OHIO BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION

YOUNG DAVID'S GUIDE









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Introduction	2
Objectives of Counselors	3
Objectives of Jr. Laymen	4
Counselor Description	7
Counselor's Qualification	10
Organizing & Developing A Jr. Laymen Program	11
State and Local Constitution of The (State) Jr. Laymen	13
Organizing And Developing A Junior Laymen ProgramError! Bookmark	not defined.
Basic Stewardship	28

Introduction

Without question, the greatest potential of the Black Church today resides in the group we call "Jr. Laymen".

The Jr. Laymen are an important group to the Church and their influential presence is increasingly coming to bear upon our Churches and their "traditional ways". Thus, it is to this age group that Black Christian Pastors, Parents, Educators and Youth Workers must quickly turn their attention in order to properly address the needs and oversee the growth of Black young men into full maturity for the sacred truste of the Christian faith – the Faith of Jesus Christ – sooner or later will pass within their preview. And as it does, their manner of handling this sacred trust will become the tell tale sing indicating whether their leaders have effectively taught and brought them into complete maturity and whether they have spiritually prepared the emerging young men to fulfill the Christian charge both in their Church and in their generation.

Without heistation, the question of understanding Jr. Laymen preceeds the question of how best to reach and teach them. If we do not understand our young Black men – who they are – the scope of their age range, their predominant characteristics, their needs and desires, their manner of thinking and living, etc., we will fail to reach them, and those whom we have already reached, we will fail to adequately teach. So, at the outset, it

is essential and of first importance that we take a fresh and careful look at this growing stage of Baptist Junior Laymen.

Objectives of Counselors

Are you committed?

- You must foremost believe in the Great Commission
- ➤ Are you willing to make sacrifices?
- > Let's talk Dedication...
- Are you willing to be educated?

Know your Church needs...

- ➤ Know the mission of the Church and involve the Jr. Laymen in that Mission
- ➤ Know the up-coming programs of the Church and get the Jr. Laymen active in those programs
- Communicate with your Pastor and see his guidance for you and the Jr. Laymen Ministry

Know the needs of the young men...

- Before you correct, Love, Love, then Love
- Understand his background (where he comes from)
- Understand confidentiality
- Stay in communication with Parents

Objectives of Jr. Laymen

- 1) To Become a Well Informed, Responsible Follower of Christ:
 - > This means helping boys who have not accepted Christ to...
 - Learn the plan of salvation.
 - Understand what it means to accept the Christ as Savior . and Lord, be baptized and become a church member.
 - Understand the work done by the Church in the community, state, nation and world.
 - > Develop loyalty to the Church and organization.
 - Understand and develop the elements of a strong Christian character.
 - > Develop their spiritual lives.
 - > Demonstrate their faith in daily living.
- 2) To Have a Christ-like Concern for All People:
 - This means helping boys to...
 - Love others regardless of race, color or creed.
 - ➤ Be kind to others. Forgive those who hurt your. Help and protect those who are weak such as the young and the old.
 - Plan and carry out projects to make life richer for others.
 - Pratice doing good things.
 - > Learn how to get along with friends of their own age.
 - Learn how people around the world need Christ.

- 3) To Learn How The Message of Christ is Carried Around the World:
 - This means helping boys to...
 - ➤ Understand the mission work of the Church and denomination in the community, state, nation and world.
 - ➤ Understand that the time, talents and money they contribute to the Church help Christ's message to the world.
 - Learn how Jesus diciples witnessed in their day.
 - > Learn of the lives of past and present missionary heroes.
- 4) To Work with others in Sharing Christ:
 - This means helping boys to...
 - > Explore vocations through reading and field trips.
 - Participate in the activities of their Church and its organizations.
 - Accept privileges and responsibilities of Christian citizenship.
 - Sharae Christ with others through group projects and individually.
 - Explore ways their talents can be developed and used for Christ.
- 5) To keep Myself Clean and Healthy in Mind and Body:
 - This means helping boys to...
 - Understand their Christian obligation to make their bodies strong and their mines clean.
 - Develop their minds and bodies in order to better serve Christ and others.

- Welcome and use health dnowledge as it concerns home, school and community.
- > Develop phisical skills.
- 6) Teach Boys How to Live at Home:
 - > This means helping boys to...
 - Respect and honor parents and other adults.
 - > Pray at dinner and other times.
 - Devote time to Bible Study.
 - > Give them chores and duties to earn allowances.
- 7) Teach Boys How to Live Among People:
 - This means helping boys to...
 - > Respect one another
 - ➤ Be content with what you have and not desireing what others have.
 - How to act away from home, out of the sight of their parents.
 - How to be a neighbor and to be firendly.
- 8) Teach Boys to Lie Down and Rise With God On Their Minds:
 - > This means helping boys to...
 - ➤ God had give us another day, a day we will not see again. We must teach appreciation of God's Grace.
- 9) Teach Boys to Rise with Their Mind on God.

Counselor Description

> Holman Bible Dicitonary:

One who analyzes a situation and gives advice to one who has responsibility for making a decision. Israelite king seem to have employed counselors on a regular basis.

Another word for Consuler is Advocate. An Advocate is one who intercedes in behalf of another.

Old Testment:

While the word advocate is not found in the Old Testament, the concept of advocacy is found. Abraham intercedes with God in behalf of Sondom (Genesis 18:23-33); Moses intercedes with God in behalf of the Israelites (Exodus 32:11-14); Samuel interceses with God in behalf of the children of Israel (I Samuel 7:8-9). Other examples may be found in Jeremiah 14:7-9, 13, 19-22 and Amos 7:2; 5-6. Modern translators ofter use 'advocate' to refer to Job's desire for a heavenly attorney to plead his case even through he died (Job 16:19).

New Testment:

"Advocate" is the translation often given to the Greek parakletos in I John 2:1, a word found elsewhere only in John's Gospel as a title referring to the Holy Spirit, and there translated "Helper", "Conforter," "Counselor," or "Advocate" (John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7). Ancient Greeks used the tem for one called into assist or speak for another, frequently in a court setting. Rabbis transliterated the word into Hebrew, using it to denote an advocate before God. I John protrayed a courtroom scene in

which Jesus Christ, the righteous one, intercedes with the with the Father on behalf of sinners. Such a portrayal stands in line with Old Testament ideas of advocacy, but supercedes it. In contrast to Old Testament advocates. Jesus is both the one righteous advocate and the "atoning sacrifice" (NIV) for the world's sins (I John 2:2). I John 2:1 parallels other New Testament descriptions of Jesus intercessory role (Romans 8:34; Hebrew 7:25).

- ➤ II Samuel 16:23; I King 12:6-14; I Chronicle 26:14; 27:32; 34

 II Chronicle 25:16; Isaiah 1:26; 3:3; Micah 4:9
- ➢ God is often regarded as a conusler − Psalms 16:7, 32:8; 33:11; 73:24
- As is His Messiah Isaiah 9:6; 11:2
- > The Holy Spirit John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7
- Other words:
 - ➤ Helper; Paraclete; Intercession; Jesus Christ, High Priest R. Robert Creech
 - Strong's Counsellor & Counsellors
 - Counsellor II Samuel 15:12; I Chronicles 26:14; I Chronicles 27:32; II Chronicles 22:3; Isaiah 3:3, 9:6, 40:13, 41:28, Micah 4:9, Nahum 1:11, Mark 15:43, Luke 23:50, Romans 11:34
 - Counsellors II Chronicles 22:4, Ezekiel 4:5, 7:14, 15, 28 8:25, Job 3:14, Job 12:17 Psalms 119:24, Proverbs 11:14. 12:20, 15:22, 24:6, Isaiah 1:26 Isaiah 19:11, Daniel 3:2, 3, 24, 27, 4:36, 6:7
- Webster's New World Dictionary & Thesaurus
 - > Counselors or Counsellor 1) An advisor 2) A lawyer
 - Thescaurus Conuselor Noun guide, instructor, mentor [See teacher]

Purpose And Objectives

To enlist the aid of the young men of our denomination in carring out the great commission of our Lord and Master is our purpose and objective.

Further, to assist young men in their Church growth. To encourage active participate in, and with their Church. To lead young men into the realization of their objective and privileges of Church membership in the body of Christ. To strengthen our stewardship by putting greater emphasis on:

- > Personal Consecration
- > Individual and Group efforts in Evangelism
- > Street Missions
- ➤ The teaching, winning and development of youth for Christ
- ➤ Teach God's method for financially supporting His Church
- Greater citizenship and community involvement
- Encourage scholarship and general preparation for life's vocation

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The foregoing object	ives are through the	Laymen Auxiliary	, supported
by the Pastor of the		Ba	ptist Church

Counselor's Qualification

- Must believe and have faith in Jesus Christ
- Must have personal Characteristics as a leader of boys
- Must have a burden for the development of boys
- Must devote time
- Must be dependable
- Must have a desire for boys to be saved
- Must be willing to go to Workshops, Seminars, Conferences, etc.
- > Must be patient
- Must be a visionary, creative and imaginative

I Timothy 3

Christian characteristics, traits and attributes A Mentor, Role Model:

Above reporoach	Hospitable
Husband of one wife	Apt to teach
Temperate	Not given to wine
Prudent	Not self willed
Respectable	Not quick tempered
Gentle	Devout
Manages household well	Just

Organizing & Developing A Jr. Laymen Program

1) Secure Pastor's Support:

- ➤ Because he is the leader, the under shepherd, you must first get his permission. God might have give him another plan.
- ➤ Without his support, yuou will not get off the ground. He can rally the support of the Laymen and Church around the program.
- ➤ The Pastor and help in financial support for the program.

 He can help recruit others to serve as conselors and in other capacities.
- > The Pastor can encourage and promote the program.

2) Secure Church Support:

- ➤ Junior Laymen should be an integral part of the Church's total program. If the Church is praying for the program then God will hear the prayers and bless it.
- ➤ An informed congregation goes a long way. Keep them abrest of the activities. Acquaint them with what the program is about. Information and reports should be shared on a continuous baises.

3) Meet with the boy's Parents:

This is vital to a successful program. You wish to start your group with a "Parent-Son Meeting". An informal setting to get the parents acquainted with the program. Inform them what the goals, objecties, meeting times and activites will be. Invite

- the Pastor and other members of the Church. Make sure the Senior Laymen President is present.
- It will take the parents to have the boys at the meeting or ready when you come to pick them up. If the parent can have kids attend Boy Scouts and other organizations in the secular world, it can be done for the Church.
- Keep the parents informed with telephone calls, letters, newsletters and Church announcements. Plan annual Father/Son, Mother/Son Banqutes, breakfasts, Bible Bowls, etc. Promote and advertise these events in a big way.

4) Secure Counselors:

➤ Seek out committed and dedicated men to work with the boys.

He Senior Laymen must realize that the boys and young men of
the Church are a critical part of their ministry. The Senior Laymen
must realize that the young men need to be trained and nurtured
just as Jesus trained and nurtured the disciples.

5) Train Counselors:

- ➤ It is important that counselors have a desire or a burden on their heart to work with boys. Counselors have to love working with kids.
- ➤ You m ust get the proper materials and literature that is helpful. For the boy's nurture and development. It should all be bibically based. Seek your Pastor's help in selecting m aterial so he knows what is being taught in the Church.
- Conselors must attend workshops, seminars, conferences and convention settings that involve youth trainging. These gatherings of instructors and other in the boys work allow

counselors to network and sharae each other's seccesses and failures.

6) Build Support Networks:

Support Networks are crucial to a Jr. Laymen Program. Through your missions work and volunteer work in the community, business in the community are now aware of your work and are willing to support your local program.

State and Local Constitution of The (State) Jr. Laymen

The time has come for a unified organization of the male power of our denomination. The elements of this program provide work, play workshops, business and action. Reaching and teaching young men carries promise for many years to come.

The purpose and objectives are only possible through the support of the leaders and pastors of the local church.

<u>NAME</u>

This organization shall be know as the **Jr. Laymen** of the State Baptist Laymen's Auxiliary of the State Baptist General Convention.

JR. LAYMEN IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

The Holy Bible is the study book:

- 1) The two correlating programs are:
 - \triangleright Jr. Laymen 12 years to high school graduation.
 - Older Youth High School graduation to 25 years.
- 2) The program study will consist of:
 - Mission
 - > Service
 - Outdoor Activities
 - Christian Faith

This study will seek to strengthen each participant in the relationship with the:

- > Church
- > City
- > State
- > Country

The young males philosophy of life — devoting strong males, each participant will develop a philosophy of life, which will lead to a strong m ale family head; providing direction for life work jand enhancing social relationships.

Special Activities are encouraged:

- Father and Son, Monther and Son Banqutes Local Level
- District Wide Athletic Contest Local Level
- ➤ Annual Jr. Laymen Conference State Level
- Annual Jr. Laymen Camp Out Local Level
- Annual Jr. Laymen Retreat Local Level
- Others (with State Superintendent Approval)

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

- ➤ To enlist the aid and cooperation of the young men of our denomination in carring out the great commission of our Lord and Master is our purpose and objective.
- > To assist young men in their Christian Growth.
- > To encourage to actively participate in and with their Church.
- ➤ To lead yong men into the realization of their obligation.

 Privileges of Church membership in the body of Christ.
- > To strengthen our stewarship by putting greater emphasis on:
 - > Personal Consecration.
 - Individual and group effort in evangelism.
 - > Street Missions.
 - ➤ The reaching, winning and development of youth for Christ.
 - > Teaching God's methond for financially suporting His Church
 - Greater citizenship and community involvement
 - Encourage scholarship and general preparation for life's vocation

Conclusion: The foregoing objectives are through the leaders supported by the Pastor's of the local church.

STATE MEMBERSHIP

The membership shall be composed of messengers sent from the local chapters, approved by the Church of which the chapter is a member. Each chapter shall be entitled to one (1) voting messenger for every five (5) members, but may send to the session as m any young men as the chapter can afford.

STATE OFFICERS - JR. LAYMEN

The following offices shall be elected yearly by the membership:

President	Financial	Vice-President
Chaplin	Secretary	

Each Officer shall serve intil his successor is duly elected/appointed and installed.

The President and Vice-President shall be a junior or senior in high school and a messenger sent from an approved chapter of an affilated church of Ohio Baptist General Convention.

The Sectary, Financial Secretary and Chaplin will be a messenger sent from an approved chapter of an affiliated chapter of the State Baptist General Convention.

All Elected officers must have the approval of their District Liaison prior to installation.

STATE SUPERVISORS

There shall be a State Superintendent and each District shall have Liaisons. Each chapter shall have a Conuselor. The Conselor shall be appointed by the local church with consultation with the local Laymen President.

The Counselor shall make a quarterly report to his local Laymen President and to the District Liaison, with a copy to the local Pastor.

The District Organizer shall make a quarterly, written report to the State Superintendent who in turn shall make an annual reort to the Laymen Convention.

These officers shall be chose yearly by their respertive bodies and shall be members of their Executive Boards.

BY-LAWS

Membership in the local chapter shall be males; Jr. Laymen will be 12 years — high school graduate, Older Youth — High school — 25 years

The President shall preside at all business meetings, be Chairman of the Executive Board, seek the general interest of the Chapter and report to Counselor who in turn will keep the Pastor informed of the program.

The Vice-Pesident shall preside in the absence of the president and shall cooperate with him in the general work of the Chapter.

The Secetary shall keep an accurate, legible record of all meetings of the local Chaprter as well as the Executive Board meetings and shall be responsible for presenting the same at each following meeting. Record should include all committee reports as well as all financial transactions. The Secetary shall also be responsible for the correspondence of the Local Chapter.

The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of monies collected by the Chapter and disburse only with proper authorization.

The Membership Committee shall seek to secure new members by an annual membership drive; seek acquaintance with all young men coming into the Church and Community, look up abesentees and strive for the regular attendance of all members. This committee will also be in charg of all programs.

The Finance Committee shall strive to plan ways of financing the work of the Chapter with approval of the Counselor.

STATE JR. LAYMEN COUNCIL

The State Superintendent and District Liaisons togeather with (2) members at large from each District shall consitute the Jr. Laymen Council. The progress and program of the Jr. Laymen shall be the resonsibility of the Fr. Laymen Council.

SUGGESTED - METHOD OF ORGANIZATION

1) Ask the Pastor of the President of the Laymen to invite all young men of the church to a special meeting in a home or at the church. At the proper time, have someonse state clearly the purpose of the meeting. This should be done in an attractive and appealing manner. If possible, have the District Liaison present to do this. Selec a m an who loves youth and one whom they love for a Counselor. Much will depend upon the enthusiasm that is created in this meeting.

- Special emphasis on the purpose/objective of the organization is a must... not a social club but an oranization to do real Kingdom buildin work.
- ➤ Let the youth men understand that this is an oranization of the church created for them and the church is expecting great things from them.
- > Read the Consitution, Slogan, Pledge, Motto, Colors, Show Emblem and read the Jr. Laymen Song to them.

Enroll the names of all who care to join and appoint a committee for nomination of officers to report at the next meeting. Decide upon a regular time for our meeting, which may be weekly, bi-weekly or monthly.

2) At the second meeting elect officers, name your chapter appoints committee and outlines the work of the year. Fill out and forward to the Liaison of the Jr. Layment for your District the name of your chapter and

the name and address of the President and Secetary of your chapter. Always adjourn with prayer and the Jr. Laymen Pledge.

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This Organization shall be know as the	
Chapter of the Jr. Laymen of the	
Baptist Church of	

ARTICLE II

Its objective shall be to enlist the interest and aid of the young men of our church in the work of the church in hekping carry out the Great Commission.

<u>ARTICLE III</u>

To become a member of the Jr. Laymen, the Chukrch must subscribe to the Unified Budget and be a member of the State Baptist General Convention.

<u>ARTICLE IV</u>

The officers of this chapter shall be President, Vice-President, Sectary and Treasurer elected annually to perfor the duties common to such officers. There shall be a Conselor chosen from the Laymen Auxiliary of the Church who shall act as advisor of your chapter. The term of office of each officer shall not

exceed four (4).

<u>ARTICLE V</u>

There sh all at least be four (4) standing committee: Membership, Program Social and Finance of which a chairman shall be appointed by the President. The Officers of the chapter, the Conunselor and Chairman of Committees shall consitute the Executive Boards. Other committees may be added as the work

of the chapter demands.

ARTICLE VI

Counselor of the Chapter shall report monthly to the Laymen Auxiliary.

ARTICLE VII

The Constitution may be amended at any meeting by a majority vote of the members present, provided due notice has been given to the proposed amendement.

SLOGAN

Alert Young Men helping to enlighten others and strengthening themselves.

PLEDGE

I Pledge to remember my creator in the days jof my youth, to go forth and make Disciples of all men and hereby hereon joyfully pledge my time, finance, service and prayers that the Kingdom of the world may become the Kingdom of our Lord and Savor who keeps me steadfast.

MOTTO

"An Ever Increasing Faith"

Doubt sees the obstacles
Faith sees the way.

Doubt sees the darkest night
Faith sees the day.

Doubt dreads to take a step
Faith soars on high.

Doubt questions: who belives?

Faith answers: "I".

COLORS

Blue - Gray

PENNANT

The Chapter Name is in <u>gray</u> letters on <u>blue</u> background with State Logo.

UNIFORMS OF JR. LAYMEN

JACKETS	Navy Blue
Trouisers	Gray
Shirts	Blue or White
Ties	Solid Blue
Shoes	Black
State Logo	Left pocket of the jacket

ALL CHAPTERS SHOULD STRIVE FOR THE FOLLOWING GOALS

- 1) Every member pledge to daily devotions.
- 2) Every member pledge to stewardship.
- 3) Prayer circle in every chapter.
- 4) Every member actively engaged in work of the church.
- 5) Encourage someone to pledge to a life of service.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- Call to order by the President
- > Devotional period
- Reading of the Minutes of previous meeting
- Report of Standing Committees
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- > Adjournment

DEVOTIONAL PERIOD

Singing – Reading of Scripture – Prayer – Singing

Topic for discussion or some feature: Current events, Bible, Roll Call,

Response by Bible Quotations

Offering – Dismissal

Social Hour

Jr. Laymen Hymn: "Loyalty to Christ"

JR. LAYMEN PROGRAM ELEMENTS

- 1) **Study** Bible Study, Church History, Missions, Stewardship, Current Events, Vocational Education, Boy-Girl Relations, Intercultural Education, Community Relataions, Ethical and Social Problems;
- 2) **Work** Woodcraft, arts, crafts, part-time work for spending money, odd jobs, done as a Christian service and cores willingly accepted at home as an expression of cooperative family living.
- 3) **Play** Team games, spontaneous or group games, aquatics, athletics, and camp craft;
- 4) **Worship** Worship experience, which has meaning for boys on their respective age levels;
- 5) **Business** Pratice in the proper conduct and operation of the group to which they belong and their dependability in meeting any financial obligations they may incur in carrying out their objectives;
- 6) **Action** Doing something with their lives on their present level and with their present capacities as a result of their study, work, play and worship.
- 7) * Witness "TO GO FORTH AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL MEN"

YEARLY STATE GOALS

- Develop Christian Education Progam
- Develop State-wide Evangelism Program
- > Registration of all Youth
- Conselor Retreat
- Association Activities (Retreat/Amusement Park)
- Develop Data Base/Web Site

Organizing And Developing A Junior Laymen Program

Financing The Boys Program

The church's role should always be a role to subsideize the Junior Laymen program. Churches should set a side in their youth budget funds for the Junior Laymen.

The Senior Laymen should also earmark funds in their budget and perations for the Junior Laymen.

Parents should also be full participants in providing monies for the various activites of the Junior Laymen. The church and counselors should not allow the parents to get comfortable in thinking that the church will take care of their children expenses.

The Junior Laymen should be active in raising funds for their activities. By having them earn monies for their activities, this teaches them a work ethic and to have an appreciation for money and the things that money buys.

Listed below are some activities that can be incorportated into the financing program:

Car washes	Cookouts	Candy Sales	Cutting grass
Garage sales	Meat sales	Shoveling snow	Bake sales
Banquets	Special Offerings	Luncheons	Breakfasts
Musicals	Sponsorships	Auxiliary support	

Developing Study Lessons And Teaching Techniqes

Junior Layment material is in short supply. At the time of this writing there is no standard set of material or literature endorsed by the National Baptist Laymen's Movement. This section is to inform the counselors that they have at the disposal the greatest study guide ever written, the bible. All that is needed to meet the purpose and objectives of any Junior Laymen program is rercorded in the bible.

Counselors should use basic report writing skills to have study lessons in their junior Laymen meetings:

- 1) Select a topic
- 2) Develop an outline of major points
- 3) Fill in the major points
- 4) Summarize

Jr. Layment Point System Chart

R LAYMEN					CHURCH		CITY
COUNSE	LOR				PA	STOR	
=====:	=======	DATES		====	=======	======	PROGRAM LENGTH: MONTHLY
DATES		DATE				MAXI- MUM POINTS	AUG-APR OR SEP-MAY TOTAL MONTHLY POINTS: 160 TOTAL(LESS BONUS) 1440 RECOGNITION ROMT. 1000
!	_			-		-	SERVICE/EVENT
				+-		30	DAILY BIBLE READING
						10	ATTEND BIBLE STUDY
-						10	VISIT SICK OTHER THAN IMMEDIATE FAMILY
-						10	PRAY IN MEETINGS
						5	ANSWER ROLL CALL WITH A BIBLE VERSE (MEMORIZED)
						5	BRING A NEW MEMBER
1						5	BRING A GUEST
S N N						15	TAKE ACTIVE PART IN PROGRESS OF CHURCH, SCHOOL, COMMUNITY, ETC.
						30	USE PROPER PROTOCOL*
						10	TAKE ACTIVE PART IN REGULAR MEETING
						5	BE ON TIME FOR REGULAR MEETING
						5	KNOW SLOGAN
						5	KNOW PLEDGE
						5	KNOW MOTTO
1						10	90 ACC
21						-5	LATE WITHOUT ACCEPTABLE
			-			10	ABSENT WITHOUT ACCEPTABLE
						10	EXCUSE TOTAL PLUS POINTS
	-			+			LESS MINUS POINTS ATTEND LOCAL CHURCH
							MISSIONARY MEETING
							ATTEND LAYMEN/YOUNG
					_	20	DAVID DISTRICT MEETING ATTEND ASSOCIATIONAL
						20	MEETING
1			15			20	ATTEND OHIO BAPTIST RETREAT
							TOTAL ALL POINTS *SEE BOOK SOCIAL PROTOCOL)

Basic Stewardship

Our Duties To The Church

What will be our duties once we are in the fellowship?

1) Lead a Pure Life

We should lead a pure and blameless life, seeking to honor our professional and bring credit to the church.

2) Do All We Can to Maintain Worship and Work

We should do all we can to maintain its worship and work. This will mean the giving of money, rerguarly, systematically, and proportionately to our ability. It will also mean that we attend the services and take part in the work of the Church

3) Preserve the Peace of the Church

We should endeavor to preserve the peace of the Church at any cost to ourself, short of denying the truth of God or disobeying the dictates of our conscience. No mere notion or desire for our own way should be permitted to make a break in the fellowship of the church, and not infrequently mistake notions for principles.

4) Extend Infulence of Church in Community

We should contantly strive to extend the influences of the Church in our community. We must be constantly seeking to win souls to Christ and to

draw others under the influence of the gospel. Each member must be an evangelist.

"WHATEVER IT TAKES!"

I am a part of a ministry committed to doing "whatever it takes."

Jesus is the Lord of my life.
The die has been cast. I've stepped over the line.
I am out of the comfort zone. The decision has
been made. I am in this for life. I won't look back,
let up, slow down, or back away.

My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, and my future is secured. I no longer need pre-eminence, prosperity, position, promotions, or popularity. I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded, or rewarded. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, diluted, or delayed.

I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of adversity, negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity, or wander in the maze of mediocrity. I won't give up, shut up, slow up, let up, or burn up-til I've preached up, prayed up, paid up, stored up, and stayed up for the cause of Christ.

I am a disciple of Jesus.

And when He comes to get His own, He'll have no problem recognizing me because I have dedicated my life to being part of a ministry committed to doing whatever it takes!!

