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THE NIGERIAN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY,

THE ROLE OF BAPTIST YOUTHS IN EVANGELISM: A  
CASE STUDY OF OGBOMOSO SOUTH WEST BAPTIST  
ASSOCIATION

AN ESSAY PRESENTED TO THE FACULTY OF  
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REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE BACHELOR OF  
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DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY

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# CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## CONCLUSION

The work "The Role of the Youth in Evangelism: A case study of Ogbomoso South-West Baptist Association" has carefully examined the biblical basis for evangelism and the involvement of the Youth. The work as stated earlier and as the title implied is to show the activity of the Youth in evangelism and at the same time discuss some of the impacts the Fellowship has made so far to the evangelistic programme of the Association. This is established through a thorough field study report from the churches that make up the Association and their pastors.

It must be stressed that evangelism reflects the essential nature of God. God is by nature loving and glorious. Because of his love and grace, God desires to redeem sinful humanity and this reconcile all the world's people to himself. Truly, "a scarlet thread of redemption"<sup>1</sup> run through the Bible. God's essential nature prompts him to seek and save everyone who is alienated from him. If God should reveals himself to be loving and gracious, churches within the Association not only the Youth Fellowship should seek out the sinful and alienated

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<sup>1</sup>Terry, Church Evangelism, 1

and lead them to reconciliation with God. As Christian we are responsible and privileged to do so.<sup>2</sup>

The Association should announce that God has reconciled the world to himself through Jesus Christ.<sup>3</sup>

This work has tried to explain the biblical mandate for evangelism; that is: proclaiming the gospel of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and showing the way and method through which the Youth Fellowship can share the gospel in the surrounding villages. As a result of this, the researcher here-by recommends the following:

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **A. GREATER EMPHASIS ON PRAYER**

For the task of evangelizing the world reconciling the world, back to God back it is recommended that greater emphasis should be placed on prayer. While it would not be denied that correct methods are good and important, the Youth and anyone involved in evangelism should know that methods are no substitute for prayer. In fact, growing churches are not only evangelistic and outreach oriented, they also place greater emphasis on prayer.<sup>4</sup> Let it be known that one cannot evangelize without spiritual power.

The Christians of the apostolic era had none of our advantages, they did not have the New Testament, still they turned the Roman Empire upside down with the Word of God. Our prayer should be able

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<sup>2</sup>Ibid.

<sup>3</sup>II Corinthians 5:19.

<sup>4</sup>Terry,. 15.

to bring changes into our community. In fact, the first two chapters of Acts provide us with a case study of prayer and empowerment. In Acts 1:4-5, Jesus told his disciples not to leave Jerusalem but wait for the gifts promised by his Father. In essence, empowerment comes before witnessing in Acts 2:2. The disciples prayed for both power and results and God answered their request. Therefore, the Ogbomoso South-West Baptist Youth Fellowship should place more emphasis on prayer by organizing more prayer meetings instead of once in a while and work towards igniting more fire to their prayer committee.

#### **B. ADEQUATE PLANNING**

Most people hope to reach the lost, but they do not have a plan for doing so. A careful study of the scriptures reveals that God himself made plans. In Exodus Chapter twenty-five to thirty (25-30) details of God's plans for the tabernacle is mentioned; he instructed Moses to build according to pattern. Jeremiah chapter thirty-one (31) tells how God planned for a new covenant community. In the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus asked God to change his plan for the salvation of humanity.

Finally, in Acts 1:8, we see that Jesus has a definite plan for world evangelization. In fact, the Book of Acts show vividly how the early church followed Christ's plan. Hence, the researcher is recommending that adequate planning should be done before starting any move to evangelize. Follow up exercise has to be included in their plan as it has been revealed that most of the areas evangelized did not

experience their follow up and this made them to go back to their old ways of life.

### C. MOTIVATION

Motivation according to Collins English Dictionary is the process that arouses, sustains and regulates human and animal behaviour.<sup>5</sup> It is quite sure that man's needs are motivation to do and to do more than what he/she has done in the past. With this, the researcher recommends to the Youth officers of the Association to look for a way of motivating the Youth to have more interest in evangelizing more. The Youth officers should endeavour to visit each church fellowship regularly and hold an hour of appreciation for those who go for both village and city witnessing in their monthly meetings.

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<sup>5</sup>Collins English Dictionary (1979), S.V. "Motivation".