

*National Baptist Congress of Christian Education*  
*2015 Oratorical Contest Theme*  
*Detroit, MI*

**Making Disciples for Christ**

Then Jesus said to his disciples, " If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?"

*Matthew 16:24-26 NKJV*

*National Baptist Congress of Christian Education*  
**ORATORICAL CONTEST**  
*2015~GUIDELINES*

The official theme:  
*“Making Disciples for Christ”*

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**Matthew 16:24-26 NKJV**

We recommend that all contestants and coordinators have a clear understanding of the National rules and guidelines for the Oratorical Contest, which would also include the guidelines used by the judges for scoring.

**Purpose**

To provide training and communication skills with public speaking experience, within the context of the scriptural theme. Afford each contestant, an opportunity to earn a college scholarship. This is accomplished through completion of all required guidelines, supported by intellectual thinking, and having a positive expression of an original written and oral presentation of the chosen theme.

**Competition**

The Oratorical Contest will be held during the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Annual Session, on Wednesday, June 24, 2015 in Detroit, Michigan.

Contestants are students currently enrolled in his or her senior year of high school and will be graduating prior to September, 2015, with the expressed intent of continuing their education in a college or university setting.

The contestants will participate in a multiple-step process:

1. Compete in their church’s Oratorical Contest
2. Compete in their local District Association Oratorical Contest
3. Compete in their State Convention’s Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest (the National Commission does not require that the contest is held during the State Convention, that is the decision of the individual State)

4. Compete at the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest, as a delegate of a church registered for the 2015 Annual Congress Session.

The contestants chosen after their State competition will have all the required documentation submitted by the State Congress President, State Youth Director, or State Director of Oratorical, which must be received by Friday, May 8, 2015 close of business day; and in turn those contestants submitting all the required documentation, in the proper format and within the assigned time frame; will be accepted to compete at the National Baptist Congress Oratorical Contest in Detroit, Michigan. The person responsible for submitting the documentation will receive an electronic notification of acceptance by Wednesday, May 13, 2015.

The contestant chosen at the State level to compete in the National Baptist Congress Oratorical Contest may be sponsored by either his or her local church, the District or the State Convention. The sponsoring entity will work directly with the contestant in preparation for the National competition. It is imperative that the contestant's travel arrangements accommodate his/or her commitment to present the winning oration at the Children/Youth Rally, held on Friday, June 26, 2015.

There will be a panel of individuals chosen from across the country, including the local community to judge the competition. These individuals will commit to attending tele-conference training and an onsite orientation to the Oratorical process. Please keep in mind, our goal is to provide fair and impartial decisions for all the participants in this process, and therefore the decisions of the judges are final.

There will be a first (\$5,000) second (\$1,500) and third (\$1,000) place winner announced at the end of the competition. All participants will receive a monetary award. The first place contestant will receive their award in two parts. The first \$1500 will go directly to the contestant and the balance of \$3500 will be sent to the University or College the contestant will attend in the fall. If possible, the second and third place winners will receive their awards by the end of the Congress week and all other contestants will receive their awards upon completion of the oratorical contest. All contestants must present with their social security card or know the number which may be required for the completion of a W9 tax form. The Contestants that place in the top three, will meet with the Oratorical Coordinator immediately following the contest to complete all required documents and to receive instructions related to their placement in the contest.

### **Organization of the Speech/Essay**

The speech must be original and prepared by the contestant.

The speech must be typewritten, saved and submitted in a **WORD DOCUMENT FORMAT**, (Times New Roman 12 font), double-spaced, a minimum of 600 words and a maximum of 800 words, using Standard English. The speech must be logical, correct in form and content, relevant to the theme, and address the established theme. The speech must clearly document all references or copyrighted material cited in the oration. All supporting documentation must be neatly printed, complete and accurate.

The contestant's oration and supporting documentation, i.e., (contestant cover sheet, documentation submission form, electronic photo and the student's most recent report card) must be received from the State Congress President, the State Youth Director, or the State Director of the Oratorical Contest by the close of business day, Friday, May 8, 2015 via electronic version (email) and six paper copies of the Oration, the documentation submission form and the contestant cover sheet, are to be sent via postal submission to the Oratorical Coordinator.

The **email submission** should include the following:

- Contestants name in the subject line
- Contestant Cover Sheet
- Documentation Submission Form
- Contestant's last report card
- Contestants written Oration  
*(no identifying information should be on this document and it must be sent in **Word format**)*
- Electronic photo of contestant

The **postal submission** should include the following:

- 1 Contestant Cover Sheet
- 1 Documentation Submission Form
- 6 Type written copies of the Oration  
*(no identifying information should be on this document)*

Send to: Roslyn L. Harvey, Oratorical Coordinator  
National Baptist Congress Oratorical Contest  
6037 Grimshaw Ave  
St. Louis, MO 63120-1232  
856-397-6711 mobile  
[nbcoratorical@gmail.com](mailto:nbcoratorical@gmail.com)

### **Speech Presentation (Oration)**

The Contestant must arrive **at least one and 1/2 hours prior** to the start time of the Oratorical Contest. The contestants may have a reference copy of their speech in the holding room prior to the start of the contest.

The Contestants that place in the top three must meet with the Oratorical Coordinator, immediately following the contest, to complete all required documentation. The contestant that places 1<sup>st</sup> must be available to attend the Congress President's Address (Thursday, June 25, 2015) to be acknowledged as the winner and to attend the Children/Youth Rally (Friday, June 26, 2015) and recite the winning oration.

The Contestant's presentation attire is Males: Slacks, Suit Coats and Shirts with Ties and Females: Dresses or Suits (please note the contestants may be on an elevated platform facing the audience) with Hosiery.

The Contestants are to stand, approach the podium, state the theme and begin their memorized rendition of the written oration, within the frame of the podium (without moving across the stage).

The Contestants are not allowed to use introductions or reference protocols

The Contestants are not allowed to state their names or any other identifying information during the oratorical presentation.

The Contestant's oratorical presentation must avoid speaking in sermonic tones, using testimonials, and excessive gesturing.

The Contestants are not allowed to use special props, costumes, clothing or prompts.

### **Judges**

The Judges are selected prior to the NBC Congress of Christian Education Oratorical Contest. Each judge receives the guidelines and judges score sheet during the judges training sessions. Each judge is scheduled to attend a training teleconference prior to the Congress session and will attend a final onsite review for participation and protocol. Each judge has attested to providing a fair and impartial scoring of each contestant.

The Judges will use the following criteria for each oration: composition, subject matter, content originality delivery, vocal control, enunciation, pronunciation, presentation and mastery of material. The oration must be memorized.

The Judges will give each contestant an intangible score (*is most commonly used to describe things that are recognized but not easily quantified*) and in the "event of a tie" the contestant that has the highest intangible score will be the winning contestant.

The Judges overall decision is final.

*National Baptist Congress of Christian Education*

*Oratorical Contest 2015*

**CONTESTANT COVER SHEET**

*Information must be received by close of business day on Friday, May 8, 2015*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **H** \_\_\_\_\_ **C** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent(s)/Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Church:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Pastor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Church's 2015 NBC Congress of Christian Education receipt #** \_\_\_\_\_

**State Convention:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Convention President:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Congress President:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State Youth**

**Director:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State Oratorical Director:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Location of Local Contest:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Contestant anticipates graduating from high school:** \_\_\_\_\_

**College or University Contestant plans to attend:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Website address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date classes start:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Field of Study:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Has Contestant received official notice of acceptance:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No**

*State Youth Directors, State Convention President or Congress Presidents are asked to verify the accuracy of all information by signing beneath their name. Please assure that all information is legible.*

***National Baptist Congress of Christian Education  
ORATORICAL CONTEST  
DOCUMENTATION SUBMISSION FORM ~2015***

***Name and Contact information of Person submitting the Contestant Information to the  
National Oratorical Coordinator, by the close of business day on Friday, May 8, 2015***

*(Please print all information legibly)*

***Name of person submitting information*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Address:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***City:*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***State*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***Zip*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Telephone:*** (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ ***H(\_\_\_\_\_)*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***C***

***Email Address:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Name of Contestant You Represent:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Name of State Convention:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Has the Contestant's Church registered for Congress 2015*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***Yes*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***No***

***Will you attend the 2015 National Baptist Congress:*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***Yes*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***No***

***Who will accompany the contestant to the Oratorical Contest?***

***Name:*** \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ ***C***

***Date scheduled to arrive at Congress:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Hotel Accommodations:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Departure date:*** \_\_\_\_\_

***\*The winning contestant must be available to be acknowledged at the President's Address on Thursday and available to present the winning oration on Friday at the 2015 Children/Youth Rally.***



NATIONAL BAPTIST CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
**JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET-2015**

Contestant #   1  

Intangible Score \_\_\_\_\_

<b>EFFECTIVENESS</b>	Poor 1-2	Fair 3-4	Good 5-6	Excellent 7-8	Superior 9-10	Total
Content						
Composition						
Clear Purpose						
<b>SUBJECT MATTER</b>	Poor 1-2	Fair 3-4	Good 5-6	Excellent 7-8	Superior 9-10	Total
Introduction/Closing						
Originality						
<b>DELIVERY</b>	Poor 1-2	Fair 3-4	Good 5-6	Excellent 7-8	Superior 9-10	Total
Memorization						
Enunciation/ Pronunciation						
Vocal Control						
Eye Contact						
<b>DECORUM/ATTIRE</b>	Poor 1-2	Fair 3-4	Good 5-6	Excellent 7-8	Superior 9-10	Total
Poise/Limited Gestures/Attire						
<b>Grand Total</b>						

\_\_\_\_\_(TYPE NAME)\_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge's Name #1

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Judge's Signature

**Each judge must sign his/her individual score sheet and submit the same to the competition coordinator or designee at the conclusion of each contestant's speech. Each contestant must receive a score for each category and an intangible score.**

# Explanation of Judge's Scoring Sheet

## Scoring Categories

Contestant will be judged based on the subject matters listed below.

A brief description of each subject matter has been included. Please note that the information provided is only a guide and may not cover all areas under the judges' consideration. \*

### **Content:**

Scriptural References

Clarity of Purpose

Ideas

Logic

Adherence to Baptist Doctrine Diction

### **Composition:**

Structure

Organization

Support Material

### **Introduction/Closing:**

Effective

Memorable

Summarization of Key Points

Thought provoking

Engaging & Relevant ~ (Use of anecdote, poem, question, challenge, or charge, etc. that is relevant to topic.)

### **Originality:**

Original Thought

Informative & Thought Provoking

### **Delivery:**

Memorization

Enunciation/Pronunciation/Articulation

Vocal Control

Eye Contact

### **Decorum/Attire**

Attire (Young Ladies-no pants; Young Men-suit and tie; adornment/accessories that do not distract delivery or reception of speech)

Posture/Poise/Limited

Limited Gestures

Body Language

*\*The information provided is only a guide and may be subject to change without notice. In addition the judges score sheets are only made available at the discretion of the Oratorical Coordinator.*

Dr. George W. Waddles, Congress President ~ Dr. Elliott Cuff, Dean ~ Dr. Doretha Johnson, General Secretary