How to Prepare for an effective

Vangelistic Revival

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Introduction

What is a Revival?

<u>Revival</u>: **Re-viv-al**\, Function: noun {From Revive} The state of being revived. Renewed attention or interest in. A religious awakening.¹

The word <u>revival</u> is often defined in a church context in numerous ways: a restored faith in God, being spiritually revived, to thrive after a decline, to sense a fresh awareness of God, the nearness of God in the midst of the people, an awakening, an outpouring of the Holy Spirit, a time of conviction, confession, and restoration, a hunger for the Word of God, a new faith in God, an inspiration to fulfill the Great Commission and many more.

Is there a need for revival in today's world?

Dr. J. Robert White, Executive Director of the Georgia Baptist Convention, says, "I am tired of reading about revivals that occurred over 100 years ago. I want to see hundreds and thousands of people in Georgia come to know Christ because of a revival that sweeps through our Georgia Baptist churches."

God wants to send a revival, and it is desperately needed. Dr. Chuck Kelley, President of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, says, "Just as Nineveh was one Jonah away from a revival, your church or community may be one person away from experiencing God in reviving power." Could you be that one person?

Churches are rediscovering the great tool of reaching the lost and impacting Christians through revival evangelism. A Sunday through Wednesday revival event or a one-day harvest (revival) event is a great way to reach your area for Christ.

The day of local church crusade evangelism is not over. Some of the best revivals and crusades in history are being conducted today. Two factors make the difference in their effectiveness - the preparation we make and the personnel we use. Revival still works for any church willing to pay the price.

Our prayer is that God will use this manual to help your church experience genuine revival and harvest as you prepare for and conduct your revival event. God will send revival when we obey Him! The promise is still true from our Lord: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chron. 7:14, KJV).

Let's pray, plan, and prepare for the greatest move of God that we have ever experienced, for the glory of God!

¹Define.com/revival: www.define.com Internet. Definitions retrieved on August 29, 2007 at 19:19:00 GMT from local copies of the freely distributed DICT client/server software and databases.

A Word for the Pastor

Rev. Billy Graham once stated that a successful evangelistic event is made up of 90 percent preparation and 10 percent proclamation. The key to having a successful revival event is preparation. In other words, without proper preparation there are no prospects to whom to preach. This *Revival Preparation Manual* will assist any size church in conducting an effective evangelistic revival event.

Preparation requires work. Revival planning cannot be done at the last minute. It takes a minimum of six to eight weeks of diligent preparation work before the revival event begins to reach the lost and unchurched. In order to plan effectively and conduct a successful revival, you must start early and plan thoroughly.

The pastor is key to revival preparation. The revival teams suggested in this manual organize, prepare, and involve a maximum number of people. Statistics show that each person involved in preparation plans will add three to five people during the revival.

The suggested plans do involve work, but they will get results. The saying "plan your work and work your plan" is true in revival preparation. Ask God to bless your plans and to direct you through the process. Remember that the Evangelism Ministries office stands ready to assist you. We pray for God to give Georgia Baptists a hunger for true revival and a harvest of souls.

"Without counsel, plans go awry, But in the multitude of counselors they are established." (Prov. 15:22, NKJV).

How to Use This Manual

- 1. Become familiar with its content.
- 2. Follow the plan closely.
- 3. Choose team leaders carefully and pray for them.
- 4. Make this revival event a priority in your church by applying your talent, energy, training, and church finances toward an intensive revival outreach.

Areas to prioritize:

- The Calendar
- The Evangelist
- The Budget
- The Leadership

The Purpose of Revival Events

As you pray and prepare for a revival, be very clear about what you want to accomplish. Communicate your vision of revival to your church. The revival should be very evangelistic in emphasis. Here are a few purposes of a revival event:

- Revival events are a way to reach lost people. Quality special events can attract lost people to hear the gospel. Dr. C.E. Autry is remembered for his phrase revival time is harvest time.
- Revival events refresh active Christians. It is a retreat from the ordinary and allows the church to seek God. Active Christians can make deeper commitments that will forever change the spiritual climate of a church.
- Revival events bring a unity to the church that is often noticed in the community. Real revival brings fellowship, soul-winning, salvations, purity, and joy to the church.
- Revival events are a way to motivate inactive and apathetic church members to make serious commitments concerning stewardship, family life, church attendance, and so on.

First Steps in Planning

Set the date(s) way in advance. Examine your church calendar thoroughly. Compare with school calendars, holidays, denominational events, and any other events that might prohibit people from full participation in the revival event. Also, the weeks before the revival event should not be crowded with activities. Set the revival date(s) accordingly.

Meet with your deacons, elders, and/or other leadership personnel. Be enthusiastic in presenting what God has put on your heart concerning the revival so they will be encouraged to assist in planning, preparation, and the carrying out of the event. Present your proposed date(s), why you chose that date frame, and suggest a speaker. Finalize the date(s); ask them to prioritize the date(s) on their calendars, and to be present at every service.

Meet with your Sunday School leadership and teachers - present the revival date(s) and plans and emphasize the importance of revival. Encourage them to plan ahead to be present at every revival service. Ask them to prioritize the date(s) on their calendar.

Meet with all other church leaders and present the revival plan. Advise them of the date(s) and have them prioritize the date on their calendar.

Review the suggested team listings herein and strive to involve every church member in some capacity in the revival event. Use the "Evangelism Planner CD" from the North American Mission Board to track your team's progress and deadline dates.

Enlist an evangelist and music leader for the event. Choose a preaching evangelist and music evangelist with a proven track record in harvest and revival evangelism. Visit www.cogbe.org for a list of evangelists specifically from Georgia. Contact some of the churches where they have conducted revivals and ask for a reference. Evangelists should be booked at least six months in advance of the revival date, but a year is preferable. Waiting until the last moment to enlist these persons will severely limit your choice of evangelists.

Prayer. Recruit your church leaders to pray for the revival event, the preparations involved, the evangelists, the lost, and for the teams coordinating the event. Prepare as though it all depends on you and pray as though it all depends on God.

"Now this is the confidence we have before Him: whenever we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears whatever we ask, we know that we have what we have asked Him for." (1 John 5:14-15, HCSB)

- · Pray for real revival in your life.
- Pray for real revival in your church.
- · Pray for a harvest of souls.

First Steps in Planning Revival Budget

Suggested guide on budgeting for a revival in your church. Note: This budget reflects that your evangelist will be paid through a love offering.

Travel Expenses for the Revival Team

Evangelist:		
miles x cents per mile	= (Per airfare) =	\$ \$
Musician:		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
miles x cents per mile	= (Per airfare) =	\$ \$
Lodging for the Revival Team:		
\$ (Per night) x (number of nights) x team	=	\$
Meals for the Revival Team:		
\$ (Per day) x (number of days) x number in team	=	\$
Promotion and Publicity:		
Newspaper	=	\$
Radio spots	===	\$
Mailings	=	\$
Printing	=	\$
Other	=	\$
Special Events:		
Youth Pizza Night	=	\$
Children's Event	=	\$
Other	=	\$
Miscellaneous: Fellowship meals, guest personalities, and etc.	=	\$
Projected Budget	=	\$

First Steps in Planning

Revival Guests Team: Evangelist, Musician, and Soloist

Suggestions on hosting revival guests in your church.

- 1. Develop a detailed description of the responsibilities that the Revival Guests Team (RGT) will have during the revival and communicate these responsibilities to the team verbally and in writing. For example: Will the evangelist speak at any other events for you during this revival time frame? Precise details give the RGT adequate time for preparation.
- 2. Determine that revival preparation will be a priority for you and your church for a minimum of six to eight weeks before the revival. If you are not willing to give it priority, perhaps you should reevaluate your reasons for conducting a revival event.
- 3. Decide on lodging for the RGT. It is preferred that the RGT stay in a hotel for privacy, quality study time, and rest. Make sure the hotel provides clean, non-smoking rooms, with adequate beds. It would be desirable to have a refrigerator that your church stocks with some drinks and snacks. Ask the RGT their preferences on snacks, and are there any dietary restrictions.
- 4. Plan meals conservatively. Inquire if the Revival Guest Team prefers eating before services or after. If possible, accommodate those needs.
- 5. Make sure financial arrangements are clearly communicated and understood. What is the church's policy on the RGT selling tapes and books? If an honorarium is budgeted, inform your RGT of the amount when you first schedule them. If the RGT is to receive a love offering, make sure you give your people opportunity to give in every service starting with Sunday morning. If more than one guest is invited, agree before they arrive for the event details regarding the procedure for sharing the love offering.
- 6. Promote the love offering to the church body in a positive manner in the weeks prior to the event and during the event. In each service share some various aspects of the RGT ministry.
- 7. Complete all financial transactions before the team leaves the church. It is basic Christian courtesy to give your evangelist his check in a timely manner.

Revival Preparation Team Leaders

Revival preparation must take priority and be organized. The pastor should delegate some of the responsibilities to church members. Listed below are some suggested revival teams that can assist with the revival promotion and effort. A team may consist of one or two people in smaller churches or several people in larger churches. Choose a reliable, spiritual, and prayerful person from your congregation to lead each team. Provide teams with a written job description of what they are to accomplish.

1. Pastor/General Team Leader
Name:
2. Prayer Ministry Team Leader
Name:
3. Music/ Worship Team Leader
Name: Leader should be the minister of music, and is responsible for enlisting a choir or Praise Team for each revival service. He or she is to serve as the liaison between the church and the music evangelist.
4. Special Events/Attendance Team Leader
Name:
5. Publicity Team Leader
Name:
6. Decision Counseling Team Leader
Name:

7. Ushers/Greeters Team Leader
Name:
Name:
8. Hospitality Team Leader
Name:
Name: Leader has a servant's heart and the ability to organize. Team members assist with travel arrangements and hotel accommodations, place hospitality baskets in rooms, and so on.
9. Outreach/Visitation Team Leader
Name:
Leader is a faithful witness and has a heart for reaching the lost. Team members are responsible for visiting persons who would benefit most from the revival and contacting all church families and prospects before and during the revival event.
10. Parking Team Leader
Name:
Leader has a servant's heart and ability to organize. This leader is responsible for visibility and marking spots for the Revival Guest Team to park, keeping the parking lot clean of trash and debris. If necessary, responsible for having persons patrol during the event to increase safety in the parking lot. Team members are responsible for sharing a friendly smile and a helping hand to guide persons where to park and other duties as assigned.

Note: The team leader from each Preparation Team forms the Revival Preparation Team. The Revival Preparation Team will meet on a regular basis to pray together for revival, to encourage one another, to provide a progress report, and to share any area of concern or need. It is recommended that the Revival Preparation Team meet once a week for the six to eight weeks leading up to the event. Meeting often helps keep the focus on the revival and serves as accountability for all team leaders.

Revival Preparation Teams and Responsibilities

Pastor/General Team Leader

Your Assignment: Provide overall guidance to the revival preparation. Review weekly with your Revival Preparation Team leaders regarding how each team is progressing with their assignments, and encourage them to stay focused on the revival event. Hold all Revival Preparation Team leaders accountable to the tasks in which they are assigned.

Example Countdown Calendar

their report to submit it the next day.)

• Mail prepared letter to church members and prospects.

• Have a time of prayer for the preaching and music evangelists.

Training Day: Eight weeks before the revival event Date:
 Pre-enlist Revival Preparation Team Leaders. (RPTL) Schedule a 30-minute training session with each individual team leader. If possible, conduct this training on a Saturday with 30-minute intervals for training. For example: Begin at 9:00 A.M. with one team leader, and 9:30 A.M. with the next, et cetera. Provide Revival Preparation Team Leaders a copy of the team's responsibilities and countdown calendar. Provide copies of Revival Team Report (see page 31 of this manual). Call and schedule make-up training for any team leader who was absent from training. Establish your Revival Preparation Team
Six weeks before the revival event Date:
 Contact the Revival Guest Team and secure biographical information/pictures and share further revival plans with them. Conduct Revival Preparation Team Leaders meeting and confirm that everyone is clear on his or her assignments. Collect Revival Team Reports and offer help where needed. Emphasize the importance of the revival event. Have a time of prayer for the revival preparations.
Five weeks before the revival event Date:
 Conduct Revival Preparation Team Leaders meeting and secure their progress reports. (Ask those not submitting their report to submit it the next day.) Have a time of prayer with RPTL for church leaders to experience real revival in their lives and in the life of the church. Prepare a letter to church members and prospects inviting them to attend the revival event (see page 35 of this manual).
Four weeks before the revival event Date:
• Conduct Revival Preparation Team Leaders meeting and secure their progress reports. (Ask those not submitting

• Consider preaching a message on the power of prayer and encourage your prayer team and people to pray for revival.

· Assist any preparation team not making progress in its assigned tasks. Be sure that preparation is completed.

Date:
 Conduct Revival Preparation Team Leaders meeting and secure their progress reports. (Ask those not submitting their report to submit it the next day.) Ensure enlistment of childcare workers for each revival service. Ensure all follow-up persons have attended counselor training. Participate in church-wide revival visitation. Pray for a harvest of souls.
Two weeks before the revival event Date:
 Conduct Revival Preparation Team Leaders meeting and secure their progress reports. (Ask those not submitting their report to submit it the next day.) Continue church-wide visitation; in addition, send a handwritten postcard to every church member and prosper encouraging him or her to attend revival services (date, time). Consider preaching a Sunday morning message on the need for the church to experience revival and reach lost people. Pray for God to honor and bless all the preparation work.
One week before the revival event Date:
 Conduct Revival Preparation Team Leaders meeting and secure their progress reports. It is imperative that all RPTL attend this meeting. Ensure all special events and/or all other items are covered. Thank all the team leaders for their diligent work on preparation verbally and also appreciating them in writing preferred and encouraged. Continue church-wide visitation; in addition call every church family and prospect, reminding them that the revival starts the following

- Set the tone for the revival with a positive can-do attitude. Since we have a big God, plan big, pray big, and believe that God will bless in a big way.
- Plan a four or five week preaching series on revival leading up to the event.
- Plan a quality celebration service the Sunday following the revival event with special music and a great message. In addition, conduct baptisms for those who made professions of faith.
- Write personal thank-you notes to your Revival Preparation Team leaders for their dedication and diligent work in preparing for the event. Place a thank-you in the bulletin to the team members for their invaluable assistance and to everyone for their participation in the event. Thank God for His blessings upon the event.

Revival Preparation Teams and Responsibilities

Prayer Team

Your Assignment: Leader to guide the team and church to focus on praying for the revival event as individuals, families, and as a church. Set up a revival prayer room. Enlist Prayer Team Warriors: (1) persons who will be faithful to pray specifically in the weeks prior to the event, (2) persons to pray in 15-30 minute increments before and during each service of the revival event.

Example	Countdown	Calendar
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Six weeks before the revival event Date:
 Meet with your enlisted Prayer Team persons and begin planning accordingly. Enlist several to be Prayer Team leaders to lead prayer meetings (see week four). Speak with pastor about having an allotted prayer time for the revival event in every service leading up to the even
Five weeks before the revival event Date:
• Meet with Prayer Team and compile a guide on "how to pray" for the revival event. Suggested prayer guide specifics: pastor, speaking/music guests, Revival Preparation Team leaders and teams, church members, prospects and so forth.
 Distribute prayer guides to Prayer Team and Sunday School teachers. Determine where/when/time to meet in week four for prayer meetings.
Four weeks before the revival event Date:
 Place revival prayer requests guide in worship bulletins. Conduct prayer meetings: meet in homes; meet for breakfast, lunch, et cetera. Previously enlisted prayer leaders oversee prayer meetings. Send out prayer guide via postcards and e-mails to church members.
Three weeks before the revival event Date:
 Conduct prayer meetings: meet in homes; meet for breakfast, lunch, et cetera. Previously enlisted prayer leaders oversee prayer meetings. Have a prayer testimony during morning or evening worship.

• Ask pastor to call Revival Preparation Team Leaders to altar for a special time of revival prayer.

Two weeks before the revival meeting	
Date:	
• Conduct prayer meetings: meet in homes; meet oversee prayer meetings.	for breakfast, lunch, et cetera. Previously enlisted prayer leaders
Prepare log of commitments. Post list on Reviva	er chain. They will commit to 15 or 30 minutes prayer times. Al Prayer Room door. Distribute schedule to Prayer Team. Plan ble should someone not be able to fulfill their committed time slot.
One week before the revival meeting Date:	
 Have a special time of prayer on Wednesday night Encourage your prayer warriors to come forward 	ht or another night before the revival event. d during every invitation to pray at the altar for revival.
During the week of the revival event	
Date:	

Additional Suggestions

• Make prayer cards/reminders to place on church members' dining table, coffee table, desk, mirror, car, et cetera.

opportunity. Let the Evangelism Team know you are praying, and ask if they have any special prayer requests. Have prayer warriors commit to being at church 30 minutes prior to each revival service to meet and pray.

- Ask deacons, Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) members, Sunday School leadership, et cetera to promote prayer among their realm of influence.
- Make prayer a priority for the revival event. Every work for the Lord should be saturated in prayer. Since we know that the Lord desires for the lost to be saved and His church to live in revival, we should come before His throne boldly. Encourage the church to commit to pray that many souls would be saved during the revival services.
- Conduct prayerwalks/drives through local neighborhoods. Pray over the schools. Ask God to draw all people to Himself as your church proclaims the gospel of Christ during the revival services.
- Obtain the resource: "Walking With God Through Prayer" by Dr. Mark Sterling, Prayer and Spiritual Awakening, Georgia Baptist Convention. (www.gabaptist.org; 1.800.746.4422).

Revival Preparation Teams and Responsibilities

Music/Worship Team

• Finalize all plans.

• Continue revival choir/Praise Team rehearsals.

Example Countdown Calendar

Your Assignment: Leader to work with the guest music evangelist, musicians, and/or vocalists to provide uplifting music that points people to Christ. Work with team members as needed to ensure all tasks are accomplished. You may desire to enlist a revival choir or Praise Team for each service.

Six weeks before the revival event Date:
 Enlist team members and begin planning. Enlist revival vocalists. Contact the guest music evangelist and share revival plans and ask for suggestions.
Five weeks before the revival event Date:
 Enlist revival instrumentalists. Enlist choir members/Praise Teams, if being utilized in the revival. Ask them to participate in each revival service. Contact the guest preacher and secure sermon titles for each service and plan music around sermon message themes.
Four weeks before the revival event Date:
Begin choir/Praise Team rehearsals.Set a choir/Praise Team attendance goal for each service.
Three weeks before the revival event Date:
 Check the sound system and all microphones, ensure all are in proper working order. Contact the guest music evangelist and share your progress. Ask if there are any needs or concerns. Continue revival choir/Praise Team rehearsals.
Two weeks before the revival event Date:
• Send a letter to all revival choir/Praise Team members reminding them of the importance of their attendance and participation in each revival service. Include the revival meeting schedule, when they need to arrive, and so forth. • Continue revival choir/Praise Team rehearsals.
One week before the revival event Date:

How to Prepare for an

Effective Evangelistic Revival

Durin	g the	week	of	the	revival	event
Date:						

- Choir members/Praise Team should be present for rehearsals 30 minutes before the revival service.
- Choir members/Praise Team should set the tone for worship by smiling, exhibiting a good attitude, et cetera.

- Make it a priority to fill the choir area for every service. Suggestion: enlist around 20 percent more for each service than the seating capacity of the choir area.
- Be sensitive to time. The preacher should be in the pulpit no later than 30 minutes after the start of the service. Long services will decrease the following night's attendance.
- Encourage choir members/Praise Team to bring lost friends and relatives to the service with them.
- Remind the choir/Praise Team that they set the atmosphere for a great worship service. Motivate them to smile, be enthusiastic, and pay attention during the worship service.

Revival Preparation Teams and Responsibilities

Special Events/Attendance Team

Your Assignment: Leader to plan and promote a special emphasis for each revival service resulting in high attendance. Team includes a chairperson and a member from each Sunday School class.

Ideas for high attendance emphasis

- 1. **Youth Emphasis:** The purpose is to bring unsaved and inactive youth to the church for fun, fellowship, and to hear a gospel message. If planned properly, this can be a great harvest event. Some suggestions for this emphasis are:
 - Plan an all you can eat Pizza Blast (or other food) one hour before the revival service.
 - Recruit the youth minister or youth workers to form a team to organize this emphasis.
 - Consider having a local athlete or coach share a salvation testimony.
 - Have some games such as skateboarding or a slam dunk competition on a small goal.
 - Publicize by distributing free tickets in area schools, sending out letters, word of mouth, posters, and so forth.
 - The evangelist should present a short gospel message and all decisions should be made public during the revival service.
 - Stress to the youth that they must attend the revival service.
 - Calling this night "Youth Night" may not be wise. This may keep adults away if they think it is only for youth. Simply advertise the pizza blast as a youth emphasis.
- 2. **Children Emphasis:** The purpose is to provide a fun time for the children in grades 1-6. Seek to reach children who are unchurched and build a relationship with their families. Some suggestions for this emphasis are:
 - Plan an all you can eat Pizza Blast (or other food) one hour before the revival service.
 - Recruit children's workers to form a team and organize this emphasis.
 - Have games that appeal to children. You may want to have a puppet ministry.
 - Publicize by distributing free tickets in area schools, sending out letters, word of mouth, posters, and so forth.
 - Have the evangelist present a short gospel message.
 - Have the children sing a song during the worship service. Unchurched parents will often come to hear their children sing in a children's choir/Praise Team.
 - Make a visit in every unchurched child's home after the revival.
- 3. **High Attendance Day Emphasis:** The purpose is to have a large number of unsaved people and inactive church members to be present in Sunday School for the opening service of revival. Some suggestions for this emphasis are:
 - Set a high attendance goal for Sunday School that will challenge your people, but one that is within reach.
 - Setting the tone should be done by the pastor with the help of the Sunday School director.
 - Use a proven method to reach the goal such as "Friend Day" or "Don't Break the Chain."
 - Kick off the revival with a high attendance event. It is a mistake not to have a high attendance event. It will set the tone for the whole event.

- 4. **Pack-a-Pew Emphasis:** The purpose is to fill the church building for one service by enlisted leaders who adopt a pew or pews and are responsible for filling them with people. This is hard work but it has proven to be very effective over the years. Some suggestions for this emphasis are:
 - Designate pew captains from among the leadership. Choose staff members, Sunday School teachers, WMU, deacons, youth, et cetera.
 - Make it a contest and award the winner a (small) prize.
 - Call this Pack-a-Row for Revival in churches without pews.
- 5. **Sunday School Emphasis:** The purpose is to have your average Sunday School attendance during a weeknight revival service. For example: if you average 150 in Sunday School on a normal Sunday, you attempt to have at least 150 in the revival service on this night. Some suggestions for this emphasis are:
 - Each department will sit together and each teacher will sit with his/her class.
 - Pews (or chairs) will be marked to show people where to sit.
 - The Sunday School director should introduce every Sunday School teacher.
 - Sunday School Emphasis Night should be promoted for at least four weeks through the Sunday School before the actual night. Every person enrolled in Sunday School should be contacted.
- 6. **Bring a Friend Night Emphasis:** The purpose is to encourage members to bring unsaved friends to the revival service. Some suggestions are:
 - Encourage your members to invite their friends at least two weeks before the service and then before the service.
 - Offer to pick up your friend(s) and let them ride with you. Many people will come when invited by a friend.
- 7. **Family Night Emphasis:** The purpose is to have entire families attend and sit together. Unsaved relatives are more likely to attend on a Family Night Emphasis than on any other night. Suggestions:
 - You should inform and encourage entire families to sit together on Family Night.
 - Those who are regular church attendees should invite nonchurched family members and friends to this service and encourage them to sit with your family.
 - People attending without families should always be "adopted" for the night by other families so that no one feels left out.
 - The evangelist should consider preaching a message on "The Home" and include a clear gospel presentation.

Example Countdown Calendar

Six weeks before the revival event			
Date:			
• Enlist team members and begin planning.			
3 1 3			
Five weeks before the revival event			
Date:			
	 _	_	 _

- Decide on what specific emphases your team will incorporate for each service to build attendance.
- Set attendance goals for each service.

Four weeks before the revival event Date:
 Decide on what prizes will be given and designate someone to purchase them. Having a quality children and youth emphasis calls for organization, which is the key.
Three weeks before the revival event Date:
 Prepare necessary materials: tickets for pizza blasts and so forth. Enlist committed workers to sign up to assist in the emphasis. Announce high attendance goals and upcoming attendance emphases in all church services and bulletins.
Two weeks before the revival event Date:
 Promote a sense of competition among group leaders to see who will reach their attendance goals. Post and state all attendance goals publicly. Assist all ministry teams with their attendance emphases.
One week before the revival event Date:
 Continue to promote all special emphases with pulpit announcements, flyers, telephone calls, letters, and with personal visits when applicable. Confirm who is responsible for ordering and delivery of pizza, et cetera for youth and children emphases. The person should know how it is to be paid for or charged.
During the week of the revival event Date:
 Encourage youth and children to be present at each revival service. Continue to promote the upcoming event at each service.

- Use commitment cards to enlist people to be present at each service.
- Encourage all Sunday School leaders to announce special emphases in their classes every week for the four weeks leading up to the revival services.
- Present all of the emphases continuously before the church, community, and prospects. It is impossible for this team to over communicate all of the emphases to the church. It is a mistake to conduct a revival event and not have special emphases. You may not always reach your goals, but you will always have persons who would not have come except for the special emphasis.

Revival Preparation Teams and Responsibilities

Publicity Team

Your Assignment: To publicize the revival event and special emphases in the church and cor
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Example	Countdown	Calendar
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Six weeks before the revival event Date:
Enlist team members and begin planning. Request from the pastor a list of all of the special events to be promoted. What is your budget for publicity? Determine what types of publicity your team will use. Brainstorm about the best methods for increasing awarenes of the revival event in the church and community.
Five weeks before the revival event Date:
Request from the pastor biographical information and pictures of the Revival Guest Team. Check with local paper about advertising. Check with local radio and television stations about free interview times and spot announcements.
Four weeks before the revival event Date:
Print quality revival posters and place in the church. Use church bulletins to publicize the revival event. Ask the pastor to send a letter to all the church families promoting the revival event. Ask the evangelist to write a letter and let the church send it to all the church families promoting the revival even
Three weeks before the revival event Date:
Ask church members to place revival yard signs in their front yards. Put revival event ads on a billboard, if funds are available.
Two weeks before the revival event Date:
Secure permission to place posters, revival flyers, and other promotional items, in public places such as schools, businesses, community bulletin boards, grocery markets, and so forth.

- Distribute revival information door-to-door in neighborhoods close to the church.
- Ask the pastor to mail a (second) letter or special invitation to every church member encouraging them to attend.
- Ask the pastor to send a letter or special invitation to all church prospects to attend the revival event.

One week before the revival event
Date:
Place ads in the newspaper the week before and the week of the revival event. Consider sending out a special church newsletter promoting the revival and giving details about all the special events and the Revival Guest Team. Use the church's phone tree - if available - to call all church members on Saturday with a last reminder of the revival event.
During the week of the revival event
Date:
Remind the pastor to promote the special events for the following night.
Verify that radio, television, or newspaper ads are broadcast or published as requested.

- No one can attend a revival event that they did not know was taking place. You may have a limited budget but find other ways to let your church, community, and unsaved prospects know about the revival event.
- You should consider using dramas in worship, pulpit announcements, newsletters, bulletins, and posters to let the church know about the revival event.
- You should consider using yard signs, billboards, door hangers, personal visitation, newspapers, radio, et cetera to let the community know about the revival event.

Revival Preparation Teams and Responsibilities

Decision Counseling Team

Your Assignment: Leader to recruit and train counselors to lead people to Christ and assist with other decisions/counseling during the invitation time.

Example Countdown C	Calendar
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Date:
• Enlist counselors. • Secure a counselor trainer.
Five weeks before the revival event Date:
 Order gospel tracts, counseling guides, pencils, badges, et cetera. Remind the team of the date and time of counselor training.
Three weeks before the revival event Date:
Conduct counselor training.
Two weeks before the revival event Date:
 Pastor or team leader should meet with any counselors who missed training event and go over training and procedures thoroughly.
One week before the revival event Date:
 Remind all counselors to personally bring lost prospects with them to the revival event. Conduct an invitation rehearsal in the church auditorium with all the counselors. Ensure that everyone know what is expected, how to fill out complete decision forms, and answer any last-minute questions. End the rehearsal with a time of prayer, asking God to bless all the preparation and for the lost to be saved.
During the week of the revival event Date:
• All counselors should report 20 minutes before the revival convice for a time of preven

- Request the counselors to print legibly and acquire accurate information when filling out decision cards.
- Have counselors come forward during the invitation and pray at the altar. This will help "break the ice" and says to those who need to make a decision that it is all right to come forward publicly.
- Ask counselors to stay around the front pews of the church after praying at the altar. They can assist people as needed. They should not block the aisles as people come forward to make decisions.
- Set up a room or rooms for counseling. Have gospel tracts, assurance of salvation tracts, baptism tracts, and other relevant information in the counseling area. After the decision is made, there should be ample time for the counselor to bring the person back in for the pastor to present them to the church.
- Follow-up on decisions immediately. Visit the persons within three days. Review Scripture with them about their decision, confirming they have assurance of salvation, et cetera. Discuss the importance of baptism. Tract recommendations and a baptism tract can be obtained from the Evangelism Ministries office of the Georgia Baptist Convention. Coordinate visitation efforts with Outreach Team.
- Offer a new member's class for all new believers. Suggested materials: *Beginning Steps* from the North American Mission Board or *Survival Kit* from LifeWay.
- Connect the new believer with an age-appropriate Sunday School class.
- Provide materials for counseling children and adults. The North American Mission Board provides excellent materials for counseling adults and children, as well as a "Personal Commitment (Counseling) Guide" to assist in dealing with those who respond at the invitation time.

Revival Preparation Teams and Responsibilities

Ushers/Greeters Team

Example Countdown Calendar

Your Assignment: To create a friendly, inviting, and comfortable atmosphere for those who attend the revival event by greeting people, seating people if needed, distributing all revival materials and worship bulletins, and receiving the offerings.

Thamps Countries Countries
Six weeks before the revival event Date:
• Enlist team members and begin planning.
Four weeks before the revival event Date:
 Train all ushers/greeters team members. Go over all the logistics in where to place ushers/greeters, the proper method of receiving offering, et cetera.
Two weeks before the revival event Date:
• Send a letter to all team members reminding them of their responsibilities.
One week before the revival event Date:
 Place all offering envelopes, guest cards, and revival literature in the pews or other designated areas. Meet in the church auditorium and conduct a rehearsal of everyone's duties. End rehearsal with prayer for the revival.
During the week of the revival event

Additional Suggestions

assigned place of service.

- Greet everyone with a warm smile.
- Be prepared to answer questions concerning parking, childcare, rest rooms, telephones, et cetera.

· All team members should be at church at least 30 minutes before each revival service to report to their

- Sit just inside the entrance in case you are needed during the service.
- Wear definitive name tags, allowing guests to know you are an usher/greeter.
- Remember to station some greeters around the parking lot. Tell everyone how glad you are that they have come and that you are there should they require any help. Direct them to the entrance.
- · Have a good balance of male and female greeters. Couples can serve together or separately.

Revival Preparation Teams and Responsibilities

Hospitality Team

Example Countdown Calendar

Your Assignment: Leader guides the team to serve as hosts and make arrangements for the Revival Guest Team. This could include hotel arrangements, meals, transportation assistance, and so forth. You want to make the Revival Guest Team as comfortable as possible since they are serving away from home.

~
Six weeks before the revival event Date:
• Enlist team and begin planning.
Five weeks before the revival event Date:
 Communicate with the Revival Guest Team and inquire about their preferences for accommodations and meals. Inquire if they are on any special diets or have any specific needs. Acquire hotel reservations. Acquire plane transportation if required.
Three weeks before the revival event Date:
 If any meals are to be prepared, enlist church members or cater as needed. It is best not to plan too many large meals. If the Revival Guest Team is flying, secure a car for them. If necessary, arrange transportation from the airport.
One week before the revival event Date:
 Arrange for hospitality baskets to be placed in hotel room(s). Make arrangements with local restaurants for the Revival Guest Team to eat and sign for their meals. Ask if the hotel room comes with a refrigerator. If so, provide some drinks and snacks. Communicate with the team as to what they prefer.
During the week of the revival event

• Communicate with the Revival Guest Team daily and see if they have any needs.

- Keep in mind that vocational evangelists are in different churches every week. Ask them if they would like some recreation time. A church member may want to take the team to play golf or perhaps one of the team members would like the use of a local gym to workout. Make their stay as pleasant and comfortable as possible.
- Write the Revival Guest Team's family and thank them for sharing their loved ones during the revival event.
- Be flexible and allow the Revival Guest Team to set a daily schedule that is best for them. Some team members will need time to rest and prepare for the services. Others will want the morning to study and prepare.

Revival Preparation Teams and Responsibilities

Outreach/Visitation Team

Your Assignment: To visit people who would benefit most from the revival event. This would include all prospects, inactive church members, Sunday School members who are not church members, and so on.

Six weeks before the revival event Date:
 Enlist team members and begin planning. Develop a plan for prospect discovery and determine when and how to carry out visitation. Decide what materials are to be used for visitation. For example: a gospel tract, a church brochure, revival information brochure, doorknob hangers, et cetera.
Five weeks before the revival event Date:
 Consider conducting a witnessing seminar for your team members. Learn to share a tract and/or your testimony through an evangelistic training event. For further information on Evangelism Training call us at 770.936.5232 or 1.800.746.4422 (ext. 232) or check out our Web site: evan.gabaptist.org. Utilize trained persons to visit prospects, inactive church members, and even conduct a CrossOver of nearby neighborhoods. Schedule and plan for visitation the first night after the revival event is concluded. For example, if the event is from Sunday through Wednesday, plan visitation for Thursday night. Plan to visit everyone who made a decision. Coordinate visitation efforts with the Decision Counseling Team.
Three weeks before the revival event Date:
 Obtain prospect list from pastor and/or church office. List should include all recent guests, prospects, inactive Sunday School members, Sunday School members who are not church members, children's parents who do not attend, and so forth. Inform and include youth and children workers in all visitation plans.
Two weeks before the revival event Date:
 Conduct a 30-minute session on how to achieve an effective visitation with a new believer, prospect, or whomever. Role play if time allows. Review with visitation personnel the importance of doing the immediate follow-up visitation. Answer any questions or concerns. Conduct the above session before or after a worship service. End the training session with a prayer for revival.

One week before	the	revival	event
Date:			

- Contact all prospects that have not yet been reached.
- Make a list of prospects for the Outreach Team to visit.
- Visit on Saturday morning before the revival starts. Consider using "Operation Clean Sweep" to visit Sunday School prospects. It is based on Luke 15 and a copy with detailed instructions can be obtained from Evangelism Ministries of the Georgia Baptist Convention.

Durin	g the	week	of	the	revival	event
Date:						

- Phone any prospects that have not yet attended the revival event. Invite them to ride with you, and you'll pick them up. Suggestion: If time allows, treat them to dinner before attending the revival.
- Conduct a revival visitation event the night following the close of the revival. Coordinate visitation efforts with Decision Counseling Team and others as required.

- Recruit youth to visit youth prospects on the Saturday before the revival event starts.
- Encourage Sunday School teachers and other church leaders to visit prospects.
- Seek to survey every home within a few blocks of your church and invite people to the revival event. Keep a record of all prospects for future visits. Provide a handout promoting the revival event(s).
- Visit everyone who made a decision during the revival. Consider providing a light meal for the visitation night personnel. Follow up by encouraging baptisms, Sunday School enrollment and talking to other family members about salvation. Encourage all church leadership to participate. Coordinate all visitation efforts with Decision Counseling Team and others as is required.

Revival Preparation Teams and Responsibilities Parking Team

Your Assignment: To create a friendly, inviting, and safe atmosphere to those attending the revival in need of parking.

Example	Countdown	Calendar
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Six weeks before the revival event Date:
• Enlist team members and begin planning logistics of parking needs.
Four weeks before the revival event Date:
 Meet with your team members to discuss needs and responsibilities. Determine if your church needs to hire a law enforcement officer or other security person to assist with traffic entering and leaving the parking lot. Discuss where the pastor, revival guest team or other designated guests should park and who will install (temporary) signs to ensure these spaces are available. Provide extra handicap parking spaces. Mark spaces with temporary signs if necessary to ensure spaces are available. Assign team members to be at the main entrances advising people where to park and throughout the lot if required. Assign team members to be on patrol to assist after the event in helping people exit the lot, or if they need car assistance. After the event or next morning patrol the lot for trash and debris. Determine if your church lot needs to be patrolled during the event. Assign team members accordingly.
• All team members should work to keep the parking lot clean of trash and debris. All team members are to share a friendly smile and helping hand to guide people where to park and any other duties as needed.
One week before the revival event

• Meet with your team members, review their responsibilities, and advise where to report before each revival event to receive further instructions, name badges, and so on. Any member, who is not in attendance, should be contacted by phone to verify their participation and duties.

How to Prepare for an

Effective Evangelistic Revival

During	the	week	of	the	revival	event
Date:						

- Clearly mark the spaces for the pastor, revival guest team, other guests, and extra handicap spaces, if required.
- All team members meet with the leader in a specified location 30 minutes before they report to their assigned position to allow for changes or adjustments as needed.

• Provide name badges to your team members for easy recognition by everyone.

• Provide rain ponchos, distribute reflective wear apparel and flashlights to have your team visible at all times as required. Provide umbrellas to those parking a long distance from the building. Appoint someone to gather umbrellas and return them to the entrance workers, or provide umbrellas/ponchos as a "free" item to those coming in. Pray together before reporting to your post.

Week	foll	owing	reviv	al event
Date:				

• Write each team member personally and thank him or her for participating and helping make this a successful event.

Basic Revival Suggestions

Below are a few basics that fruitful revival events have in common.

- Conduct a one-day witnessing workshop or seminar six to eight weeks prior to the revival.
- Train all your Revival Preparation Team Leaders and hold them accountable to accomplish their assignments.
- Pray and prepare for the invitation. This is the most important part of the revival service. It may be best to allow the music evangelist, choir, or Praise Team to sing during the invitation while the congregation stands with heads bowed. Everyone needs to focus on what God has been saying to him or her. Have trained counselors ready. Encourage some of the counselors to come and pray at the altar. This helps create an inviting atmosphere. Have an ample number of witnessing tracts, decision cards, and pens ready. The number of trained counselors will greatly determine the number and quality of decisions.
- Involve as many people as possible in the revival preparation process and in the actual revival event. Your people are your best publicity.
- Keep announcements to a minimum during revival services. But, every announcement time should mention the imminent revival nights. This is a priority, but give ample time for singing, preaching, and the invitation.

Dr. Roy Fish, retired professor of evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Theological seminary, who has an unstoppable passion for sharing Christ, once stated "Revivals work when people work."

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Revival Team Report

To assist with accountability of the Revival Preparation Teams, provide every team leader a form each week at the team leaders meeting. Require them to complete it and return it to you at the next meeting.

Plans and Action Taken Since the Last Meeting.
Team Name:
Team Name: Team Meeting Date:
Next Meeting Date:
Plans to Accomplish:
Action Taken:
The team is on schedule with all its responsibilities?Yes No
(Report continues on next page)

Revival	l Team	Report,	page 2
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Any areas where help is needed?

Team Name:	
	(Signed by Team Leader)
Printed Name of Leader	
Phone Number of Leader	

Please submit this form to the pastor at the next scheduled Revival Preparation Team Leaders Meeting.

Revival Event Appendix

Ideas for Following Up Decisions: Use the 48-Hour Plan

Within 48-hours each new convert needs:

- · A telephone call.
- A handwritten letter.
- · A personal visit.

Consider using one of our Georgia Baptist evangelists. Visit www.cogbe.org When selecting an evangelist:

- 1. Do you want a revivalist or a harvest evangelist?
- 2. Ask the evangelist to give you the names of the pastors of the last five churches where he lead revival. To select an evangelist of integrity ask these questions:
 - Does the evangelist appear to have a close walk with God?
 - What did the evangelist require before coming and after arriving?
 - How did the evangelist act around the opposite sex?
 - · How did the evangelist act around children?
 - How did the evangelist act around wealthy members?
 - How did the evangelist extend the invitation?
 - How did the evangelist handle the love offering?
 - Would you have this evangelist back? Why or why not?

Have a meeting of your staff and/or church leaders after the revival event and critique the preparation process, the revival event's speakers/effectiveness, follow-up process, new prospects/members, baptisms, and so forth. Here are some questions to ask:

- Was anything lacking in the preparation?
- What was successful about the revival event?
- How was the music?
- Would we want to invite the speaker back for another revival event?
- What would we do differently next time?
- · Critique all special emphases accordingly.

My Prayer List

Because I believe that prayer changes things and that the Holy Spirit will convict people of their need for a Savior, I commit to praying daily for the following:

1.			
2.			
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9.			
10.			
(Prospect Search Card) Please take this card and fill in the name and addreceptive to a visit from our church.	ress of a friend or relative	who would benefit from	n and/or be
Name			
Phone			
Address			
Age Grade () Single () Marrie	ed		
Your name (please print)			

This card can be used to help discover prospects for the church. About five weeks before the revival event, the pastor asks members to complete them on Sunday night. The following week, (four weeks before the revival event) Sunday School teachers should ask their class members to complete forms. Attempt to personally visit all prospects that are discovered and send a letter inviting them to the revival event.

Samp	le L	etter	to	Church	Members	from	the	Pastor
------	------	-------	----	--------	---------	------	-----	---------------

(Send two weeks prior to the revival event)

______, (church member) I want to personally invite you to our upcoming revival event beginning Sunday, (date). I know that we are going to have a great time. Our evangelist for the revival will be ______. He is a dynamic preacher and has a tremendous walk with God. Our music evangelist will be _____ . He/she is an extremely talented musician. I know that this revival team will be a blessing to you. I want to encourage you to do three things to help to make this a successful revival event. 1. **Please pray.** There has never been a great revival apart from united, persistent prayer. 2. Please attend. Much preparation has gone into this revival event. Give these revival services the priority they need and deserve. 3. **Please bring others with you.** Many of the people who need to be touched by God will not be there unless they are invited and more specifically brought by you. I look forward to all that God will do during our revival event. In Christ, , Pastor

Please contact Evangelism Ministries of the Georgia Baptist Convention, if we can be of any help during the preparation process of your revival event.

Evangelistic Idea - Operation Andrew

Billy Graham Evangelistic Association has used an outreach idea called *Operation Andrew* in its crusades for many years with great effectiveness. It is based on soul cultivation of the unsaved with the explicit purpose to have them attend an evangelistic service.

The concept of *Operation Andrew* is drawn from John 1:40-42. Verse 42 reads: "And he (Andrew) brought him (Simon Peter) to Jesus." (NKJV) Andrew knew that his brother needed Jesus. Andrew met Jesus and immediately brought his brother to meet Jesus. Do we know people who need Jesus?

"Operation Andrew is composed of simple steps to help Christians identify those who need Christ, pray for them daily, build bridges of friendship, share the gospel, and help them grow in their new relationship with Christ." (Billy Graham Evangelistic Association)

Biblically speaking we are all called to be an "Andrew." We are to be burdened about the lost and strive to bring them to Christ. Are you willing to be a Biblical Andrew? Below are the *Operation Andrew*² steps to assist you in reaching others for Christ.

Look Around: Your mission field is right where you live, work, or go to school. List the names of 10 people you know who need Jesus Christ, and commit to praying for them regularly.

Look Up: God changes people through prayer. Pray each day for those on your list, that God will give you opportunities to share His love with them.

Look Out: Seek for ways to cultivate friendships with each person on your list. Spend time with them. An invitation to dinner, a sporting event or other activity will build relationships, which can open the way to talk about Christ.

Look Forward: Begin by talking with each person on your list about attending an evangelistic event with you. Choose a specific date, pray, and invite them.

Look After: Encourage those who respond to Christ or even begin to show interest in the gospel. Continue to love and pray for those who do not respond.

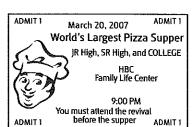
My Operation Andrew List

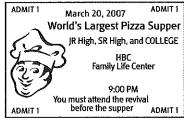
I commit to pray regularly for the following people:

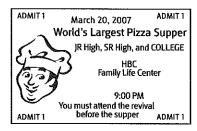
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Yes, I will be a Biblical Andrew:	
Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	

²Copyright Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, used by permission, all rights reserved.

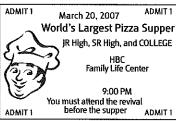
Sample Pages of Artwork

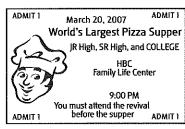


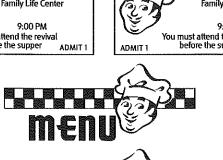










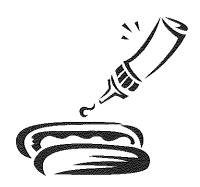
















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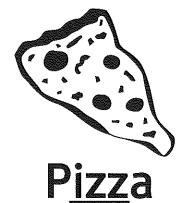
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Sample Pages of Artwork

Examples of tickets to use for Pizza Blast! Customize to meet your event.







Free! Youth Pizza Blast

Grades:

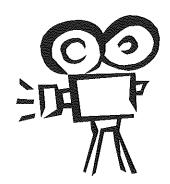
Time:

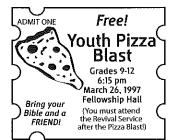
Date:

Location:

You must attend the Revival Service after the Pizza Blast!

ADMIT ONE





Free! Movie Night

Date:

Time:

Location:

Popcorn and drinks provided!

Design your tickets depending on the "meal of the night:" potluck night, pizza night, hotdog night, coffee tasting night, ice cream night, fun and games night, movie night, the list is endless on the possibilities.

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Sample Pages of Artwork



Free Hot Dog Supper





Free Hot Dog Supper





Free Hot Dog Supper







*Permissible to copy this page to make tickets as needed.



Sample Pages of a Church Survey

CONCLUSION

A CHURCH COMMUNITY SURVEY

Surveyors' Names Today's Date	
Not at H	(If answer indicates scriptural conversion, go to conclusion; if not, continue with question 10.) 10. Thank you for giving us the time we requested. This ends our survey. May I take a few minutes to share with you how I know for certain that I will live forever and go to heaven? Yes (Use testimony, tract, and conclusion.) No (Go to conclusion.)
Other helpful information:	9. (If yes) In your opinion, how can people know for certain they will live forever and go to heaven when they die?
2. Be sure the correct street address is on this form.	8. Many people are not certain that they will live forever and that they will go to heaven when they die. Do you know this for yourself? Yes No, or Uncertain (If no, go to question 10.)
Is a prospect for church membership. Is:goodfairpoorevangelistic prospect Comments:	7. Many people have an interest in spiritual matters. Is this true for you? Yes No (If yes, why?)
 Allowed the gospel to be presented. Received Christ as Savior and Lord. Rededication Accepted a gospel tract or New Technique. 	6. We would like to pray for you and your family. Are there any prayer concerns you would like our church to put on its prayer list?
Before arriving at the next house, surveyors should: 1 Check the appropriate responses of the person last interviewed	5. In your opinion, how can our church help families deal with today's pressures?
Best time to reach you:	4. In our society today, many people live under a large amount of stress. Why do you think this is so? (Don't suggest these unless no answer is given.) Financial Pressures Family Pressures Lack of Purpose Other
Phone number:	3. About how often do you attend?WeeklyMonthlyOccasionallyNever
	2. (If yes) Would you mind telling us the name of the church or religious group?
Other family members' names and ages:	1. Are you a member of a church or religious group?YesNo (If no, go to question 4.)
	ef survey designed to help us have a few minutes of your the person's name at this time.)
well, ask for names of family members, approximate ages, and phone number for future reference. Record below.)	We are from the
witnessing booklet and church information. If the person is a prospect and is responding	(At the door, say) Hello, I'm and this is
We thank you very much for your help. We will be praying for you. (If permitted, leave a	(First write the address here, then knock on the door or ring the doorbell.) Address