

*Men's Ministries in the Local Church*

# Men's Ministries



Resources to Help Start a Men's Ministry in Your Church



# Men's Ministries

North Carolina Baptist Men • Baptist State Convention of NC

## **NCBM Mission Statement**

The goal of NC Baptist Men is to help North Carolina Baptist churches and associations involve their members (especially men and boys) in missions and ministry.

The objectives for accomplishing this goal are to:

- Enable and equip men and boys to be personally involved in mission activities.
- Encourage men and boys to identify and develop their personal ministries.
- Educate men and boys concerning mission opportunities.
- Teach men and boys the importance of praying for and giving to missions.
- Lead men and boys in developing in all areas and aspects of their lives to become mature, active and involved Christians.

The missions and ministries of North Carolina Baptist Men are made possible by your contributions to the North Carolina Missions Offering (NCMO). Thank you!

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# An Introduction to

The decade of the '90s witnessed a great spiritual awakening among men in our country. In churches everywhere, men began to feel the call to stand and be counted for Christ. The development of men's ministries, designed to both engage men in spiritual growth and send them forth on missions, reached a new level of prominence. I am confident that the desire to 'be the men God created us to be' will carry on into the coming years, as Christian men face the challenges of a new millennium.

While missions involvement has always been, and will continue to be the forte of North Carolina Baptist Men, we also realize the need for a well-rounded approach that helps churches provide meaningful involvement for men in spiritual development, outreach and evangelism, as well as missions. This holistic approach provides different entry points that may reach men who otherwise would not be involved. Our desire at North Carolina Baptist Men is to see the men of our churches take up the challenge of living a Christ-filled life in every area—home, work and church.

Since beginning our emphasis on assisting churches in fostering well-rounded, vibrant Men's Ministries, many exciting things have transpired. We are seeing more men, and younger men becoming involved in Baptist Men statewide. If this is something you would like to see happen in your church, you are not alone. The key to realizing this goal may lie in the ability to think "outside the box" of traditional Baptist Men's work. While missions involvement is vital, we have come to see that if you win a man's heart—his hands will follow. A well-rounded approach, providing multiple entry points for diverse interests, may lead to more active involvement by the men in your church. Spiritual development, evangelistic outreach and missions involvement are three main areas of focus.

This manual is designed to be a starting point in developing a well-rounded ministry to the men of your church. Much of its content is adapted from and/or inspired by Sid Woodruff's comprehensive manual "Drawing Men to God" (LifeWay Christian Resources). This and other resources are highlighted in the resource section.

Our prayer is that God will provide the vision and passion necessary in order to see every man in our churches become alive with the desire to grow and serve in Christ's spirit.

**Mark Abernathy**  
**Men's Ministry Consultant**  
**North Carolina Baptist Men**  
**Baptist State Convention of NC**



## The Positive Impact of Fathers:

- When Mom and Dad both attend church...  
72 percent of their children remain faithful later in life.
- When only Mom attends church...  
15 percent of their children remain faithful later in life.
- When only Dad attends church...  
55 percent of their children remain faithful later in life.
- When neither parent attends church regularly...  
6 percent of their children remain faithful later in life.

Robert and Debra Bruce, *Becoming Spiritual Soulmates with Your child* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1996), 52.

# Men's Ministries

## ● EFFECTIVE MEN'S MINISTRY: Challenges and Successes

When consulting with local church Baptist Men's leaders, I like to ask three questions:

1. What do you hope to accomplish through Men's Ministry in your church
2. What do you see as the barriers or challenges to having a successful Men's Ministry in your church?
3. What do you think are the key elements to having a successful Men's Ministry in your church? Here's what I often hear.

### What do you hope to accomplish through Men's Ministry in your church?

I inevitably receive one universal answer for this one, "I would like to see more men involved." How many of us have men in our churches who attend worship, but have no involvement with the Baptist Men? How many of us have women who attend our churches but whose husbands do not? The answer is—all of us. Other leaders tell me they would like to see men more involved in missions. Still others say they would like to see men grow spiritually and for the ministry to have a life-changing effect on their lives. Your answers are probably similar to these.



### What do you see as the barriers or challenges to having a successful Men's Ministry?

A qualifying question may be: "What reasons do men give for not being involved?" What I hear is that the men of our churches are saying, "I don't have time." "I need to spend more time with my family" and "I just have too much on my plate right now to be involved." Sound familiar? To some extent, all of these may be true. I think we need to distinguish between two things: 1) what we hear them saying, and 2) what they are trying to tell us. I think what most of us tend to hear from this is that these men's priorities are out of order. The truth is, for the most part, we do control our time. If something is important enough to us, we will fit it into our schedule. Aha! So what are they actually saying to us? My suggestion is that men may be saying, "My time is important to me; and if you want my involvement, you must be one thing—relevant." Being relevant in our ministry means meeting men's needs. Men want their time and their lives to be productive. They want to be challenged. The days of having a meeting for meeting's sake are largely over. Busy men are not likely to come to a Saturday morning breakfast that involves "chewing the fat, a little bit of planning, and then going home" just because it's the fourth Saturday of the month. They may, however, come if a well-planned and thought-out missions project will take place afterward. They may come to a Thursday night supper meeting that involves worship and a message (video or live speaker) that will challenge them to grow spiritually, or toward being better husbands, fathers, or followers of Christ. They may come to a father/son outing that provides the chance to spend precious quality time together. They may come to a seminar that helps them learn how to share their testimony and/or share the plan of salvation with others. An important thing to always keep in mind is, "What can we do that we are not currently doing that will help equip our men to be stronger in their Christian walk and actively sharing their faith." Think outside the box. The goal is not to "keep men busy." Their lives are busy enough. It is to offer relevant opportunities that will help them realize and fulfill their God-given responsibility.

### What do you think are the key elements to having a successful Men's Ministry in your church?

Most leaders know that the first answer to this is effective leadership. It begins with having a vision for seeing the men of your church become involved in growing spiritually, effectively sharing their faith, and becoming active in missions. It continues with sharing the leadership responsibilities with those who share that vision and who may have the skills, talents and abilities to lead in a specific area of the ministry. Other answers include 'good planning' and 'good promotion.' Regular planning sessions with a leadership team can help make the dream of a successful men's ministry a reality. Work out a system for promoting the variety of worthwhile opportunities your leadership team plans through phone calls, Sunday School announcements, the church bulletin, e-mails and cards. Finally, the most important element to a successful Men's Ministry is prayer. This must be God's ministry from the start.

— **Mark Abernathy**, Consultant for Men's Ministries  
North Carolina Baptist Men

For more information on enhancing Men's Ministry in your church, visit the Men's Ministry webpage at [www.ncmissions.org](http://www.ncmissions.org), or contact NC Baptist Men at 800.395.5102, ext. 335 or [mabernathy@bscnc.org](mailto:mabernathy@bscnc.org).

# An Effective

## WHY HAVE A MEN'S MINISTRY?

### A. Why Have a Men's Ministry?

- Men want their lives to be productive, to have real meaning and purpose
- Men represent a tremendous, greatly untapped resource to assist in changing and influencing our world for Christ
- The needs of our world are great

### B. The Needs of Men Today

- **Understanding.** They want a church that helps them truly understand the Bible. They want a church that seeks to understand them.
- **Meaningful Relationships.** Most men feel lonely, isolated and disconnected. They would appreciate a church that brings them in contact with like-minded peers in a non-threatening setting.
- **Instruction for their kids.** Millions of men want their kids to have positive Christian learning experiences.
- **Solutions to life's challenges.** Men want the church to provide practical, tangible solutions to the difficult problems they face daily. They want to know spiritual principles that make life "work." The church must answer the questions that men are asking.
- **Knowing Christ.** Many unchurched men have given up on organized religion but not on God. They want to know God but don't know how.

### C. Benefits of a Men's Ministry

- Reaches unreached men
- Develops leaders
- Involves men in service
- Helps men grow in christ
- Develops mentors
- Strengthens families

### The Common Goal

For men to help each other discover how we are uniquely called and shaped by God to live out the **Great Commandment (Mark 12: 30-31)** and to fulfill the **Great Commission (Matthew 28: 19-20)** in every aspect of our life - personal, home, church, workplace, community, and the world.

### A Nationwide Survey Shows:

- **Approximately 94 million males are 18 or older**
- **On a typical weekend 26 million men attend church services; 68 million do not**
- **85% of all unchurched men at one point in their lives were churched**
- **Church attendance for men is declining**  
(Source: George Barna)

## 2 HOW TO HAVE AN EFFECTIVE MEN'S MINISTRY

### A. An Effective Men's Ministry Is...

- Christ-centered
- Prayer-driven
- Led by called leaders
- Open to all men (multiple entry points)
- Sustained by genuine relationships
- Balanced (evangelistic outreach, discipleship, ministry, missions)
- Actively supported by the pastor
- Well planned (meetings and events)
- Effectively communicated

### Men Are Strategic!

Why? Because if we can reach the man, the husband, the father, - we can reach the family, the church, the community, the country, and the world for Christ!

### Survey Results Show

If the first person in an unchurched family to attend church is:

A Child	3.5 %
The Mother	17 %
The Father	93 %

"*Promise Keepers at Work*" by Ralston, Horner and Sunde p 111  
(Focus on the Family Publishing)

# Men's Ministry

## B. How To Get Started

- Share your vision
- Assess the needs
- Form a diverse leadership team
- Develop a timeline for beginning a ministry



## 3 STEPS TO HAVING AN EFFECTIVE MEN'S MINISTRY

- Pray
- Partner with God, the pastor and other men
- Propose a written, Biblically-based purpose statement
- Prepare leaders (training)
- Plan a balanced ministry (survey men)
- Provide multiple entry points
- Promote God's victories



## A. Partner With Your Pastor

- Include your pastor
- Inform your pastor
- Intercede for your pastor
- Invite your pastor
- Encourage your pastor



## B. Propose a Purpose Statement

### I. Benefits of a Purpose Statement

- Helps the pastor and entire church body identify how your men's ministry supports the overall ministry of the church
- Ensures that your ministry is purpose-driven rather than event-driven
- Keeps you from taking on more than you can handle
- Helps in making decisions about the ministry



### Sample Purpose Statement

The purpose of Men's Ministry at \_\_\_\_\_ Church is to engage men in deepening their daily walk with Jesus Christ, in effectively sharing their faith with others and in participating in missions both locally and globally.

# Sharing Leadership in

## EFFECTIVE MEN'S MINISTRY: Shared Leadership

A common situation I encounter while doing Baptist Men's training sessions across the state is hearing a leader tell of how his church once had a strong men's program but now is struggling to "get it going again." The root of the problem is almost always leadership. No men's church organization will function in a healthy, growing fashion without a leader who feels called to men's ministry. Does this mean that in order to lead a well-balanced, effective men's ministry—one that sees men come to Christ, grow in their faith, witness to others and serve in missions—he must be a gifted expert in all areas? Certainly not. But it is important that he have two things: 1) the vision to see these things happen, and 2) the willingness to share leadership with those who do have gifts in these areas.

Burnout is a common word among working men today. Unfortunately and far too often, it happens to many of our church leaders. The best way to avoid burnout is to share the load of responsibility. Sharing leadership not only helps avoid burning a leader out, it also has the potential to add diversity and new direction to the men's ministry. If you want to see your men's group grow, you must think about how to involve those not currently active. This may require thinking "outside the box," and offering a new direction.

There is probably a great (and possibly unrealized) need for spiritual growth among the men of your church. Perhaps there might be interest in men's Bible studies or men's small groups—vehicles by which men could build friendships and trust while growing in their faith. But maybe this is not where the skills of the Men's Ministry leader lie. Not to fear! There is bound to be a man in your church who is gifted in teaching and has a heart for seeing just such a ministry begin. Perhaps this is someone who has never been involved in Baptist Men before because he didn't feel like there was a place for him. Share the leadership and give that area of ministry room to grow.

The same thing may be said of evangelistic outreach opportunities. Perhaps men of your church and community would enjoy fellowship, such as a wild game supper, father/son campout, or golf tournament. Maybe your church could reach out to other men by offering seminars in areas that are challenging to men, such as being a more effective father, facing sexual temptation, a Christian perspective on financial management, etc. Again, this may not be the Men's Ministry leader's "bag." If he has a vision to see it happen, it can happen. Share the leadership and give that area of ministry room to grow.

But you say that men are not exactly lining up to take on these leadership roles and ease your burden. If only it were that easy. Most men need to be asked—or even challenged. Here are some suggestions:

1. Pray for God to reveal His vision for the men of the church. Ask God to be working in the hearts of those he would lift up for leadership.
2. With the help of your pastor or other church leaders, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, identify men in your church who may have the gifts needed for a particular area of men's ministry.
3. Pray for those men.
4. Present to each one your vision for men's ministry and ask him to prayerfully consider serving. Do this in a face-to-face, personal setting, not over the phone or as he is leaving church on Sunday morning. Don't ask for an immediate answer but ask him to pray about it.

As men are led to grow spiritually, I am convinced they will desire to use their time and talent in missions. Sharing leadership develops future leaders. Share the leadership and watch your men's ministry grow!

— **Mark Abernathy**, Consultant for Men's Ministries  
North Carolina Baptist Men



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# Men's Ministry

## C. Prepare Leaders

### 1. Qualities of a Leader

- Servant spirit
- Character
- Godliness
- Passion
- Giftedness

### 2. Proposed Men's Ministry Leadership Team

- Men's Ministry team leader
- Pastor-staff representative
- Evangelizing team leader (Outreach)
- Establishing team leader (Spiritual Growth)
- Equipping team leader (Ministry)
- Extending team leader (Missions)

### 3. Recruit Your Leadership Team

- Pray them out
- Develop relationships with them
- Meet one-on-one
- Share a job description
- Ask for a commitment

### 4. Train Your Leaders

- Small groups
- Committee meetings
- Books and courses
- Other resources
- On-the-job training
- Outside seminars and conferences

## D. Plan a Balanced Ministry

- Evangelize men to salvation and church membership
- Establish men to spiritual maturity
- Equip men for ministry
- Extend men on mission



“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.” (Proverbs 27:17)

# A Balanced

## Four Directions in Men's Ministry

### 1. Evangelizing Men to Church Membership

**Objective:** To introduce lost men to Jesus Christ and involve Christian men in sharing their faith.

**Activities:**

- Reach men through recreational events: softball and basketball teams, golf, tennis or fishing tournaments.
- Host seminars and retreats on subjects like finances, time management, marriage and parenting.
- Start a weekly power lunch or annual chili cook-off.
- Offer family-focused, non-threatening activities like a father-son campout or daddy-daughter banquet.
- Provide support-group meetings for divorce recovery or addictive behaviors.
- Offer weekend activities for single fathers and their children.
- Learn how to share your faith by attending a witness training class.
- Present testimonies of Christian athletes via video at a neighborhood bowl game party.

### 2. Establishing Men to Spiritual Maturity

**Objective:** To develop faithful, maturing Christian men.

**Activities:**

- Plan focused men's retreats.
- Provide weekly Bible study and prayer groups for men.
- Create accountability/encouragement groups (four to six men).
- Do book studies in men's small groups.
- Encourage Paul-Timothy mentoring partnerships.

### 3. Equipping Men for Ministry

**Objective:** To help men discover and use their spiritual gifts.

**Activities:**

- Take a course on discovering and using spiritual gifts.
- Lead or assist in a men's ministry group or event.
- Participate in a weekly men's ministry prayer group.
- Work in the church nursery or extended session.
- Do automotive or lawn maintenance for widows.
- Staff a community soup kitchen or clothes closet.
- Provide career counseling for job seekers.
- Be involved in missions education for men and boys.
- Assist with church building and grounds maintenance.

### 4. Extending Men on Mission

**Objective:** To put men on mission with God in their workplaces, communities and world.

**Activities:**

- Conduct an outreach Bible study in a nursing home or workplace.
- Join a Baptist Builders or Habitat for Humanity construction team.
- Implement a disaster-relief ministry.
- Build Christian unity through interracial worship services.
- Offer professional fellowships for doctors, dentists and others.
- Serve with Campers on Mission.
- Explore mission partnership opportunities through North Carolina Baptist Men, the North American Mission Board, or the International Mission Board.

#### 4 Tips

1. Biblically based
2. Interconnected and balanced so that the ministry does not become too one dimensional
3. Sensitive in reaching both church and unchurched
4. Focused on at least one spiritual goal

(Source: Sid Woodruff; Men's Ministry Specialist, LifeWay Christian Resources.)

# Men's Ministry

## BAPTIST MEN'S ORGANIZATIONAL CHART: An Example

The chart below is offered as an example of how your church Baptist Men's Ministry can be organized. Organizational structure should be kept as simple as possible. Note that the emphasis is on developing leadership around ministry, not traditional leadership positions (i.e. president, vice-president, etc.).

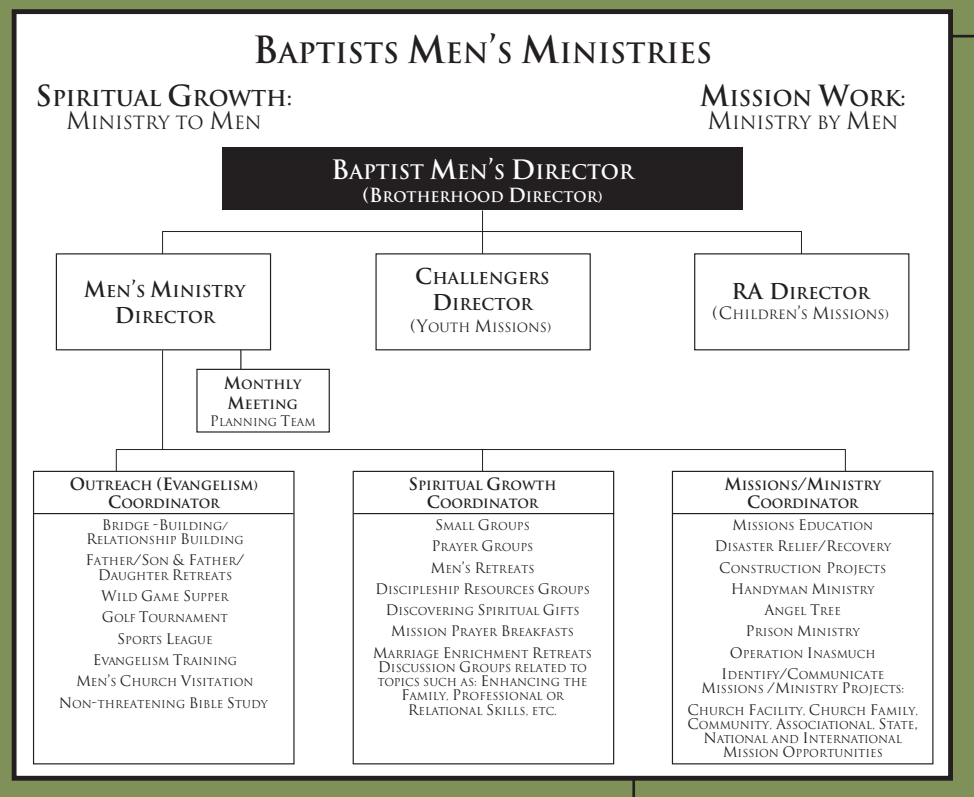
**Baptist Men's Director (Brotherhood Director)** is responsible for overseeing the entire ministry to men and boys in the church, including Men's Ministries, Challengers and Royal Ambassadors. In many cases (but not always), he may also serve as the Men's Ministry director. The Baptist Men's director should represent the entire Baptist Men's program on the Church Council, as well as the church Missions Council. He should work with the pastor and church WMU director in planning, promoting, and carrying out missions opportunities for the church family to be involved in.

**Men's Ministry Director** is responsible for Men's Ministries in the church. Areas of concern include Spiritual Growth, Evangelism/Outreach and Missions/Ministry. Effective Men's Ministry directors will develop a team of leaders to take the lead in these areas. He may feel led to take the lead on one of these ministry areas himself, as well as maintaining an overall coordinator's role.

**Outreach/Evangelism Coordinator** is first and foremost concerned with evangelizing men to salvation and church membership. This may include the following aspects: 1) helping assure that the men's ministry purpose is understood by all participants, 2) equipping men to effectively share their testimony and to be prepared to present the plan of salvation, and 3) coordinating outreach/fellowship events designed to involve inactive men of the church, as well as other men in the community. (Some groups may elect to make this two different leadership positions—Evangelism leader and Outreach leader).

**Spiritual Growth Coordinator** focuses on the desire to see men of the church develop into mature and faithful Christians. Some areas of concern may include the formation of small group ministry among the men, planning and carrying out a men's spiritual retreat and assuring that a spiritual growth emphasis is the focus of monthly/ quarterly men's ministry meetings.

**Missions/Ministry Coordinator** is responsible for involving men in missions and ministry by utilizing their spiritual gifts. He would work to identify mission needs, plan details and promotion and carry out mission activities. He should also help men identify ways that they can use their gifts to serve within the overall ministry of the church (i.e.: Sunday School teacher, discipleship leader, assist in youth ministry, work with the Royal Ambassador group, etc.) (Again, some groups may elect to make this two different leadership positions, one to lead in spiritual gifts identification/church ministry and the other to work primarily with missions involvement.)



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# A Balanced

## 4 PLANNING A BALANCED MEN'S MINISTRY

- **Evangelize men to salvation and church membership**
- **Establish men to spiritual maturity**
- **Equip men for ministry**
- **Extend men on mission**



### A. Evangelize Men to Salvation

#### I. Christian Men Must...

- Accept responsibility for witnessing
- Pray
- Seek the Spirit
- Build witnessing relationships
- Be prepared to:
  - test for receptivity
  - give their testimony
  - share the gospel message
  - lead in a prayer of salvation
  - witness with a partner



#### 2. Ideas for Evangelism/Outreach

- Testimony workshop
- Evangelistic events
  - wild-game dinner
  - golf tournament
  - businessman's breakfast
  - sports event
  - father/child event
  - needs-based seminar
- Evangelistic ministries
  - men's health program or seminar
  - ministry to deer-hunting clubs
- Other ideas
  - chili cook-off
  - father/son campout
  - father/daughter banquet
  - activities for single fathers and their children



### B. Establish Men to Spiritual Maturity

#### I. Some Ways to Establish Men to Spiritual Maturity

- Small groups
- Men's prayer teams
- Mentoring
- Retreats



# Men's Ministry

## 2. Benefits of a Small Group

- Allows men to share on a meaningful level
- Provides a place to function as genuine Christians
- Provides a means to grow men in Christ
- Maintains the momentum of a large event or rally
- Offers accountability

## 3. Disciplines of a Small Group

- Optimum size is four to six men
- Agree on purpose, time, place, frequency
- Commit to regular attendance
- Leadership style: one leader or shared
- Consider balance of content and sharing
- Establish rule of confidentiality
- Encourage total group sharing

## 4. Small Group Leader Qualifications

- Personal commitment to discipling men
- Reliance on the Holy Spirit
- Commitment to grow personally
- Leadership qualities
- Love for others
- Facilitator of discussion

## 5. Other Ways to Establish Men to Spiritual Maturity

- Support groups
- Covenant groups
- Growing disciples weekend
- Spiritual growth retreats
- Bible studies

## 6. Guidelines for Mentoring

- Establish clear expectations and boundaries
- Combine transparent sharing with active listening
- Resist the urge to solve all of the man's problems
- Don't just talk; do something together
- Trust God for the results

**“Continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.”  
(Colossians 2:6-7)**



# Small Groups

## EFFECTIVE MEN'S MINISTRY: Small Group Ministry

More and more, local church Baptist Men leaders are discovering the need to stretch beyond the traditional boundaries of Brotherhood and into areas that will attract non-active men to ministry. One of the keys is to help men grow spiritually. Men want to be challenged. Many want a chance to learn more about their relationship with Christ. Some want to be asked the tough questions that will add accountability to their lives. One way of doing this is to develop small group ministry among the men of your church.

Small group ministry can take on many faces. Some groups focus on prayer. Others do a book study on a subject pertinent to men, such as fatherhood, Christian finances, or sexual integrity. Some do a combination of both. Each small group may be different, but they all hold some things in common. Here are some disciplines of effective small groups:

- Optimum size is no more than four to six men. Any more than this and some men will not feel comfortable opening up. A small number also allows more time for discussion.
- Group members should agree upon purpose of the group, how long each meeting will be (usually one hour), when and where the group will meet.
- Members should commit to the group and to regular attendance and participation in it. Each group meeting builds upon the previous one in terms of trust and meaning.
- Decide upon leadership style. A group of growing Christians should consider a shared leadership role with a different member taking the lead each week. Groups with new Christians may want to consider one person taking the lead until the others are ready for such a task.
- Encourage openness in sharing. What each member has to share is important. Leaders should model this by being open themselves.
- Establish a rule of confidentiality. One of the unique aspects of small groups for men is that most men will share things in this kind of setting that they would never share anywhere else. This will only happen if there is a high level of trust.

One way of beginning small group ministries is to hand pick an initial group that will meet for a determined period of time. Members who are picked should be those who show leadership ability and who have a desire for such a ministry. Use this first group as a training ground for future small group leaders. You may want to use a leadership training tool, such as the study "Jesus on Leadership" (available from LifeWay). Once this initial small group has completed the study, encourage each member to begin their own small group. A variety of different kinds of small groups (book study, prayer, accountability, etc.) may ensue. It would be wise to have someone on your Men's Ministry leadership team be responsible for initiating and encouraging small group ministry.

Small group ministry may not be for every man in your church. Some will not want to participate—and that's okay. But many will be interested, including some that would ordinarily not participate in a Baptist Men's function. See it as another way of growing your Men's Ministry. As men grow spiritually, they will seek ways to serve.

— **Mark Abernathy**, Consultant for Men's Ministries  
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# Men's Ministry

## C. Equip Men for Ministry

### 1. Where to Begin in Equipping Men for Ministry

- Discover each man's unique makeup for ministry
- Use a spiritual gifts discovery instrument
- Match men with ministry
- Equip and encourage men as they serve

### 2. Areas for Involving Men for Ministry

- Teach Sunday School
- Work with the Youth/Royal Ambassadors
- Staff community clothes closet or food pantry
- Provide lawncare for senior adults
- Help with church building and grounds maintenance



**"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Ephesians 2:10)**

## D. Extend Men on Mission

### 1. Ways to Extend Men on Mission

- Handyman ministry
- Habitat for Humanity
- Firewood ministry
- Meals-on-Wheels ministry
- Garden ministry
- Correctional ministry

### 2. Other Ways to Extend Men on Mission

- State-sponsored volunteer mission projects (NC Baptist Men, Local Baptist Associations, Disaster Relief)
- National volunteer mission projects (Office of Partnership Missions—Baptist State Convention of NC, NC Baptist Men, Appalachian Regional Missions, North American Mission Board)
- International volunteer mission projects (Office of Partnership Missions—Baptist State Convention of NC, NC Baptist Men, International Mission Board, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship)



**"As the Father sent me, so send I you." (John 20:21)**



# Monthly Men's

## EFFECTIVE MEN'S MINISTRY: Meaningful Monthly Meetings From "Business Meetings" to Worship Rally



When the term "Brotherhood" or "Baptist Men" is mentioned, many folks automatically think of a Saturday or Sunday morning breakfast meeting in which men "meet, eat, burp and go home!" Unfortunately, this reputation is well deserved in many instances. But this is beginning to change. More and more, local church Baptist Men leaders are discovering the need to stretch beyond the traditional boundaries of Baptist Men into areas that will attract non-active men to the ministry. One of the keys to this is helping men grow spiritually. Men want to be challenged. Many want a chance to learn more about their relationship with Christ.

One area where men's spiritual growth can be enhanced is the monthly men's meeting. Rather than being a time for primarily reporting and planning, many Men's Ministry groups are seeing the monthly meeting as a time for inspiration and growth. Most men are careful with their schedules these days. They are not likely to come to something they feel is not worth their time. Therefore, it is important that a monthly meeting be one thing—"relevant." That is, relevant to a man's needs—spiritual growth, involvement, challenge, fellowship.

Below are a few suggestions that may enhance the effectiveness of your monthly men's meeting. Remember, a goal is not only to enhance those men who attend regularly but also to reach men who have dropped out of fellowship, or who have never been involved before.

- 1. Consider holding your monthly meeting as a weeknight supper meeting.** Many men today will not want to give up a Saturday morning for a meeting. If the intent were to meet, and then go do a mission project on Saturday, most men would rather meet briefly at the church or worksite, and "get on with it." Sunday morning may not be the best time either. Time is limited. There may be a "formal" feeling to meeting on Sunday morning, and some men will need to go back home after the meeting to pick up their family. Consider a Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday evening.
- 2. Find ways to add spiritual dimension to your meetings.** This is what many men hunger for. This is also what will help you grow your Men's Ministry. This will require a transformation for many as to what the purpose of the monthly meeting is. There should be a short time for announcements, planning and reporting, but those items are not the focus of the meeting. Focus on those things that will inspire and incite men to spiritual growth.
  - **Singing.** Believe it or not, men love to sing! You will need to find the type of music your men respond to most favorably. Many groups are finding praise songs and choruses (with the use of overhead or PowerPoint) effective in setting a worshipful, meaningful tone to the meeting. Consider the use of new Christian worship DVDs.
  - **Teaching.** This can be done with the use of a live speaker or video. Either way, it should be geared specifically to issues men face (how to be a better father, marital relationships, money management, sexual temptation, spiritual growth, etc.). Your pastor, visiting pastor, or speaker could be enlisted. A live speaker allows for interaction. There are also many good video series that are specifically for men. "The Man God Uses" by Henry Blackaby, "The Seven Seasons of a Man's Life" by Patrick Morely, "Men Leading the Change" by Steve Farrar, and "Wild at Heart" by John Eldredge are good ones. There are others (see resource section). This should be a time for challenging men and causing them to look at their own life and their walk with Christ.
  - **Discussion.** Once the teaching time is complete, organize the men into groups of three. Give them a sheet with three or four questions related to the teaching they have just heard, and ask them to discuss. This sharing will reinforce the teaching lesson. It is also a good introduction to the "small group" concept.
  - **Prayer.** Ask for specific prayer requests in the large group setting. Then ask men to pray in their small groups for these requests, as well as others they may share among themselves. Encourage targeted prayer for spiritual healing and awakening, not just physical healing.

— **Mark Abernathy**, Consultant for Men's Ministries North Carolina Baptist Men

For more information on enhancing Men's Ministry in your church, visit the Men's Ministry webpage at [www.ncmissions.org](http://www.ncmissions.org), or contact NC Baptist Men at 800-395-5102 ext. 335 or [mabernathy@bscnc.org](mailto:mabernathy@bscnc.org).



# Ministry Meetings

## 5 Monthly Men's Meeting Sampler

### Designed for a Two-Hour Meeting

Welcome & Prayer

Meal (25 min)

Promotion of upcoming missions and ministry opportunities (5 min)

Reports from Small Groups and/or Ministry Groups (10 min)

Music/Singing (10 min)

Spiritual Challenge (20 min)

Bible Teaching or other Spiritual Development  
(see resources)

— or —

Missions Speaker or Mandate Video/Owner's Manual  
(see resources)

Small group (3-4) discussion on speaker (with questions) (15 min)

Music/Singing (10 min)

Testimony (10 min)

Sharing of prayer requests (5 min)

Small group prayer time (10 min)

Dismiss

Total: 2 hours (including meal)

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday  
or Thursday Night

6:30 – 8:30



### Monthly or Quarterly?

Most Baptist Men's groups choose to meet on a monthly basis. For the most part, this is desirable, since it gives continuity to the ministry. However, if you are making the transition from "business meeting" to a true men's worship rally, you may want to consider starting out with quarterly men's ministry rallies on a weeknight. Better to do it very well four times a year than struggle to provide a quality worship rally every month. Then, as your leadership and ministry grows, and as men grow accustomed to the worship rally setting, consider moving to a monthly format.

To be most effective, quarterly meetings are advisable only if there is some other consistent men's activity on a regular basis (i.e. – an established monthly Saturday morning breakfast/workday; men's small groups that meet weekly; regularly planned mission opportunities etc.) The men's meeting then serves as the "hub" of your Baptist Men's ministry, pulling together men who may be involved in various and differing activities.

For more information on enhancing Men's Ministry in your church, visit the Men's Ministry webpage at [www.ncmissions.org](http://www.ncmissions.org), or contact NC Baptist Men at 800.395.5102, ext. 335 or [mabernathy@bscnc.org](mailto:mabernathy@bscnc.org).

## Men's Ministries Church Survey Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Age group:	<20	20-34	35-49	50-64	65>
Best Time for Meetings:	<b>Saturday morning:</b> early late			<b>Sunday:</b> morning afternoon evening	
	<b>Weeknight:</b> Mon Tues Wed			Thurs Fri	

For the Lord's work by our church, I have the following: (Check appropriate column)

	Interests		Some Experience	Highly Skilled	
1		Automotive maintenance and repair			1
2		Aviation			2
3		Business			3
4		Carpentry			4
5		Computers			5
6		Concrete and masonry			6
7		Cooking			7
8		Counseling others			8
9		Crisis management			9
10		Deaf and non-English language skills			10
11		Disaster relief			11
12		Education			12
13		Electrician			13
14		Elder care			14
15		Fair ministry			15
16		Family relationships			16
17		Financial Matters			17
18		Gardening and yard work			18
19		Ham radio			19
20		Heavy equipment operator			20
21		Helping the poor and homeless			21
22		HVAC			22
23		Improving prayer life			23
24		Medical services			24
25		Men's small group fellowship			25
26		Mentoring younger men			26
27		Migrant ministry			27
28		Ministry for alcoholism and other addictions			28
29		Ministry to mentally/physically handicapped			29
30		Music ministry			30
31		Office skills			31
32		Photography			32
33		Plumbing			33
34		Prison Ministries			34
35		Promoting cross-racial Christian friendships			35
36		Racetrack ministry			36
37		Sheetrock installation			37
38		Small repairs around the home			38
39		Supporting domestic and foreign missionaries			39
40		Tax preparation			40
41		Teaching Bible Studies			41
42		Truckers ministry			42
43		Witnessing and Revival			43
44		Working with Royal Ambassadors			44

## Baptist Men – Interest Survey

### You:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Age group: \_\_\_\_\_ 18-25 \_\_\_\_\_ 26-35 \_\_\_\_\_ 36-45 \_\_\_\_\_ 45-55 \_\_\_\_\_ 56-65 \_\_\_\_\_ 66+

How long have you been a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_ years or \_\_\_\_\_ Have not yet made a profession of faith.

### Your Family:

Family Status: \_\_\_\_\_ Single \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Widower

Children? Names & Ages \_\_\_\_\_

If married, how long? \_\_\_\_\_ 1-5 yrs \_\_\_\_\_ 6-10 yrs \_\_\_\_\_ 11-15 yrs \_\_\_\_\_ 16-20 yrs

\_\_\_\_\_ 21-25 yrs \_\_\_\_\_ 26-35 yrs \_\_\_\_\_ 35+yrs

### Your Interests:

1. What are your interests, hobbies, sports, etc.? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What kind of Men's Ministry activities would be of interest to you personally?

\_\_\_\_\_ Men's Rallies \_\_\_\_\_ Men's Small Group (groups of 4-5 who meet for prayer or study)

\_\_\_\_\_ Workdays at Church \_\_\_\_\_ Mission Trip \_\_\_\_\_ Camping Outing \_\_\_\_\_ Fishing Outing

\_\_\_\_\_ Men's Seminar (Topics of Interest) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Sports Activities (What type?) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Other? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What kind of men's issues would you see as helpful to you as possible topics of study in the future?

\_\_\_\_\_ Family Relationships \_\_\_\_\_ Financial matters \_\_\_\_\_ Improving Your Prayer Life

\_\_\_\_\_ Becoming a More Effective Witness \_\_\_\_\_ Men's Health Issues \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

# Men's Ministry Directory

## **Baptist Men's Director**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

## **Spiritual Growth Coordinator**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

## **Outreach/Evangelism Coordinator**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

## **Ministry/Missions Coordinator**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

## \_\_\_\_\_ **Coordinator**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

## \_\_\_\_\_ **Coordinator**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

## Self-evaluation For The Local Church Baptist Men's Group

**A goal of North Carolina Baptist Men is to assist in strengthening Men's Ministry in the local church. One of the most effective ways to see your Baptist Men's group grow is to strike a balance between "Ministry by Men" (men active in service through ministry and missions) and "Ministry to Men" (men growing in their spiritual walk with Christ and building meaningful relationships). The accompanying checklist is offered as a measuring stick for local church Baptist Men's groups. While realizing that each Baptist Men's group is unique in its giftedness and interests – and that the checklist is not exhaustive – we do believe it represents a balanced approach to meeting the needs of the men in your church, as well as involving them in Kingdom service. In it you will find areas that your Baptist Men's group may already be excelling in. You may also discover areas for growth.**

- 1. Our Baptist Men's group is registered with the North Carolina Baptist Men's Office.  
(If not, please call 1-800-395-5102 ext. 341 or e-mail kmorgan@bscnc.org to register.)
- 2. Our Baptist Men's leaders are receiving Baptists on Mission and other materials from NCBM quarterly.



### **Evangelize Men to Salvation and Church Membership**

**Goal: To introduce lost men to Jesus Christ and involve Christian men in sharing their faith.**

- 3. We are reaching men through non-threatening "entry points" such as golf tournament, fishing or camping trips, sports, a wild game supper, or other recreational or interest events.
- 4. We host a seminar(s) on subjects that men struggle with in life, such as finances, time management, marriage, parenting, etc.
- 5. We offer family-focused activities such as a father-son campout or a daddy-daughter banquet that will allow busy men to spend more quality time with their children.
- 6. We prepare men to be effective witnesses by providing testimony workshops and workshops on effectively sharing the plan of salvation.
- 7. We ask a member of our men's group to give a testimony as a regular part of our monthly meeting program – or – present testimonies of Christian athletes (or other) via video.

### **Establish Men to Spiritual Maturity**

**Goal: To develop faithful, maturing Christian men.**

- 8. We have transformed our regular monthly (or quarterly) men's meeting from "business meeting" to "worship rally" by incorporating praise choruses, a time of spiritual teaching (live speaker or video) followed by small group discussion questions, testimony, and small group prayer.
- 9. We have developed small group ministry among our men (groups of 4-5 who meet on a weekly basis). These can be prayer groups, Bible Study groups, book discussion groups, or accountability groups.
- 10. We encourage Paul/Timothy mentoring partnerships among our men.
- 11. We have planned and conducted a focused men's retreat.

### **Equip Men for Ministry**

**Goal: To help men discover and use their spiritual gifts.**

- 12. We lead men in taking a course on discovering and using their spiritual gifts.
- 13. We challenge each man to find his place in service to our church – teaching Sunday School, working with the youth, leading Royal Ambassadors, ushering, service on committee/team, nursery, etc.
- 14. We lead our men's group in regular in-reach ministry – lawn maintenance, home repair, handyman ministry, storm cleanup, automobile maintenance, etc. – for shut-ins, widows, or others who are members of our church.
- 15. We assist with church building and grounds maintenance.

### **Extend Men on Mission**

**Goal: To put men on mission with God in their workplace, community, and world.**

- 16. We show Mandate video (available from the Baptist State Convention 1-800-395-5102 ext 160) as a regular part of our monthly men's meetings. (Mandate highlights missions that are being done in NC or by North Carolina Baptists.)
- 17. We lead our men's group in taking part in a missions project or trip on a regular basis. (At least 2-3 times per year). This could include activities such as these:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Disaster Relief and Recovery
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Baptist Builders (Grifton, Hopebuilders, other construction ministries)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Local/community mission opportunity: \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Mission trip to another state: \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Mission trip to another country: \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 18. We encourage men in individual missions involvement in an area they specialize in, such as agricultural, medical/dental, aviation missions, etc.

## Self-evaluation For The Local Church Baptist Men's Group (con't)

The following are areas in which we are excelling as a local church Baptist Men's group:

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The following are areas of growth for us in developing a more well-balanced ministry with our men:

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### Goal Planning

Baptist Men's leaders should set goals for the coming year at their first meeting. These can be discussed and modified at a later meeting in order to reflect a current strategy for ministry.

**Sample:**

Goal: Start three new small group cells for men.  
Activity: Identify three small group leaders and promote opportunity for those who wish to be involved.  
Assigned To: Spiritual Growth Leader.  
Complete By: December 2005

Goal: Plan and carry out church wide father/child event.  
Activity: Plan, promote, and conduct a church-wide man/boy fishing tournament.  
Assigned To: Outreach/Evangelism Leader.  
Complete By: May 2005

Goal: \_\_\_\_\_  
Activity: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Assigned To: \_\_\_\_\_  
Complete By: \_\_\_\_\_

Goal: \_\_\_\_\_  
Activity: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Assigned To: \_\_\_\_\_  
Complete By: \_\_\_\_\_

Goal: \_\_\_\_\_  
Activity: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Assigned To: \_\_\_\_\_  
Complete By: \_\_\_\_\_

