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**AN EVALUATION OF THE BAPTIST MEDIA
OGBOMOSO CENTER**

**AN ESSAY
PRESENTED TO THE FACULTY OF
NIGERIA BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
OGBOMOSO**

**IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF DIVINITY
IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed at finding out if the Ogbomoso Baptist Media Center measures up to a standard that will effectively serve the Baptist community in Ogbomoso and its environment for the twenty-first century. This was carried out among the Baptist pastors in Ogbomoso Township. The activities of the center for a whole year were also assessed and opinions of one hundred Baptist Pastors (Students and residents) were sampled through questionnaire.

The data collected was analysed by the use of simple percentage and frequency count. Thus, the following are the result:

- i. The Baptist Media Ogbomoso Center does not measure up to the standard form of a media center.
- ii. The equipments in the media center are not able to meet the present needs in church evangelism and education.
- iii. There is no significant difference between what the center is doing now and the purposes and reasons of its establishment.
- iv. There are no enough workers in the Media Center.
- v. There are lots of problems hindering the effectiveness of the Media Center.

Hence, it is concluded that the center will not be able to serve the Baptist Community in Ogbomoso effectively for this twenty-first century. Suggestion and recommendations were then made to reduce the problems and to improve the standard of the media center.

CONCLUSION

In the light of the finding of this study, within its limitations, the media center is seen as below a standard form of a media center, this is based on the available services, the quality of equipments and materials available which fall below the standard of a media center.

As a result of this low level of equipments and services the media center can not meet the present need in church evangelism. The analogue equipment need be substituted with digital ones and video projector bought instead of 16mm slide projector. It is the video projector that will enable the center to make use of contemporary films, which are on videotapes, for outreaches. Until the center is furnished with modern equipments, the center will not be able to minister effectively in this century.

Hitherto, the Media Center is still pursuing the philosophy for its establishment. Even though at a very marginal rate, the evangelistic work is place too high above the educational ones. Converts of an evangelistic endeavour can not stand unless there is good nurture. However, the center is not training the Seminary students, as stated in the statement of reason and purpose, except some Religion Education students whose lecturer cares to take to the center at random. The reason for this may be lack of professional who can train students.

Inspite of equipments and activities, the Media Center is understaffed. The presence of one worker in the Baptist Media Ogbomoso Center has limited its services greatly. Ezell maintains that the minimum worker for a Media Center is three. This and many other problems hindering the media center from being effective can be handled.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- i. Future research can be directed towards the commercialization of the Baptist Media Ogbomoso Center and can be a solution to low patronage. These two areas will increase the investment of the convention. This study has not been able to touch these areas yet they have both spiritual and financial implications on the Convention.

- ii. There should be adequate promotion for the Baptist Media Centers during our Convention, Conference and Associational sessions. This should be extended to local churches in the environment where the center is located.
- iii. In view of the above, the center should be made available to users without much restrictions. Responses of people and the experience of this researcher show that the Media Center is not accessible to people, the administrative policy should be reviewed.
- iv. The commercialization and conversion of the media center should be seen as a matter of urgency. The license can be obtained before long and the transmission started.
- v. For effectiveness of the Media Center, communication is another problem, therefore, a telephone line should be extended to the Media Center.
- vi. Seminary student should be contacted to discover how many of them will be willing to do some menial job such as recording, operation of equipment on the field, circulation of materials and so on for the center on voluntary basis. This study also reveals that there will be some students in the Seminary who will want to be volunteers. These should be given adequate training and scheduled for service.