report. New committees may be formed as the need arises. Any member of the church may nominate church committee members at the time the nominating committee reports to the church.

In order for the council or committee to conduct business, a quorum of at least 75% of its members should be present. The committee chairperson will determine if a quorum is present.

Section 2. Audio/Visual Committee

Section 3. Auditing Committee

Section 4. Baptism Committee

Section 5. Benevolence Committee

Section 6. Building, Grounds, and Properties Committee

Section 7. Bus/Van Committee

Section 8. Children's Ministry Team (Children's Council)

Section 9. Church Council

Section 10. Constitution Committee

Section 11. Counting Committee

Section 12. Finance Committee

Section 13. Flower Committee

Section 14. History Committee

Section 15. Lord's Supper Committee

Section 16. Meals Committee

- Section 17. Missions Committee
- Section 18. Music Committee
- Section 19. Nominating Committee
- Section 20. Nursery Committee
- Section 21. Outreach and Evangelism Committee
- Section 22. Personnel Committee
- Section 23. Recreation Committee
- Section 24. Social Committee
- Section 25. Student Ministry Team (Youth Council)
- Section 26. Ushers Committee
- Section 27. Welcoming Committee

## **ARTICLE IV– PROGRAM ORGANIZATIONS**

### **Section 1. General**

All organizations of the church shall be under church control.

### **Section 2. Sunday School**

There shall be a Sunday School, divided into departments and classes for all ages and supervised by the director for the study of God's Word.

The tasks of the Sunday School shall be to teach the Biblical revelation; to reach persons for Christ and church membership; to perform the functions of the church within its constituency; to provide and interpret information regarding the work of the church and denomination.

### **Section 3. Women's Missionary**

There shall be a Women's Missionary Union supervised by the director with such organizations as needed. The

tasks of the W.M.U. shall be to teach missions, to engage in mission action; to support world missions through praying and giving; to provide and interpret information regarding the work of the church and denomination.

#### **Section 4. Baptist Men (Brotherhood)**

There shall be a Baptist Men's program (Brotherhood) supervised by the director with such organizations as needed. The tasks of this group of men shall be to teach missions; to engage in mission activity; to support world missions through praying and giving; to provide and interpret information regarding the work of the church and denomination.

#### **Section 5. Church Music**

There shall be a church music program under the supervision of the Minister of Music or Director of Music Ministries. The tasks of the church music program shall be to provide both vocal and instrumental music for the church.

#### **Section 6. Children's Worship**

There shall be an adult led worship service for preschoolers and children through the third grade taught on their level of understanding during the Sunday morning worship hour and evening worship hour as needed.

### **ARTICLE V– ORDINANCES**

#### **Section 1. Baptism**

A person who receives Jesus Christ as Savior by  
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personal faith, who professes Him publicly at any worship service, and who indicates commitment to follow Christ as Lord shall be received for baptism upon the approval of the church.

(1) Baptism shall be by immersion in water.

(2) Baptism shall be administered by the pastor or whomever the church shall authorize. The deacons shall assist in the observance of baptism if needed.

(3) Baptism shall be administered as an act of worship during any worship service.

## **Section 2. The Lord's Supper**

The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, commemorate the death of Jesus Christ and anticipate His second coming. All professing Christians may take part in the observance. The Lord's Supper shall be observed quarterly. The deacons shall assist in the observance of the Lord's Supper.

# **ARTICLE VI– MEETINGS**

## **Section 1. Worship Service**

The church shall meet regularly each Sunday morning, Sunday evening, and Wednesday evening for preaching, instruction, evangelism, and for worship. These meetings shall be open for the entire membership of the church and for all people.

## **Section 2. Special Services**

Revival services and any other church meetings essential in the promotion of the objectives of the church shall be placed on the church calendar.

## **Section 3. Regular Business Meetings**

Regular business meetings should be held no less than quarterly. A two week notice will be given of the meeting date.

## **Section 4. Special Business Meetings**

A specially called business meeting may be held to consider special matters of significant nature. A one-week notice of the subject must be given for a specially called business meeting unless extreme urgency renders such notice impracticable.

## **Section 5. Recommendations**

All Recommendations shall be in writing and handed to the church clerk.

## **Section 6. Quorum**

A quorum shall consist of not less than fifteen (15) percent of the total membership of the church.

## **Section 7. Parliamentary Rules**

Robert's Rules of Order, Revised is the authority for parliamentary rule of procedure for all business meetings of the church, with the following exceptions:

All unbudgeted expenditures of more than \$5,000.00 shall be voted on by the church by a secret ballot.

## **ARTICLE VII– AMENDMENTS**

These By-laws may be amended or repealed at any regular or called business meeting of the church provided each amendment shall have been presented in writing and copies of the proposed amendments given to members present at a previous meeting. Amendments to the By-laws shall be by two-thirds vote of all members present and voting.

# Spiritual Gift Inventory Test

A spiritual gift is a special capacity, given by the Holy Spirit to every believer at the time of conversion, to be used to minister to other Christians and thus build up the Body of Christ.

Spiritual gifts are not to be confused with physical talents. This is not to say that talents are not important – they are! However, God designed talents and spiritual gifts to be distinctly different from one another in several ways: You, as a Christian, received your spiritual gifts from the Holy Spirit at the very moment you were saved. All people are blessed with talents, and this blessing had been linked to genetic make-up. You may have inherited your mom's alto voice or you dad's mechanical genius. Whatever the cause, spiritual gifts cannot be passed on through heredity. God only gives these gifts when you become a Christian. Talents usually end up glorifying the one who uses them. However, a properly used spiritual gift brings glory to the Gift-Giver. Through the God-empowered use of your spiritual gift, the only recognizable source of your works will be God.

Now that you know the difference between a talent and a spiritual gift, you can understand the greater importance of the spiritual gift. This is not to say that a talent is not a remarkable thing. God blesses people everywhere with incredible talents. However, the wonderful nature of the gift of the Holy Spirit is far

beyond that of a talent. You must understand this before you can effectively use your gift for God's ministry.

There are many ways to realize your spiritual gift:

1. Explore the possibilities by studying the Bible and educating yourself.
2. Watch other gifted people.
3. Evaluate your effectiveness as you serve.
4. Take a Spiritual Gift Inventory Test.

- **In the blocks beside each question, record your points. Give yourself:**

**1 point for “seldom”**

**3 points for “sometimes”**

**5 points for “always”**

1. My peers tell me that I have really encouraged them. 1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. My friends think I am sensitive. 2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. I am willing to let others take charge and show my support by helping in the background. 3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. It irritates me when my Sunday School teacher is unprepared. 4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Others appoint me as the leader when one is needed. 5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. I am heavily burdened for my unchurched peers. 6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. When my friends are in a pinch I gladly help them with money. 7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. I am willing to confront my friends when they sin. 8. \_\_\_\_\_

9. Other friends come to me when they need to be cheered up. 9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. I am saddened when someone is being mistreated. 10. \_\_\_\_\_

11. I am happiest when meeting needs through service. 11. \_\_\_\_\_

12. I like it best when my Sunday School teacher shares facts and details about a lesson. 12.\_\_\_\_\_

13. I prefer working with people rather than trying to complete a task alone. 13.\_\_\_\_\_

14. I feel comfortable sharing Christ with my peers. 14.\_\_\_\_\_

15. I give gifts to show my friends that I appreciate them. 15.\_\_\_\_\_

16. I am irritated when I see people sin. 16.\_\_\_\_\_

17. I want to know how my pastor's message will apply to my life. 17.\_\_\_\_\_

18. I feel that life is about meeting the needs of those less fortunate. 18.\_\_\_\_\_

19. It is difficult for me to say no when I am asked to help. 19.\_\_\_\_\_

20. When in class, I am thinking about how I can teach others the information I just learned. 20.\_\_\_\_\_

21. I make decisions based upon how they will affect my long-term goals. 21.\_\_\_\_\_

22. I am most excited about church events that are designed to help me bring unchurched people. 22.\_\_\_\_\_

23. I enjoy Bible studies and sermons about giving. 23.\_\_\_\_\_

24. I am willing to speak boldly to groups concerning sin and evil. 24.\_\_\_\_\_

25. I encourage others by sharing about how I overcame problems similar to theirs. 25.\_\_\_\_\_

26. When I hear about someone going through difficulties I hurt with them. 26.\_\_\_\_\_

27. I prefer doing "behind the scene" tasks. 27.\_\_\_\_\_



28. I like sharing my thoughts in front of groups in hopes that they may help someone learn. 28. \_\_\_\_\_

29. I enjoy motivating and inspiring others for a common purpose. 29. \_\_\_\_\_

30. I seek to be around non-Christians in hopes to win them to Christ. 30. \_\_\_\_\_

31. I am willing to do without to help meet the needs of others. 31. \_\_\_\_\_

32. My friends become aggravated when I share Biblical truths concerning their actions. 32. \_\_\_\_\_

33. I can easily tell when someone is troubled or hurting. 33. \_\_\_\_\_

34. I am controlled by my emotions. 34. \_\_\_\_\_

35. I can do things better myself instead 35. \_\_\_\_\_

of trying to get others involved.

36. I enjoy research. 36. \_\_\_\_\_

37. When working with a group, I feel compelled to lead. 37. \_\_\_\_\_

38. I enjoy thinking of creative methods to witness. 38. \_\_\_\_\_

39. I love to give cheerfully. 39. \_\_\_\_\_

40. I recognize sin easily. 40. \_\_\_\_\_

41. I often feel inspired to find ways to encourage others. 41. \_\_\_\_\_

42. I feel a lot of compassion for those who are suffering physically. 42. \_\_\_\_\_

43. I don't mind doing jobs that make others look good. 43. \_\_\_\_\_

44. Knowing the answer is not always 44. \_\_\_\_\_

enough; I must find out “why” it’s the right answer.

45. When with a group, I can persuade them to do what I want them to do. 45.\_\_\_\_\_

46. I share my faith regularly. 46.\_\_\_\_\_

47. I like to give anonymously. 47.\_\_\_\_\_

48. I enjoy helping others see the truth. 48.\_\_\_\_\_

49. I enjoy helping people feel good about themselves. 49.\_\_\_\_\_

50. I am easily moved to tears. 50.\_\_\_\_\_

51. I enjoy helping with projects around the house. 51.\_\_\_\_\_

52. I see myself someday sharing my ideas with others. 52.\_\_\_\_\_

53. I can put the needs of the group before my own. 53.\_\_\_\_\_

54. I pray for the salvation of my peers. 54.\_\_\_\_\_

55. I feel the best way to encourage someone is to give them something. 55.\_\_\_\_\_

56. I see things as black or white, right or wrong. 56.\_\_\_\_\_

- **These points need to be transferred to the corresponding boxes on the Spiritual Gift Scoring Chart.**
- **Total each line across.**
- **Write down your three highest Spiritual Gifts in the spaces provided.**

## **Spiritual Gift Scoring Chart**

1	9	17	25	33	41	49	Encourager _____
2	10	18	26	34	42	50	Mercy _____
3	11	19	27	35	43	51	Service _____
4	12	20	28	36	44	52	Teaching _____
5	13	21	29	37	45	53	Leadership _____
6	14	22	30	38	46	54	Evangelism _____
7	15	23	31	39	47	55	Giving _____
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	Prophecy _____

**What are your three highest scoring gifts?**

\_\_\_\_\_

### **Encouragement**

*The special ability to come to the aid of those in need*

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*of support, a challenge, or earnest advice.*

Example: Barnabas – Acts 4:36, 9:26-27

Possible ministries: counseling, working with students or seniors, writing postcards, ministering to the poor or imprisoned.

## **Mercy**

*The special ability to have compassion for and to give aid to those who are hurting.*

Example: The Good Samaritan – Luke 10:30-37

Possible ministries: visiting shut-ins or the sick, comforting the bereaved, adopting a child, supporting abused persons, volunteering at a mission or a hospital.

## **Service**

*The special ability to give assistance in a way that relieves other Christians.*

Example: Rebekah – Gen. 24:15-20

Possible ministries: assisting in church programs, helping in church kitchen, fundraising, building construction and repair, assisting in nursery.

## **Teaching**

*The special ability to provide a detailed understanding of Biblical truths.*

Example: Paul – Acts 9:22

Possible ministries: teaching Sunday School, teaching special classes or certain age groups, teaching new  
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Christians, teaching literacy or special skills.

## **Leadership**

*The special ability to set goals for the good of the group and to work towards that goal in a timely manner.*

Example: Nehemiah – Nehemiah 3:1-32, 4:13-14

Possible ministries: leading a church program or Sunday School class, starting a new church program or Sunday School class, chairing a committee.

## **Evangelism**

*The special ability to lead people to a relationship with Christ.*

Example: Philip – Acts 21:8

Possible ministries: telling others about Christ, making new friends, visiting guests, distributing Bibles, helping with outreach events, training others in evangelism, developing new opportunities for witness.

## **Giving**

*The special ability to manage money and resources so that much can be invested in the Lord's work.*

Example: Zacchaeus – Luke 19:1-8

Possible ministries: donating, heading up stewardship campaigns, fundraising, helping the financially distressed, giving financial counseling.

## **Prophecy**

*The special ability to declare truths from God in an authoritative way.*

Example: Jeremiah – Jeremiah 1:1-10

Possible ministries: preaching to special groups or certain age groups, providing spiritual support to others, advocating causes, becoming a choir member.