

OUTDOOR MINISTRY

NC Baptist Men

Some may ask “What is an Outdoor Ministry and why do we need one?” Well, perhaps you know men in your community who hunt or fish every weekend but have never accepted your invitation to come to church? If they won’t come to us, maybe we need to go to them. How do we do that? One way is by providing something that will interest them. Or what about the man who comes to church on Sunday but never gets involved in any activities? It could be that no one has ever asked him, or it could be that you’re not doing anything that he’s really interested in. If those men are outdoorsmen, you’ve got a great opportunity to reach them through outdoor ministry. Remember, Jesus didn’t wait for the sinners to come to Him; He went to where they were. Why should we do any different?

What is an Outdoor Ministry? Many times the answer I get from that question is that “an outdoor ministry is the wild game supper our church holds every year”. A wild game supper is a good start, but there is much more. What you do with outdoor ministry is only limited by your imagination. Certainly a Wild Game Supper is a good outreach tool, and I do really enjoy them, but don’t let that be all you do. There are other events that can be organized, without a great deal of cost, that may interest not only the men in your church but possibly the unchurched outdoorsman in your community as well. What type of events am I referring to? How about:

- Men’s fishing trips to the coast
- Men’s freshwater fishing trips or tournaments
- Hunter safety programs to get both young men and their dads involved
- Turkey shoots
- Programs with speakers who are experts in a given area of hunting or fishing
- Skeet shoots, archery, and other shooting competitions
- A clinic to sight in your rifle before the season.



And don’t forget, it doesn’t have to be only events. There are many outdoor-based Bible Studies that your men can participate in as well.

How can the NC Baptist Men help? The members of NCBM’s Outdoor Ministry committee will be glad to speak at your church about an on-going outdoor ministry. We will work with the men in your church to organize an active, vibrant Outdoor Ministry. We can steer you to resources that will be helpful, as well as give pointers on how to organize your group. If you need a speaker for your upcoming event, we can offer suggestions based on your needs and budget.

God bless you as you pray about and plan how to reach men through outdoor ministry! We’ll be glad to help!

*Lew Weatherspoon
Chairman, NCBM Outdoor Ministry Committee*

For more information, contact Mark Abernathy at the NC Baptist Men’s Office at 1-800-395-5102 x 5607 or by e-mail at mabernathy@ncbaptist.org. Check out our webpage at www.ncmissions.org.
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