



Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention, Inc.

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To: Members, Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention, Inc.

From: Elder C. Danny Johnson, President, Missions Ministry

Subject: Missions Ministry Survey

Date: May 16, 2018

A message from Rev. E. Wayne Jones, Vice President, Missions Ministry

We all can agree that we would not be where we are or possess what we have if it had not been for the grace of God. It was by the grace of God that Paul (the most prolific writer of the New Testament) was able to make great achievements for Christianity. Sometimes we forget that our charge is virtually the same as Paul's. God indeed is working through us toward the same purpose. Paul left an example of efforts and attitudes that we should have toward Christian Ministry today. Should we not be willing to follow the example of the Good Samaritan, and help someone in need regardless of where they may be in this world? The Commission is still the same.

The Missions/Evangelism Ministry is tasked with assisting Convention churches in conducting Missions/Evangelism work collectively across the state of Tennessee. In an effort to accomplish this task, we are surveying the needs and expectations of our churches. We must listen to the experience of many missionaries and try not to repeat past mistakes. This survey will be used to gather information of the efforts of specific groups, mission ministries, and organizations that we are supporting locally across the state of Tennessee. It will serve as a starting point to see what specific area or organization we can support as a collective unit.

A few things to keep in mind as you complete this survey:

- 1- What do we mean by "Missions"? The word missions comes from the Latin word "mitt" that means "the act of sending." "Mitt" also shows up as **miss** in many words, so be on the lookout! Some common words from this root include **emit**, **mission**, and **dismiss**. So as not to **omit** any knowledge, we have **submitted** this footnote to explain it all.
- 2- A "mission work" is a work that is done by the sending of someone or a group to achieve a goal.
 - a. *Technically this word does not appear in this form in the Bible, but the act of sending does many times.*
- 3- Who is a missionary for Christ? In a sense, a missionary is anyone sent to accomplish the mission of the church which is two-fold, making and teaching disciples. Matthew 28:19-20.
- 4- We evaluate the works we know (Galatians 6:10). We consider our goals and what resources we can access to bring it to pass and then we act. Our actions should reflect our values and ambitions.
- 5- The entire Bible speaks to the mission of God to redeem. He calls all who have come to know him as Savior through Christ to join Him. We each can have a special place in addressing the spiritual, personal, social and physical disparities in life as opportunities to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and invite others to join us in building God's Kingdom.

- 1- Are you already involved in mission work on your own? If so, please briefly describe your present work.
- 2- Which organization does your church currently support as part of your mission work? (For example: Room in the Inn, Day Mission, assistance to the indigent, prison ministry or other)
- 3- What organizations would you like to see the TBM&E Convention partner with?
- 4- Is your Missions ministry willing to support selected organizations across the state of Tennessee?
- 5- What do you see as the biggest need in our mission work?
- 6- Does your church have a need for missions/missionary and evangelism training?
- 7- Which area of the Missions Ministry would you like to receive more information on? (Example: finances, training, missions opportunities)
- 8- What suggestions do you have that would enhance the Missions Ministry?
- 9- Please provide your Missions Ministry contact person's information.
- 10- Are there specific ways that the TBM&E Convention's Missions Ministry could be helpful in partnering with your work?