

**CAUSES AND POSSIBLE REMEDIES OF LOW ATTENDANCE IN  
EVENING SERVICES OF SOME CHURCHES IN OGBOMOSO  
BAPTIST CONFERENCE.**

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M. Div.*

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**BY**

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## **RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION**

A previous work done by Rev. M.A. Oladeji, First Baptist Church, Awe on the subject matter was done on 19<sup>th</sup> February 1995 in the Church Training programme literature with the topic "Low evening attendance examined". It was not a research work by then and it was done with the idea of a single person. The main reasons identified as the cause of low evening attendance are spiritual/religious, intellectual, social and economic reasons. The suggested solutions to improve the situation include Education and enlightenment, Visitation programme and Revitalizing the Church Training Programme. By doing further research work on the subject matter, more ideas from pastors and church members materialized.

From the findings of this research, the average of 62% of church members in local churches does not attend the evening service. The pastors, church members and the Convention contribute to the low attendance in the evening service. Lack of varieties in the order of service in the evening worship contributes to low attendance; many church members do not understand the meaning and importance of evening worship. Example of fellowshiping with God in the evening with Adam and Eve was given in the Bible (Gen. 3:8-11). God wanted to bless Adam and Eve but sin prevented this. So also members are losing blessing from God by not attending evening service. In Acts 1:12-19 when Peter was arrested by Herod and wanted to kill him the next day, believers gathered and prayed and God rescued him in that night. Also, in I King 18:25-39, it was in the evening fellowship that Elijah called on God and there was victory for him over the

prophets of Baal. Evening worship should not be taken lightly because God blesses his people when they call on him at any time.

Genuine actions such as the convention reducing the Sunday Emphasis programmes to our churches, pastors educating their members on importance of worship, particularly the need for attendance in the evening service, the pastor's giving enough time to read the Bible and prepare meaningful Bible study and they should endeavour to deliver good sermons. Also the pastors should try to introduce interesting programmes like drama, video shows, marriage seminars etc, all of these programmes and many others could be introduced in order to attract members to the evening service.

In conclusion, evening church attendance is a task that must be done which has the fullness of blessings from God to every believer! Some causes of low attendance in evening service has been identified and likely suggestions has been given. If the suggestions are properly followed, it is strongly believed that the low attendance in evening services will be improved.