

Baptist Men's Day



JANUARY 22, 2017

IDEAS FOR PLANNING BAPTIST MEN'S DAY IN YOUR CHURCH

The fourth Sunday in January is the designated day each year for Baptist Men's Day. Churches use this day to remind their entire congregation of the importance of Baptist Men's ministry within the church, community, and the world. The 83rd observance of Baptist Men's Day this year falls on January 22. But if January 22 is not a convenient date for Baptist Men's Day in your church, please feel free to plan it for any another Sunday.

Here are some tips to help you prepare for this important day in your church:

- ◇ Form a planning team. This team should reflect the size of your church and Baptist Men's group. Those who comprise the team might include the church Baptist Men's director, the Men's Ministries director, the pastor or assigned staff member, and two or three other men.
- ◇ Your planning team should begin meeting at least two months before Baptist Men's Day. Look toward accomplishment of the following:
 - Coordinate the date on church calendar.
 - Determine what you hope to accomplish.
 - Plan activities to accomplish these goals.
 - Determine who will carry out these goals.
 - Make assignments.
 - Secure needed materials.
 - Keep track of the progress.

Six Weeks Before...

- ◇ Select a special ministry project to be completed in conjunction with Baptist Men's Day. (see special section on p. 2)

Visit our website at www.baptistsonmission.org for more Men's Ministry resources. Go to "Church Programs/Men's Ministry/ Baptist Men's Day".

"Reconciled"

2 Corinthians 5:18

- ◇ Plan a Sunday morning prayer breakfast along with Baptist Men's Day. (See p. 2)
- ◇ Consult with your pastor about the Sunday morning service. Ask your pastor about adopting the ideas - or similar ideas - suggested on page 3. If your men do not participate in the service, ask your pastor to bring a challenging message to men or to suggest a guest speaker to do so.
- ◇ Plan a recognition time during the morning or evening service for men involved in missions and ministries through your local Baptist Men. Sample certificates are available from NCBM—mabernathy@ncbaptist.org.
- ◇ Select men to share testimonies of missions and ministry involvement in each adult Sunday School class.
- ◇ Select men to share testimonies of missions and ministry involvement during the service.

One Month Before...

- ◇ Place announcements of BMD activities in the church bulletin and newsletter.
- ◇ Have a display of Men's Ministries materials and photographs of your activities over the past year ready for display in the church foyer.
- ◇ Enlist men to make announcements about BMD activities in all adult Sunday School classes for each of the next four Sundays.
- ◇ Begin practice for men's choir.
- ◇ Begin creation of a short PowerPoint of the past year's Baptist Men's activities to be shown during the worship service.
- ◇ Confirm with those responsible for all activities you have decided upon.
- ◇ Check progress of all plans and correct anything not progressing as scheduled.

BAPTIST MEN'S DAY SATURDAY ACTIVITIES

Plan a special event for the Saturday before Baptist Men's Day. Some suggestions are listed below. There may be other activities appropriate to your church and community as well.

Conduct a "Handyman Ministry Day" dedicated to helping those who may not be physically able to do simple household chores. This can be for church members, and/or as an outreach to the community.

Conduct an Outdoor Ministry event (sneet, archery, etc.) and/or wild game supper, incorporated with a men's worship rally Saturday night.

Plan a Men's Golf tournament or other outing that unchurched men could be invited to.

Plan a showing of John Ortberg's "The Me I Want to Be" DVD (session 1—available online) for the night before Baptist Men's Day. Plan a meal and be sure to invite unchurched men. Incorporate worshipful singing, small group discussion, and a prayer time. Use this as a kick-off to doing the rest of the five session series.

(Visit our website at www.baptistsonmission.org/mensministry or e-mail mabernathy@ncbaptist.org—for more info)

BAPTIST MEN'S DAY SUNDAY GATHERING

If you did not plan Saturday events, a Sunday morning men's gathering would be an excellent way to start your Baptist Men's Day celebration. It allows men to gather for fellowship, a spiritual challenge, and prayer before the activities of the day.

This gathering can serve three purposes: it calls men together to discover what God is doing in their lives and the life of the church; it is a good way to encourage ongoing relationship-building among men; and it can be used as a challenge to begin small groups (prayer or book study) if they do not already exist in your church.

If your church does not currently have a Baptist Men's Ministry, perhaps this would be a good time to discuss beginning one. Call the NCBM Office for starter information.

Some churches ask the church hostess to prepare a breakfast for this. In others, men prepare the food themselves or meet in a local restaurant.

Suggested Schedule:

- ◇ **25 minutes:** Breakfast and fellowship.
- ◇ **3 minutes:** Welcome & opening prayer.
- ◇ **5 minutes:** Promote opportunities for your men, including: Disaster Relief Training, Local, State, National, or International Mission Projects. Go to our website for ideas.

Also Promote:

Special Baptist Men's Day Offering. Consider taking up a special offering to help in one of several on-going ministry needs. To learn more, go to www.baptistsonmission.org. Click on "Giving/Least of These" to see a list of possibilities. You can give online or make checks payable to NCBM, PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512. Put the name of the particular ministry you wish to give to in the memo of the check.

NC Missions Conference. Plan to attend the NC Baptist Missions Conference, which will be held March 17-18 2016 at Calvary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem Call the NCBM office at 919-459-5596 or visit our website at www.baptistsonmission.org information.

- ◇ **10 minutes:** Explanation and highlight of the Men's Ministries program in your church or a challenge to begin one. Go to the website at www.baptistsonmission.org to view information about how to have a well-rounded ministry to men in your church on a consistent basis. Cast a vision for your men of how this might look in your church. Download any number of Men's Ministry handouts, including the manual "Men's Ministries: A Resource for Starting and Strengthening Men's Ministries In Your Church" or show a Men's Ministry Power-Point presentation. [Click on Church Programs/Men's Ministry and go to the Events and Resources page]
- ◇ **5 minutes:** Show a NCBM video segment. NCBM has a YouTube channel. Mission video segments can be found on this channel, depicting a variety of mission opportunities—such as Disaster Relief, International and National Missions, Mission Camps, Handyman, and much more. Go to our website at www.baptistsonmission.org. Click on the YouTube icon at the top of the page. You can stream the video from the site, or call the Baptist Men's office to see about receiving one of these videos on DVD (according to availability): 1-800-395-5102, x 5596.
- ◇ **7 minutes:** Singing of praise choruses

10 minutes: Scripture & Theme Interpretation

Theme: Reconciled
Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:18

The very thought of reconciliation brings a sense of hope and joy. We hear so much about couples who have split or divorced—or a parent who has become estranged from a son or daughter. These broken relationships damage lives and are not easily mended. Pride or hurt feelings often prevent any foreseeable path to healing. So when we do hear of couples coming back together and working things out—or a parent and child forgiving one another after years of not communicating—it brings joy.

All of humanity suffers a broken relationship with God due to our sin. We are the transgressors, but God chose to be the initiator of restoration of our relationship. He lovingly devised a plan to bring us back to him. The faithful following of commandments was not going to be a workable solution. The offering of sacrifices was not going to be sufficient. Only the sacrifice of Christ on the cross for the remission of our sins, and our acceptance of that incredible gift, can bring about reconciliation with our creator.

Paul tells the Corinthians that not only did God reconcile us to Him, but that He also gave us the “ministry” of reconciliation. We who have benefited from God’s act of love are now Christ’s “Ambassadors”, speaking on His behalf of this incredible gift that is available to all.

We do not have to look far these days to see that our world is divided. Racial, religious, political, and social issues put people sharply at odds with one another. It would be easy for Christ-followers to “bristle up” at the secular world, hiding behind a sense of self-righteousness and waiting for Christ’s return. Instead, we are called to reach out to, and engage this world. But how could we possibly make a difference in such a charged atmosphere? Easy—and here’s the best part—the hard work has already been done. God has already reconciled all of humanity to himself through Christ’s sacrifice. The “catch” is that this reconciliation has to be personally accepted. That is our message, and our calling as Ambassadors.

Recently, when asked about the state of racial tensions in our country, a public figure was heard to say “It’s easy to say we have a race problem, but what we have is a sin problem.” Our issues can be wrapped in race relations, political ideologies, or social agendas, but when it comes down to it, we all have a “sin problem”. Our society seeks respect. We demand equality. We desire peace. But what we need is reconciliation. All other needful things come after that.

10 minutes: Discussion

Ask men to gather in small groups of three to discuss the following questions:

- ◆ What does reconciliation with God mean to you *personally*?
- ◆ What comes to mind when you hear the term “Ambassador”?
- ◆ In a politically, racially, and/or religiously charged atmosphere, how can we best take on the role of “Ambassador for Christ”?
- ◆ What are some ways that we could potentially incorrectly represent Christ? What might be the unintended results?

10 minutes: Prayer time in small groups.

Divide men into groups of three. Ask each man to share two things: 1) a prayer request on behalf of someone else, and 2) a specific prayer request for himself. Once these are shared the group should go immediately into prayer. The leader should then close the session with prayer at around the nine-minute mark.

BAPTIST MEN’S DAY SERVICES

Baptist Men’s Day is an opportunity to highlight the contributions of the laymen of the church. Make this a special day for them. By doing so, the family is strengthened. There is great need in our society for strong Christian male role models. Recognizing the contributions of the men of the church, make those role models visible.

Work with your pastor to plan the service. Recognize one or two outstanding members of the Baptist Men. Present them with a certificate of appreciation. (Sample certificates are available from NCBM—mabernathy@ncbaptist.org)

Enlist men to hand out bulletins, take up the offering, and sing in a men’s choir. You may also want to enlist men to read Scripture, give a short testimony, or share a meaningful song.

Also consider building the service around men sharing personal testimonies of how God is working in their lives. Give at least two men five minutes each to share. Include participants of local, national and/or international mission projects, as well as individuals who have become active in men’s small groups or other spiritual development activities for men.

You might also consider allowing a time to let the men report on their activities from their Mission Action Team, small group, or prayer team during the past year. Ask the pastor to sum up these activities and to bring a challenge for the future.

2017 CALENDAR DATES—NC BAPTIST

January 2017

- 20-22 Student Summer Ministries Interviews, Caraway
- 22 Baptist Men's Day in the Churches
- 27-28 Baptist Men's Board Meeting, Asheboro
- 28 NCBM Annual Business Meeting, Asheboro

February 2017

- 6 Region 2 Missions Rally, New Bern First
- 6 Region 6 Missions Rally, Hopewell BC, Monroe
- 7 Region 3 Missions Rally, Scotts Hill BC, Wilmington
- 7 Region 4 Missions Rally, SEBTS, Wake Forest
- 7 Region 9 Missions Rally, Waynesville First
- 13 Region 8 Missions Rally, South River BC, Statesville
- 13 Region 10 Missions Rally, Robbinsville First
- 13 Region 1 Missions Rally, Cale Cf Center, Hertford
- 16 Region 5 Missions Rally, Cross Road BC, Asheboro
- 16 Region 7 Missions Rally, Union Grove BC, Lenoir
- 24-25 Region 1 Disaster Relief Training, Chowan County

March 2017

- 17-18 Baptist Missions Conference, Winston-Salem
- 18 Student Missions Conference, Winston-Salem
- 31-Apr 1 Region 3 Disaster Relief Training, TBD

April 2017

- 1 RA Car Racer Day, Salisbury First Baptist
- 7-9 International Student /Scholar Conference, Caswell
- 21-22 Region 5 Disaster Relief Training, TBD
- TBD Spring Father/Son (1-6 grade), Caraway

May 2017

- 5-6 Region 7 Disaster Relief Training, Surry County
- 6 NCBM Golf Tournament, Oak Hollow, High Point
- 19-20 Region 9 Disaster Relief Training, Buncombe County
- 19-20 Men's Outdoor Weekend, Caraway
- 19-21 Deep Impact **KIDS** Weekend (Grades 1-5 & Leaders)

June 2017

- 11-14 Deep Impact Mini Week, Red Springs
- 15-18 Deep Impact Mini Week Shelby
- 16-17 Caraway Summer Father/Son Camp #1
- 17-24 Deep Impact Honduras
- 19-24 Deep Impact Boone
- 25-July 1 Deep Impact Week Philadelphia, PA
- 26-30 Caraway Summer Camp for boys - Week 1
- 26-July 1 Deep Impact Stokes/Forsyth

July 2017

- 2-8 Deep Impact Caswell
- 3-4 Father/Daughter Camp, Caraway Conference Center

July 2017 (continued)

- 3-8 World Missions Week, Caswell
- 5-6 Mother/Son Camp, Caraway Conference Center
- 8-15 Deep Impact Week Bahamas
- 10-14 Caraway Summer Camp for boys – Week 2
- 10-14 Deep Impact KIDS (Grades 4-5), Shelby Mission Camp
- 10-15 Deep Impact Rockingham
- 17-21 Deep Impact KIDS (Grades 4-5), Red Springs Msn Cp
- 17-22 Deep Impact Week Shelby
- 17-21 Caraway for Children Camp (Coed) #1
- 24-28 Caraway for Children Camp (Coed) #2
- 24-29 Deep Impact Week Beulaville
- 31-Aug 4 Caraway for Children Camp (Coed) #3
- 31-Aug 5 Deep Impact Week Red Springs

August 2017

- 7-11 Caraway for Children Camp (Coed) #4
- 14 Region 2, 8, & 10 Missions Rally
- 15 Region 1, 4, 6, & 9 Missions Rally
- 17 Region 3, 5 & 7 Missions Rally
- 19 Men's Ministry/Challenger/Royal Ambassador Leadership Training - West
- 25-26 NCBM Board of Directors Meeting, Asheboro
- 26 NCBM Advisory Council & Board, Asheboro

September 2017

- 1-30 NC Missions Offering Month
- 8-10 Deep Impact KIDS Weekend, (Grades 1-5) Shelby Mission Camp
- 16 Men's Ministry/Challenger/Royal Ambassador Leadership Training - East

October 2017

- 6-7 Men's Work & Worship Weekend, Shelby Mission Camp
- TBD Fall Father/Son Camp (Grades 1-5 & Leaders), Caraway
- TBD RA Camporee

November 2017

- TBD Church ACC/RA Day @ WFU
- 9 Region 1 Men's Ministry Worship Rally
- 13 Region 3 Men's Ministry Worship Rally
- 16 Region 5 Men's Ministry Worship Rally
- 20 Region 7 Men's Ministry Worship Rally
- 27 Region 9 Men's Ministry Worship Rally

December 2017

- 31 Applications Deadline for 2018 Student Sumer Ministries