

## **How to Start and Sustain an Evangelistic Culture in Your Church**

- Organize a PUSH team to pray and fast for the growth of the church and change in the culture.
- Bring the need for growth to the attention of the Board of Elders and Church Board for discussion and consideration.
- Implement the recommendations resulting from the discussion and consideration of the Board of Elders and the Church Board.
- Create a vision for the growth of the church and set an achievable goal based upon a projected number of souls.
- Devise strategies and programs that the achievable goals might be accomplished.
- Embark upon a long term, sustained program of motivation of the membership to catch the vision and embrace the strategy so that the goal might be accomplished.
- Initiate the building of the culture on a special evangelistic emphasis Sabbath, in which the vision is cast, goals set and the strategy is explained.
- Invite the entire membership along and with the functioning PUSH team to pray and fast about the vision, goals and strategy for a one week period.
- At the end of that week make a special appeal for members who would like to join the pastor in changing the culture by embracing the vision, the goals and the strategy for evangelism.
- Organize those who respond to the appeal as your core group – the team that will be primarily responsible for building and sustaining the evangelistic culture
- Plans should be laid for the weekly meetings of the team. Officers should be elected and the team trained in the internal motivation of the membership and external outreach to prospects that visit the church.
- Each Sabbath the pastor and members of the team should seek to motivate the membership via information, inspiration, interviews and invitation to join the team to help fulfill the mission.
- The church should be viewed as an evangelistic center and members motivated and trained invite and bring non-believers every Sabbath.
- The church should be transformed into a friendly, welcoming community that prays each Sabbath that the Lord would add unto the church such as should be saved.

- Visitors should be registered each Sabbath and follow-up should take place according to the boxes checked on the registration cards during the week after each visitor has attended the worship service.
- The goal of the follow-up should be to build a relationship, enroll the visitor in a set of Bible lesson studies and upon completion receive their certificate during the worship service.
- Each Sabbath sermon preached from the pulpit should be intentional in the invitation. Preaching for a decision, weekly appeals should be made for persons to come to Christ, for baptism and for persons to join by profession of faith and transfer of membership.
- Members in the pew should be educated to assist preachers in the pulpit during the appeal and should make themselves available to act as ready spiritual guardians to those who join the church.
- Those who join the church should be recognized, interviewed and tribute paid to those who were instrumental in bringing them to the point of decision as inspiration to others to keep on sharing their faith.
- All persons who join the church should be recruited to join the evangelistic team to help sustain the evangelistic culture. Each member of the team should also be challenged to recruit one additional individual.
- As individuals join the church on a Sabbath-by-Sabbath basis there should be a countdown of how members have joined to date and how many are left to reach the goal. A brief prayer of thanksgiving is appropriate.
- Each Sabbath members should bring a list of persons who need salvation. Name should be placed in the prayer box and prayed for around the altar as well as with pray partners during the week.
- Sustaining an evangelistic culture is not something that happens naturally; it happens supernaturally. Two specific Sabbaths of sunset to sunset fasting should be held annually for God's supernatural favor and blessing upon the soul winning culture.
- The goal should be to have at least one baptism every month. Baptisms should be integrated into the worship service and if there are more than six candidates two baptisms per month should be held.
- People always return to mediocrity and things default to mediocrity-never to quality. If there is quality and life and an evangelistic culture in a church it is because of commitment, dedication and effort.