



# The Baptist Faith & Message

## Article 11: Evangelism & 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.

### **I. The MISSIONARIES**

*duty and privilege*

We are commanded (duty). We are capable (privilege).

#### **A. Every CHRISTIAN**

*of every follower of Christ*

*And He gave...some as evangelists...for the equipping of the body for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-12*

the evangelist is the gift to the church

2 questions:

Are you a Christian?    Are you a missionary?

#### **B. Every CHURCH**

*and every church of the Lord Jesus Christ*

Southern Baptists are a missionary people.

- We are involved in missions GIVING
- We must become more involved in missions GOING

*In many churches the Great Commission has become the Great Omission*

### **II. The MISSION**

*to make disciples*

The Mission is to: Reproduce reproducers who reproduce reproducers.

*Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20*

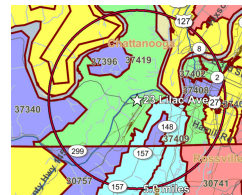
Evangelism and discipleship are two sides of the same coin.

### **III. The MAP** *of all nations*

*And you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth. Acts 1:8*

#### **A. The COMMUNITY**

38,000 people within a 5 mile radius of our church.



#### **B. The COUNTRY**

In the last 40 years there has been no percentage increase in church attendance in America.

There has been a 12 percent loss in church attendance.

In a nation of over 300 million people, that's 36 million!

The NAMB has appointed more than 5,000 career and short-term missionaries serving in North America. Last year their budget was \$124 million.

Last year the prison and military chaplaincy program saw more than 5700 people come to faith in Christ.

Over 1400 churches were planted by NAMB-appointed missionaries working through The Nehemiah Project.

In the wake of Katrina, NAMB began Project Noah. These missionaries are impacted New Orleans and the Gulf Coast region every single day!

#### **C. The CONTINENTS**

International Mission Board of the SBC has more than 5,000 appointed personnel serving you on the foreign mission field.

Last year they planted over 23,000 churches internationally and baptized over 475,000 converts.

The IMB budget in 2006 was nearly \$300 million.

### **IV. The MEANS**

*The new birth of man's spirit by the Holy Spirit*

Where God calls He equips.

Where God commands He empowers.

Where God commissions He enables.

## **V. The MOTIVATION**

*the birth of love for others*

*I am under obligation both to the Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. So for my part, I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome. For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. Romans 1:14-16*

## **VI. The METHODS**

### **A. Through our WORDS**

*by verbal witness...*

Confrontational versus relational evangelism...

Relational evangelism that does not eventually become confrontational evangelism was never evangelism in the first place. It was just hanging out!

Do you know Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior?

*For whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved. How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!" So faith comes from hearing and hearing by the word of Christ. Romans 10:13-15; 17*

If you are saved you know enough to tell someone else

### **B. Through our WALK**

*undergirded by a Christian lifestyle*

I heard about one pastor who told a backslidden teenager, "Don't tell anybody you're a Christian."

I know some folks who are Christians now, but who said what kept them from coming to Christ sooner was their "Christian" co-workers.

### **C. Through WISDOM**

*in harmony with the gospel of Christ*