

## OPTIONAL ATTENDANCE/ENROLLMENT EMPHASIS

Why exercise this option? In the book Transformation Groups, research conducted by Lifeway Christian Resources discovered that people in a group/class:

1. Read the Bible and pray more regularly
2. Confess sins more frequently
3. Share the gospel more freely
4. Give more generously
5. Serve more often

Lead each class to determine an enrollment goal and an average attendance goal for the 5 weeks of the START campaign. Use the enrollment cards to encourage members to practice relational evangelism by inviting their friends, relatives, acquaintances, and neighbors to belong to a group.

A class attendance chart, attendance commitment card, promotional poster, and enrollment cards are included on the START CD.



For further information on START, contact:

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Tennessee Baptist churches giving through the Cooperative Program make this ministry possible.



START is a practical and flexible approach to help you lead your church thru its Sunday School to stop just dreaming about fulfilling the Great Commission and to START doing something to make those dreams happen!





The rally will wake up your Sunday School classes and rekindle the dream about impacting lostness and to START making those dreams happen!

The rally is for all youth and adult Sunday School class members.

The rally should take place on Sunday morning during the Sunday School hour.

A START Rally leader guide, promotional poster, and Rally Commitment Card are on the CD.

### **Before the Rally—Pray and Promote**

Begin promoting three weeks prior to the rally. Send out emails, letters and make phone calls to all teachers/leaders. The pastor should announce the rally from the pulpit starting at least two weeks prior to the rally.

The night before the rally, the pastor and/or the Sunday School director should call all student and adult teachers to remind them of the rally and have prayer.

### **Day of the Rally—Pray and Prepare the Setting**

On the morning of the rally, place signs on the doors and position greeters in the hallways outside the adult and youth classrooms to direct everyone to the location of the rally.

In the room where the rally is being conducted, designate seating areas for every class. If the rally is in the worship center, use signs on the ends of the pews to indicate where each class is to sit. Having designated seats speeds up the weekly attendance report and provides class leaders and members the opportunity to discuss the content of the rally at the conclusion.

Begin the rally about 10 minutes after the normal start time for Sunday School in order to give the classes time to complete their weekly reports and the teachers to thank each member for coming.

### **Lead the Rally**

Two approaches are available for conducting the rally:

- four video messages featuring Dr. Bobby Welch and a listening guide, OR
- if you prefer, you can lead the rally yourself utilizing the provided PowerPoint and Dr. Welch's materials.

If you choose the second approach, view the DVD and hear Dr. Welch's challenge on the reality of lostness in Tennessee, the decline in baptisms, and planting a 1-5-1 Harvest Branch Plant.

### **SERMON SERIES**

The START sermon series covers a total of seven messages. The messages relate to one another by answering this question: What is spiritually needed for a church to START?

1. Get on Our Knees—Prayer
2. Get in the Word—Scripture
3. Get on Our Feet---See the church/class differently
4. Get on Our Feet—Think like a missionary to the community
5. Get on Our Feet—Adopt a plan
6. Get on Our Feet—Recruit and train the START team
7. Get on Our Feet—Take actions to launch

Additionally, each S-T-A-R-T sermon has a story provided to illustrate the Scripture used.

You certainly have the option of developing your own sermon support for START. The sermons included on the CD are not the only way a pastor can provide biblical support, instruction, and equipping for START. What is crucial is that the pastor engage leaders and members through clear proclamation from God's Word leading to starting new groups, new 1-5-1 harvest plants, classes actively reaching into the harvest field, people being connected to groups, and seeing people saved and baptized!



### **LIFE LESSONS**

Four special lessons are provided on the CD. These lessons are designed to be used during weeks 2-5 as the Bible study content. These studies will challenge students to become bolder in their witness for Christ.

Lesson one is entitled The Motive for Evangelism. This lesson focuses on the spiritual lostness of people without Christ and on God's gracious desire that they find their way to Him through faith.

Lesson two is entitled The Message of Evangelism. The scripture comes from Paul's defense of the gospel he preached to the Galatians. He proclaimed the good news that through faith in Christ people are saved by God's grace.

Lesson three is entitled The Messenger of Evangelism. Based on Luke 10, this study challenges members to recapture a sense of urgency. A harvest not gathered is a harvest lost.

Lesson four is entitled The Model of Evangelism from Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well. By examining His conversation with the Samaritan woman, we can learn how to witness more effectively.

### **TRAINING SESSIONS**

The training sessions are vital to the START process. They are built around the S-T-A-R-T acrostic.

Several approaches for offering the training sessions could be utilized. Many churches will provide a one-hour session each week of the campaign. Some churches will offer a single 3-5 hour session for its leaders. Determine which approach you will use and promote the dates and schedule for the training from the beginning of the process.

More leaders attending the training sessions equals more classes engaged in planting, sowing, and watering for the sake of souls.

### **CELEBRATION/LAUNCH SUNDAYS**

Celebration and Launch Sundays should be scheduled on the 5th week of the START Emphasis and once during each quarter of the next year. A promotional poster and Recognition certificate are available on the CD.

Some key things to celebrate include:

- lost people who have been saved and baptized
- individuals who have started to participate in a class, group, or 1-5-1 Harvest Branch Plant
- classes and groups who have gotten engaged in the harvest through missions activities or starting 1-5-1 Branch Plants
- leaders who have been trained to share their faith [MORE Life is available for TBC churches to use at no cost]
- groups, classes, and 1-5-1 Harvest Branch Plants that have started during the previous months

Some key things to launch include:

- new Sunday School classes or connect groups
- new 1-5-1 Harvest Plants
- new leaders
- new ventures to impact lostness and win souls for Christ

