

THE IMPACT OF THE BAPTIST STUDENTS FELLOWSHIP ON THE  
LEADERSHIP AND CHURCH GROWTH OF BAPTIST CHURCHES

AN ESSAY  
SUBMITTED TO THE  
DEPARTMENT OF MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM  
FACULTY OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES  
THE NIGERIAN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
OGBOMOSO

IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE  
DEGREE OF MASTER OF DIVINITY IN MISSIOLOGY

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JUNE, 2015

## ABSTRACT

The study investigated Baptist Students Fellowship's impact on the leadership and church growth of Baptist churches through selected churches in Ogbomoso. The study examined ways by which quality of leadership can be improved in order to stimulate church growth. The study raised some questions in order to raise the interest of the respondents so as to collate information from them to ascertain the relevance of Baptist Students Fellowship in leadership and church growth. A set of questionnaire was designed and administered to collate relevant information supplied by the respondents. The population of the study consisted samples of Baptist students leaders and Pastors in Ogbomoso. 40 questionnaires were distributed and returned which formed the population used in this study. The views of the respondents were critically examined, and it was revealed that an average of 92.5 percent strongly subscribed that the fellowship has influenced the Baptist churches in leadership and church growth while an average of 7.5 percent disagreed. This has been possible through: discipleship, commitment to missions and evangelism, effective prayer and sound spiritual programmes on leadership. Summarily, the Baptist Students Fellowship is an agent of good leadership and church growth. It is therefore recommended that the fellowship should be encouraged in all local churches to give more support to the kingdom mandates.

because it is commonly accepted that the young shall grow. Since Students are young and energetic, they have a lot of potentials that should be encouraged.

## 5.2 Conclusion

The analysis has established that the Baptist Students Fellowship (BSF) has great influence on the leadership and church growth of Baptist Churches. BSF is to be encouraged in churches so that they can give full support to ministries, departments in the church and the church Pastors for the continuation of the kingdom mandate.

The research revealed that BSF is an agent of change and also a strong catalyst in building reputable leaders and ideal church growth therefore the church should provide all necessary support spiritually, financially, materially, socially, economically, physically and morally to fulfill the plan of God in their lives .

### 5.3 Recommendations

In the light of the findings of this research and the need to improve the influence of the Baptist Students Fellowship on leadership and church growth, the writer hereby recommends the following suggestions to church Leaders and the Church as a whole:

1. The Baptist Students Fellowship and other denominational-based organization should be allowed to function in all Baptist Churches.
2. The Baptist Students Fellowship should be encouraged with more effective programmes that is centered on leadership and church growth.
3. The church Leaders and Pastors should encourage and give maximum attention to the spiritual gifts and ministerial calling of students for effective guidance into leadership and church growth.
4. The Seminary and other Colleges of Theology should encourage BSF members who gain admission for training through Baptist Students' Leaders Fellowship through its curriculum and other activities.
5. Baptist Students Fellowship is expected to be obedient, cooperative, sensitive, loving, and caring to all their guardians, parent and all spiritual leaders. Also they should be more prayerful, more vibrant in the word of God, full of good virtues and mission conscious in order to maintain the legacy they have received.