

How to plan and organize evangelistic services

1. When you have determined that your church or a network of churches are ready and willing to hold evangelistic meetings, contact me in order to plan target dates for the meetings. Also, as soon as possible an outreach Chairman should be identified (this is usually a mission leader, Bishop, Pastor or christian leader). The Chairman should be a man of influence who has the vision for these meetings.
2. The Chairman together with his co-workers or committee should organize or appoint the following committees or sub groups:
 - A good worship team comprised of members from one or several churches.
 - Someone to seek christians who can give their salvation testimony during the services. The testimonies should be approximately 10 minutes long and must not be extraordinary in nature. They should use Paul's testimony in Acts 26 as a model. (how I thought and lived before I met Christ, how I came to know Christ, and how he has changed my life for the better)
 - A group to create, oversee and implement the Budget and offerings. Those in this committee should have a good reputation for integrity and honesty. This group should include if possible a member from every participating church.
 - Leaders to recruit various sub groups for the evangelistic meetings. For example, youth, women, house churches, christian orphanages, missions, various denominations etc.
 - Counselors for those who respond to the evangelistic messages. Counselors should be born – again christians who are well grounded in the christian faith.
 - Every participating church should be ready with a basic Bible course for new believers and seekers to offer after the meetings. Some may come to salvation during this course. And the new believers will need the foundational teachings.
 - A group to advertise or promote the meetings through mass media: Internet, Radio, posters etc. This of course will be limited according to the budget.
3. This step is by far the most important of all. **The effectiveness of the implementation of this step will determine the effectiveness of the meetings themselves.**

This step was named “operation Andrew”, by the Billy Graham E.A. In operation Andrew, each member of each participating church gets a card where they write down the names of individuals they will be praying for and inviting to the evangelistic meetings.

These cards should be distributed by the Pastor to the congregation 2 to 3 months before the meetings in conjunction with a sermon about reaching the lost. The individuals should then be invited approx. 1 to 2 weeks before the event. Don't forget, without operation Andrew, we will for the most part just be “preaching to the Choir”! The church and individual members should be regularly praying for the evangelistic events.

4. A motivational service should be planned if possible approx. 2 months before the meetings to inspire, motivate and fine tune the preparations already in motion. The first hour of this service should be devoted to motivation and encouragement in anticipation of a harvest of souls. The second hour of the service should be devoted to small groups where the various committees meet to set final goals and plans. The keynote speaker should be the Chairman or evangelist.

If the Lord should lead us in working together in His Harvest fields, then I look forward to working with you.

Shalom, **Greg Piper**