

**THE IMPACT OF MISSION MOBILIZATION ON THE MISSION
ENTERPRISE OF A LOCAL CHURCH: A CASE STUDY OF
SELECTED CHURCHES OF THE OGBOMOSO BAPTIST
CONFERENCE**

NBTS
M. Div.
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**A DEGREE ESSAY PRESENTED TO THE FACULTY OF THE
NIGERIAN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, OGBOMOSO,
NIGERIA.**

**IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE
DEGREE OF MASTER OF DIVINITY IN MISSIOLOGY**

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03/0061**

JUNE, 2006

06 — 1030

ABSTRACT

This research work discusses the impact of mobilization on the mission of a local church. As a case study, some churches were randomly selected from the Ogbomoso Baptist Conference. From the study, it is obvious that mission mobilization is of great impact in the mission enterprise of the local church. Some of the major impacts include awareness of the mission task, spiritual productivity, church planting and church growth.

The major methods used to arrive at the above impacts include, observation, participation, oral interviews and library research. Through these methods, objective and critical assessment were made and thus historically presented.

Indeed, mission mobilization is the way forward in the mission enterprise of the local church. Without mobilization, churches and members would be passive in missions. May this work serve as an impetus to mobilize us for missions.

B. Recommendations

Below are some recommendations to the local church and all believers on the way forward in mission mobilization.

A Clear Vision Statement on Missions: Every member should be fully aware of the motivating vision of his or her church. It must be communicated often and often to everyone, because clear vision gives direction, motivation and commitment to all involved.

Pastoral Team's Commitment to a Global Vision: The Pastor must be totally committed to world evangelization and involve his congregation to follow his leading. This attitude must be shown in commitment to private and public intercession for mission, preaching content and allocation of time for mission in Sunday services.

Mission Mobilization Structure Within the Church: This would be done by a committee of the church. The Mission Mobilization Committee sees to the planning and organisation for the local church mobilization activities and participation in missions.

Systematic Teaching Programme on Mission: This should be done in selected Sunday services, Sunday School periods, House Fellowships and Church Training Programme.

Mobilization of Mission must be made an integral part of every Department: Every department or organisation in the local church must be mobilized for mission through its various activities by planning for it.

This is fundamental to the functioning of every department of a local church like the MMU, WMU, Youth, B. S. F, Lydia, G. A., R. A. and Sunbeam. It is the Mission Mobilization Committee that will seek to develop this involvement.

Mobilization Through Cooperative Programme: Each Local Church under the Nigerian Baptist Convention should endeavour to cooperate with the GMB and create a better relationship that will bring the impact of Mission Mobilization to reality in the Convention.

Organization of Different Trainings: A local Church should organize Seminars, workshops, Conferences and series of training for general awareness of mission.

Use of Printed Materials: The Pastor can use Church Bulletins, Mission Magazines and Tracts for mobilization for missions.

C. Conclusion

The impact of mobilization on the missions of a local church cannot be over-emphasised. Indeed mission mobilization and

participation is the core essence and purpose of the Church. In mobilization, the church leadership has the task of awakening, sensitizing, enlightening and educating the body of Christ to be involved in missions. As the Church gets mobilized for missions and also participates the impact becomes obvious.

Every local church must be inspired by God's Word to be involved in missions or else, such a church would 'expire'. The relevance of a church lies in her involvement in Missions. A pastor and Church that lack the vision of the glory of God, also lack the vision of His greatness (Isaiah 6:1-8), the vision of His groaning (Jer. 8:20), and the vision of His passion (Matt. 9:35-38 and Rev. 5:9).

Missions must not just be the vision of the Church; but the very reason why God sent His only Son to die. Consequently, by the virtue of this redemption, every soul on earth is expected back at home in heaven (John 14:1-4, II Peter 3:9 and I Tim. 2:4), which always makes heaven to rejoice; but heaven mourns when men die and go to hell fire. This is the perennial necessity for mission and mission mobilization.