

Sample letter to church members

Dear Church family,

Next month our church is planning an emphasis that can result in the largest number of people hearing the gospel and coming to know Christ in our history, and your help is needed. This emphasis is called "On Mission to Share Jesus," (OMTSJ), and will include three major features:

1. On Sunday morning every person present will be given a special OMTSJ bracelet and a simple way to share its powerful eternal life saving message. You've always wanted to be able to share Jesus, now you can.
2. Every person present at the Evangelism Launch Service on Sunday evening will have the opportunity to hear about and become part of God's year 2000 vision for our church. I know that you love your Lord and want to know and be part of your church's future in the new millennium!
3. The third feature is designed to honor God by increasing the number of people studying His Word, the Bible. Every member will be asked to make a special effort to be present for Sunday School and worship every Sunday during October (or other month chosen). Would you do that for Jesus? You can also honor Him by inviting friends.

I believe "On Mission to Share Jesus" is of God. He is calling us to get ready for an incredible moving of His Spirit as we move toward the year 2000. If we don't claim the opportunities this season offers, Satan will. Never let it be said that our church did not rise to the occasion. Hear more about OMTSJ at church Sunday.

I love you.

Your Pastor

ON MISSION TO SHARE JESUS!

**SUBJECT:
ON MISSION
TO SHARE
JESUS
(formerly called
Soul-Winning
Commitment
Day.)**

Dear Pastor,

The months leading to the year 2000 bring incredible evangelism opportunities. There is a marked increase in interest in spiritual matters, and the Christian community is more united than ever before. Concerts of prayer for revival are happening across North America and the Celebrate Jesus 2000 goals of praying for and sharing the gospel with every person in North America are truly possible, if we redeem the time. The North American Mission Board wants to help by providing this toolkit of ideas for *On Mission To Share Jesus Sunday*.

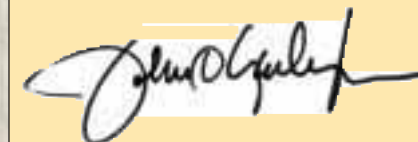
The recommended date for *On Mission To Share Jesus Sunday* is October 3, 1999, but you can do it any Sunday you would like. I am praying that you will consider planning for the most pivotal Sunday in your church's recent history, and the greatest month ever of attendance in Sunday School and worship, using the material we are providing.

Tools are enclosed to help you and your leaders to mobilize God's people in three areas of evangelism: (1) individuals sharing the gospel; (2) the church rallying in support of your evangelism goals and plans for the year; (3) commitments to be present for Bible study and worship every Sunday in October (or other month chosen).

Imagine this: In one prayed-for service, the entire congregation can be taught how and moved to share the gospel. You can lead them to assemble and understand the simplest, most powerful gospel presentation we have found. It is based on the familiar power band bracelet. A sample bracelet is included in this toolkit.*

Pastor, please look at the contents in this toolkit. Make copies of the parts that can be handled by various leaders in your church. Meet with God and the leaders and prayerfully plan this observance. Call us if you need more information. You can see and download the toolkit from the Internet by visiting namb.net and choosing Evangelism, Resources then OMTSJ.

Celebrating Jesus,



John O. Yarbrough
Vice President for Evangelization
North American Mission Board

*This exposure to the OMTSJ bracelet can be used by God to open the door to more in-depth soul-winning training such as FAITH.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR THE
MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
ON MISSION TO SHARE JESUS SUNDAY**
October 3, 1999
Order of Service

Prelude.....	Instrumentalists
Choir.....	"Victory In Jesus" (#475).....Bartlett
*Hymn #40.....	"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name".....Perronet
Invocation.....	Pastor
Scripture reading.....	Roman
1:16.....	Congregation
<i>"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" (Rom. 1:16)</i>	
Hymn # 277 ...	"We Have Heard the Joyful Sound".....Kirkpatrick
Drama Sketch.....	"He Loves Me, He Loves Me Not"
Solo.....	"People to People" (# 308).....Washburn
Welcome to Guests.....	Pastor
*Fellowship Song # 255.....	"Sweet, Sweet, Spirit".....Akers
*Hymn # 283.....	"Rescue the Perishing".....Crosby
*Offertory Prayer.....	Pastor
Choir.....	"Set My Soul Afire" (# 302).....Scales
Message.....	On Mission To Share JesusPastor (OMTSJ bracelet)
*Hymn #298....	"Lord, Lay Some Soul upon My Heart".....McKinney
*Closing Remarks.....	Pastor
*Parting Chorus # 448.....	"Because He Lives".....Gaither
Postlude.....	Instrumentalists

(Hymn selections are included in the Baptist Hymnal, 1975 edition)
Optional hymns from The Baptist Hymnal, 1991 edition:
"Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners" #185, "Take My Life, Lead Me, Lord"
#287, "Share His Love," #567, Shine, Jesus, Shine, #579, "One by One" #561

Optional special music:
"Go, Tell Everyone" by Goss, "Carry the Light" by Clydsdale, "Look Away"
by Cymbala, "Lead Me Lord" by Cymbala, "For Those Tears I Died" by
Stevens, "Friend of A Wounded Heart" by Watson

Worship chorus suggestions:
"Lead Me Lord, I Will Follow," by Brooklyn Tabernacle, "Change My
Heart, O God," by Integrity, Songbook #7, "Send Me," by Maranatha,
"People of Light," by Word, "Use Me," by Brooklyn Tabernacle, "Sold Out
Medley," by Word

**SUGGESTIONS FOR THE
EVENING SERVICE
ON MISSION TO SHARE JESUS SUNDAY**
October 3, 1999
Order of Service

Prelude.....	Instrumentalists
*Hymn #35.....	"How Great Thou Art" or
*Hymn #33.....	"To God Be the Glory"Hine
*Hymn #215.....	"Majesty".....Hayford
*Prayer.....	Pastor
Scripture Reading.....	Matthew 28:18-20.....Congregation
<i>"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen" (Matt. 28:18-20).</i>	
Reading of the Church Mission Statement.....	Congregation
Hymn #461.....	"I Love to Tell the Story".....Hankey
Testimony.....	"A Recent Soul-Winning Encounter".....Layman
Solo.....	"People Need the Lord".....Nelson
Church leadership presentation of evangelistic plans and goals	
*Hymn #280.....	"So Send I You".....Clarkson
*Offertory Prayer.....	Pastor
Choir.....	"Send Me, O Lord, Send Me" (#293).....Coggins
Message.....	"A Call to Commitment".....Pastor
Commitment Song Solo..	"Do You Really Care?" (#316)..Cates
A Commitment Prayer and Closing Remarks.....	Pastor
*A Parting Song #271... "Send a Great Revival".....	McKinney
Postlude.....	Instrumentalists

*Denotes congregation standing
(All hymns are included in The Baptist Hymnal, 1975 edition with the exception of "Majesty" which is in The Baptist Hymnal, 1991 edition)

**THE MORNING SERVICE—
ON MISSION TO SHARE JESUS SUNDAY**

AUGUST

Begin the prayer strategy. Enlist specific people to pray for the following features of OMTSJ:

(1) The On Mission To Share Jesus Commitment Service, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest" (Luke 10:2, NKJV). (2) The Evangelism Launch Service. (3) The Sunday School and Worship High Attendance Strategy. Continue the prayer strategy through October.

Get ready for the morning service for *On Mission To Share Jesus Sunday*. Make copies of the contents of the toolkit as needed, and give them to the appropriate leaders. Meet with these leaders and begin planning for one of the most significant services in the church's history. The suggestions for the morning service, written by Dick Thomassian, Whitesburg Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala., are printed on the inside cover of this file folder.

Sunday School Features: Special 15-minute OMTSJ Sunday School assembly features written by Bill Bryan, First Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga. This material is included in this toolkit. Beginning on OMTSJ Sunday and continuing each Sunday throughout the month, special assemblies with drama briefs can be scheduled. Colors of the OMTSJ bracelet gospel presentation will be featured each Sunday. The purpose is to keep alive and strengthen the resolve to share Jesus, made by many members on OMTSJ Sunday. In some churches, one assembly can be held each Sunday for the entire church, including children's classes and older. Larger churches may choose to conduct an assembly for each of the age group divisions. The Sunday School director or Minister of Education should print and distribute copies of this material for each person who will lead an assembly or present a drama. Prepare the church visual for OMTSJ Sunday. Ask someone to prepare the church display made like a large OMTSJ bracelet. Some pastors may want to have someone assemble the large bracelet as they preach and instruct the people during the sermon. This same display can be used to celebrate increased Sunday School attendance each Sunday morning during the month. If the Sunday School reaches its attendance goal, the appropriate colored bead can be added to the large bracelet. Do not show the large bracelet until OMTSJ Sunday.

SEPTEMBER

Begin churchwide promotion of OMTSJ Sunday. For the morning service, use every means available to explain and promote the observance of *On Mission To Share Jesus Sunday*. Allow the Holy Spirit to give you ideas to promote OMTSJ. Make plans for the most dynamic service you can imagine. If possible use testimonies, music, drama, announcements from the pulpit, and newsletter articles. Please note the special sample letter to the membership, and appropriate emphases in Sunday School provided in the toolkit. Throughout the month, promote and explain the emphasis and the possibilities that can happen if the Sunday morning congregation wears and shares the OMTSJ bracelet. Expand the prayer support by involving the church's prayer ministry and include the emphasis during the church's prayer services.

Call an OMTSJ check-up meeting with church and Sunday School leaders near the end of September or about 10 days before OMTSJ Sunday. Go over the plans and preparation schedule. Make sure each teacher and leader can explain the emphasis. See that the class/department goals have been set and posters are being prepared and displayed. See that postcards are signed and ready to mail. See that telephone calls are assigned so that every member and prospect will be asked to be present every Sunday during the month of OMTSJ Sunday.

Meet with ushers who will be helping with distribution of OMTSJ Promise Forms and bracelet materials on OMTSJ Sunday. Make sure they know that each part of the bracelet will be handed out separately. The work of these ushers will be very important for the success of OMTSJ.

OCTOBER 3, 1999

Suggested date for *On Mission To Share Jesus Sunday*

Scripture quotations marked NKJV are from the New King James Version. Copyright 1979, 1980, 1982, Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission.