

Baptist Men's Day



Baptists on Mission

JANUARY 26, 2025

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 91st observance of Baptist Men's Day this year falls on January 26. But if January 26 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 any other men as deemed necessary.
- ◇ 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 the church calendar.
 - Determine what you hope to accomplish.
 - Plan activities related to these goals.
 - Determine responsibility for each activity.
 - 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 "Programs/Men's Ministry/ Baptist Men's Day".

"Living Sent"

Luke 9: 57-62

- ◇ 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 an uplifting message to men or to suggest a guest speaker to do so.
- ◇ Plan a recognition time during the morning 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, during the worship service, a testimony of how they have experienced God at work in their life.

One Month Before...

- ◇ Place announcements of BMD activities in the church bulletin and newsletter.
- ◇ Have a display of Men's Ministries materials and photos 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 EVENTS

Plan a special event for the Saturday before Baptist Men's Day. Some suggestions are listed below. You may think of others.

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** (skeet, 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. Any proceeds to go to missions.

Plan a showing of the opening session of **John Eldredge's Get Your Life Back** series. Leader's packet is available at Christianbook.com. Plan a meal, and invite unchurched men. Incorporate worshipful singing, small group discussion (guide available) and a prayer time. Use this as a kick-off to doing the rest of the series over the next few weeks or months.

BAPTIST MEN'S DAY SUNDAY GATHERING

If you did not plan Saturday events, a Sunday morning men's breakfast gathering may 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 ministry to men, perhaps this would be a good time to discuss starting one. Call the Baptist on Mission Office for starter information. 919-459-5607.

Some churches ask the church hostess to prepare a breakfast for this gathering. 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.
- ◇ **10 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 "Donate" to see a list and description of possibilities. You can give online or make checks payable to Baptists on Mission, PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512. Put the name of the particular ministry you wish to give to in the memo line.

NC Missions Conference. Plan to attend the NC Baptist Missions Conference, which will be held March 14-15, 2025 at Calvary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem. Call the Baptists on Mission office at 919-459-5596, or go online to register at www.baptistsonmission.org.

Men's Outdoor Weekend. Plan join us for an inspiring weekend of outdoor fun and fellowship for men on May 2-3 2025 at Camp Caraway in Asheboro. Skeet, rifles, pistol shoot, tomahawk throw, archery, fishing, and more!

- ◇ **10 minutes:** Explanation and highlights 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 PowerPoint presentation. [Click on Programs/Men's Ministry and go to the Events and Resources page]
- ◇ **5 minutes:** Show a Baptists on Mission video segment. BOM has a Vimeo channel. Mission videos depicting a variety of mission opportunities—such as Disaster Recovery, International and National Partnerships, Mission Camps, Handyman, and more, can be downloaded and/or shown. Visit www.baptistsonmission.org. Vimeo link is at bottom of the BOM webpage.
- ◇ **7 minutes:** Singing of two praise choruses

10 minutes: Scripture & Theme Interpretation

Theme: Living Sent
Scripture: Luke 9: 57-62

Three men encounter Jesus while he is walking on the road. By this time he was well-known and his actions were reported. For many, he and his disciples were a curiosity. So it is no surprise that people might come up to him desiring to be a part of what he was all about.

We think of Jesus as being inviting to any and all who might want to join. After all, we who work with volunteers in the church are usually eager to put anyone to work in the service of the Kingdom. But in this case, Jesus seems to want these three men to stop and think about what they were asking. Each of them either asked—or were asked by Jesus—to “follow” him. They each got—let’s just say—unusual answers!

To the first man, who initiated, Jesus replied “Foxes have holes and the bird have nests, but the son of man has no place to lay his head”. In other words, “following me is not going to be easy. **You may very well have to give up the comforts that you are accustomed to. Are you ready for that?**”

Jesus asked the second man to follow him, and he agreed that he would. However, he asked that he first be allowed to go and bury his father. I think we would understand that. But Jesus told him, “Let the dead bury their own dead. You go and proclaim the Kingdom of God.” In other words—“**Life will always provide excuses for you to put off following and serving me. I need you now.**”

The third man said to Jesus, “I will follow you, but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.” And we think, good grief, surely Jesus will let this man go tell his loved ones goodbye. But he says, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the Kingdom of God.” In other words, **family is important, but in the scheme of things, nothing is more important than giving your life to me. Once you have decided to follow me, there’s no reason to look back!**

In the following verses Jesus sends out the seventy-two. We do not know if these three men were part of that or not. Its very possible that they were. Or, they may have decided that what Jesus was asking of them was too hard—too much!. If we were there that day, how would we have responded? In reality, Jesus is saying the same three things to each of us today. He wants us to “Live Sent” - and the requirements have not changed!

- Mark Abernathy, *Baptists on Mission*

10 minutes: Discussion

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

- ◆ What kind of “sacrifices “might we expect to make in order to fully serve Christ?
- ◆ What are some common life circumstances we might use as “excuses” for not fully following and serving Christ at different stages in our lives?
- ◆ What are some things that we might get caught “looking back” at in our lives? Things that might distract us from following Christ?

10 minutes: Prayer time in small groups.

Divide into groups of three. Encourage men to pray for clear direction of what God may be leading them to do in their lives. Ask that we be shown what our hindrances may be—reluctance to give up something we enjoy, life circumstances we want to be clear of, things from our past that we can't seem to let go of. The leader will close the session with prayer.

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 BOM—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 an encouraging message for the future.

2025 CALENDAR DATES—NC BAPTISTS ON MISSION



JANUARY

- 24-25 BOM Board of Directors Meeting - Caraway
- 25 BOM Annual Business Meeting - Caraway
- 26 Baptist Men's Day in the Churches

FEBRUARY

- 18 Region 1 Rally - Berea Baptist, Elizabeth City
- 18 Region 4 Rally – Neills Creek Baptist, Angier
- 18 Region 6 Rally – Rockingham, First Baptist
- 20 Region 2 Rally – Forest Hills, Wilson
- 20 Region 5 Rally – Pleasant Garden Baptist, Pleasant Garden
- 20 Region 8 Rally - Florence Baptist, Forest City
- 20 Region 10 Rally – Lighthouse Baptist, Sylva
- 22 DR Training – Rocky Hock Baptist, Edenton
- 24 Region 3 Rally - TBD
- 24 Region 7 Rally – Union Baptist, Hamptonville
- 24 Region 9 Rally - TBD

MARCH

- 8 Construction Skills Training – Red Springs Mission Camp
- 14 - 15 Baptists Missions Conference, Calvary Baptist Church, Winston-Salem
- 22 Construction Skills Training - Charity Mission Camp
- 29 Construction Skills Training - Shelby Mission Camp
- 29 DR Training – Western Prong Baptist, Whiteville

APRIL

- 12 DR Training – First Baptist Church, Clinton
- 26 DR Training – Pleasant Hill Baptist, Elkin

MAY

- 2-3 Men's Outdoor Weekend - Camp Caraway, Asheboro
- 16-19 Deep Impact **KIDS** - Red Springs Mission Camp
- 17 DR Training – Fruitland Baptist Bible College, Hendersonville

JUNE

- 9-12 Deep Impact 1/2 Week – Shelby Mission Camp
- 9-13 Deep Impact KIDS, Hendersonville
- 9-14 Deep Impact – Shelby Mission Camp
- 16-20 Deep Impact KIDS, Shelby Mission Camp
- 16-21 Deep Impact – Hendersonville
- 22-25 Deep Impact KIDS Mini, Shelby Mission Camp
- 23-28 Deep Impact – Greensboro
- 26-29 Deep Impact KIDS Mini, Blowing Rock
- 28-Jul5 Deep Impact – Cuba
- 30-Jul 5 Deep Impact – Lumberton Rebuild Center

JULY

- 7-10 Deep Impact ½ Wk – Red Springs Mission Camp
- 7-10 Deep Impact KIDS Mini, Charity Mission Camp
- 7-12 Deep Impact – Red Springs Mission Camp
- 14-18 Deep Impact KIDS, Red Springs Mission Camp
- 14-19 Deep Impact – Wilmington
- 19-26 Deep Impact – Puerto Rico
- 21-24 Deep Impact ½ Week – Charity Mission Camp
- 21-26 Deep Impact – Charity Mission Camp
- 28-31 Deep Impact ½ Week – Charity Mission Camp
- 28-31 Deep Impact KIDS Mini, Camp Dixie, Fayetteville

AUGUST

- 15-16 BOM Board of Directors Meeting - Caraway
- 17 BOM Advisory Council & Board Mtg - Caraway
- 18 Region 1, 4, 6 Rallies – TBD
- 19 Region 2, 5, 8, 10 Rallies – TBD
- 21 Region 3, 7, 9 Rallies – TBD

SEPTEMBER

- 1-30 *NC Missions Offering Month*
- 13 Construction Skills Training - Red Springs Mission Camp
- 13 Igniting the Hearts of Men Conference, Site TBD
- 19-21 Deep Impact **KIDS** - Charity Mission Center
- 27 Construction Skills Training - Shelby Mission Cp

OCTOBER

- 17-19 Deep Impact – Shelby Mission Camp (Student Fall Retreat)
- 18 Construction Skills Training - Charity Mission Cp

NOVEMBER

- 7 Men's Worship Rally - Region 2
- 7-8 DR Blue Hat Training - Shelby Mission Camp
- 12 Men's Worship Rally - Region 4
- 14 Men's Worship Rally - Region 6
- 19 Men's Worship Rally - Region 8
- 21 Men's Worship Rally - Region 10