

Organizing the Evangelistic Series

Evangelism, if it is to be effective, needs wholehearted attention for the four to five weeks of the seminar. It is important that there be no conflicting meetings — board, business, finance, etc. — unless urgently needed during the series. This will free up the members of the church to give their full commitment to the seminar.

Remember that evangelism is a team ministry. While the evangelist will present Bible truth each evening, it is the relationships the members develop with those attending that will help them decide to follow Jesus and join the church.

Secure the location of the meetings

If your meetings are opening in a rented hall, make sure to get a signed agreement that includes each night. This is very important, as it locks in the contract. Make sure you have enough chairs, and appoint a person to be responsible each night for chairs, tables, lights, heat, air, etc. On The Empowered Church website, you can download "Guidelines for Securing a Public Hall."

Start promoting the seminar in the church

Put it in the bulletin each week, starting eight weeks before the seminar. Encourage the members to talk, eat, sleep, and preach evangelism!

Build up the church's interest list

You can get names of interests from Amazing Facts, Voice of Prophecy, It Is Written, Faith for Today, Signs, the guest book of your church, Bible studies, Revelation Seminars, etc. Pass out cards on Sabbath and have people write down the names of their friends and interests. Non-attending members' names should go on the cards as well. Work with the visitation team to make sure that every interest is visited. One or two weeks before the evangelistic series begins, give interests a personal invitation to attend.

Arrange time for prayer

Make sure the names of interests are being given to the prayer ministry. Also arrange a time following the church service when members can gather for special prayer focusing on the upcoming evangelistic series and praying specifically for the interests of the church and those involved in outreach.

Organize nursery and children's programs for during the series

If at all possible, provide a nursery and children's program. Nursery ages are from 0-3 and the children's program from ages 4-9. This will be needed for the entire seminar and will be a real asset in gaining the attendance of young couples and members with children. At The Empowered Church website, you can download a general outline for the nursery and children's program leaders.

Above all, try to help the members see that their involvement or lack of it will contribute to the ultimate success or failure of the meetings. Ask them to please not schedule campouts, socials, or other church activities during these meetings that will keep them from attending.