

# DIRECTIONS

for Foursquare Christian Educators

SPRING 1991

NATIONAL DEPT OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
AND FOURSQUARE PUBLICATIONS

Volume 14

## ◀ BEYOND OUR BORDERS ▶

Out of the Fortress into the Frontier

Going beyond our borders in outreach ministry is an absolute necessity. There is a dynamic action of the Holy Spirit that brings about the miraculous when we listen, learn, and lead in new ministries beyond our borders.

The Church and Christian Education are called to be pioneers - not just settlers. The Holy Spirit is deeply stirring the hearts of believers throughout the land to move out of our fortresses into the frontiers with a variety of new ministries.

Volumes of reasons exist why we should not have a V.B.S., children's crusade, or care for the homeless, but the fact remains that a Christian or a church that is not reaching out is a biblical contradiction.

Early in my ministry, the grace of the Lord Jesus taught me that the greatest reason (excuse) for not getting in frontline ministry was fear of failure. One cannot read the Gospels without hearing the compelling voice of Jesus saying "Go... I send you... as you go, do not fear... I am with you always." Jesus sends. You and I tend to stay. When Jesus sent forth the disciples in Matthew 10 they not only had His authority but embraced three powerful truths:

- ◇ Jesus was totally devoted to them;
- ◇ Jesus had a plan for their lives;
- ◇ Jesus would accomplish the extraordinary through them as they went.

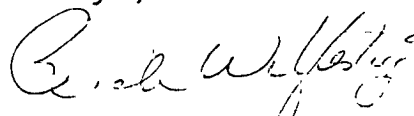
Fresh and new ministry can be hampered by our lack of self-worth and feelings of inadequacy. Don't minimize the effectiveness of Jesus' work in your life as you obey Him.

A few years ago a college professor from USC shared that gifted, creative people only use about 10% of their best ideas. He lamented this fact by asking, "When will we learn to know what to keep and what to give?" May I encourage you to keep the ideas and resources for ministry that God gives you. Don't throw them away, but ponder them in your heart and pray for God's open door of opportunity. Be an agent of change. Usher in new life through "prayer-proven" ideas to those who serve with you and to your congregation.

Included in this Spring Directions are examples of ordinary people moving beyond their borders. If your church is involved in an outreach ministry, please write to us and let us know what you are doing and what you are learning.

Relevant and effective resources are available to you. Take a moment and look to see what is offered through Foursquare Publications.

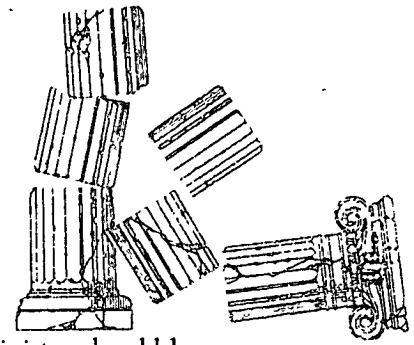
*Moving beyond our borders  
with you,*



Rick Wulfestieg  
National Minister of Christian Education  
and Director of Foursquare Publications

# **M**inistry and **o**ttivation

Often, new ministry begins with desperation and rubble. A good example of this is Nehemiah rebuilding the wall (Nehemiah 2-4). A few facts come into focus when challenged by the Lord Jesus to get **GOING!**



Desperation or **NEED** for ministry motivates people to pray, pay, and work.

Desperation or **NEED** for ministry causes people to give up their idea of what ministry should be.

In bringing motivation and relationships in ministry together, the following six thoughts would be helpful to remember:

1. **People don't always want to be motivated.** Change is often viewed as stress or useless. No change = no growth.
2. **People will do what you want them to do most of the time** — if you show them what to do! Simply and clearly model the desired action, **LIVE IT OUT.**
3. **Build value and understanding** by asking, "What is it that people should know or do?" What is the point of view of others?
4. **Know your listeners.** Who are you speaking to? Senior adults will respond differently than teenagers will.
5. Provide the "**how to's**". This is the action that must transpire first, second, and third.
6. **Communicate the benefits of change.**

After the basic needs are met, the next stage of satisfaction with ministry is crucial. (e.g. "Well, our pioneer church has done all right. We have a building, a Women's group, Sunday school, and we gave \$1,000 to Missions last year.") There is a danger of becoming complacent.

Without new needs constantly being brought into focus within the church's scope of ministry, **ATROPHY** can set in and cripple the effectiveness of the church. This atrophy is a result of being content with present ministry.

How does new ministry come about? **ASK** the Lord to show you ministry needs, **SEEK** out ways to meet those needs, and **KNOCK** on every door.

## **RULES FOR STIFLING INNOVATION**

1. Regard any new idea from below with suspicion -- because it's new, and because it's from below.
2. Insist that people who need your approval to act first go through several other levels of management to get their signatures.
3. Ask departments or individuals to challenge and criticize each other's proposals. (That saves you the job of deciding; you just pick the survivor.)
4. Express your criticism freely, and withhold your praises. (That keeps people on their toes.) Let them know they can be fired at any time.
5. Treat identification of problems as signs of failure, to discourage people from letting you know when something in their area isn't working.
6. Control everything carefully. Make sure people count anything that can be counted, frequently.
7. Make decisions to reorganize or change policies in secret, and spring them on people unexpectedly. (That also keeps people on their toes.)
8. Make sure that requests for information are fully justified, and make sure that it is not given out to managers freely. (You don't want data to fall into the wrong hands.)
9. Assign to lower-level managers the responsibility for figuring out how to cut back, lay off, move people around, or otherwise implement threatening decisions you have made. And get them to do it quickly.
10. And above all, never forget that you, the higher-ups, already know everything important about this business.

*Excerpted from "The Change Masters" by Rosabeth Moss Canter, Simon & Schuster 1983, p. 101*

# "The Messenger"

What is "The messenger?" It is a shiny, completely redesigned cargo van with a message; a message of the gentle love of Jesus Christ to the homeless of Portland.

On July 28, Pastor Tom Baker, Senior Pastor of Portland First Foursquare Church, Leslie Leland, Messenger coordinator, volunteers, and members of the congregation dedicated the van unto the Lord.



This church is living out the Scripture...*"if you give a cup of cold water, in my name, you have done it unto me."* Different teams during the evening hours drive the "Messenger" to Old Town in the heart of the city. The streets are lined with homeless men, women, and children who need a practical message of God's care. Sandwiches, hot soup, clothes, and clean blankets are given. The volunteers then share the real message of Jesus Christ. These homeless are touched every other week for four consecutive nights. Other teams use the van to conduct Bible Clubs for underprivileged children during the day after first offering a sandwich, cookies, or clothes.

"The Messenger" van is maintained by donations, with hundreds of volunteers from 3 to 87 years of age giving hours of prayer and hard work to make this ministry a reality.

If you would like more information about "The Messenger" project contact:

Leslie Leland, Portland First Foursquare Church, 1400 SE Ankeny, Portland, OR 97214.

---

**"The problem of homelessness and poverty in America may seem too overwhelming for any one person or church to tackle. but if each believer were simply to do what he or she can, do it personally, and do it the way Jesus would do it, what kind of impact could we have nationwide?" Ben Kinchlow, "Without Homes, But Not Without Dignity" Charisma & Christian Life, September 1990.**

---

## "Community Impact"

Helping local churches meet their communities in the public square.

Focus on the Family has developed resources and has conference leaders to help concerned Christians lead their local church toward a more effective Christian influence in their communities. "The Community Impact Handbook" will prove helpful to churches taking a first look at social action as well as those who are already bringing Christian principles to the public square.

"Community Impact" is a nationwide network of churches and pro-family organizations working together to restore traditional values in the public square. For more information contact: Focus on the Family, Colorado Springs, CO 80995.

Additional recommended resources that provide a good general overview of pro-family concerns:

**Citizen.** This 16-page magazine covers a broad range of issues with an emphasis on simple, what-you-can-do action items. Stories highlight successful efforts by folks like yourself, and in many states a four-page insert by the family policy council provides regular updates on state and local issues. Available for a suggested donation of \$20 per year from Focus on the Family, 420 N Cascade, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. 1-800-A FAMILY.

**Washington Watch.** This four-page monthly newsletter provides late-breaking news from our nation's capitol with practical guidance for making your voice heard. Congress, the White House and the Supreme Court are all covered. Available free from the Family Research Council, 700 13th St., N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20005. The phone number is (202) 393-2100.

**The Family in America.** This publication provides in-depth analysis backed by solid research on a broad array of family policy subjects. A "new research" supplement included with each issue makes an excellent basis for a resource library. Available for \$21 per year from The Rockford Institute, 934 North Main Street, Rockford, IL 61103-7061.



# Vacation Bible School

by April Westbrook

**VBS** — three small letters that strike panic within the hearts of many C.E. directors every year. "How many workers do we have so far?" and "How many popsicle sticks do we have for the craft?" become the questions of the hour in that mad dash toward summer. Since the answer to the first two questions is usually the same, "not enough", and with the arrival of "year round" school in many areas, plus the continual increase in the number of working mothers, we must find alternatives to the traditional Vacation Bible School method. Here are some modifications we have found to be successful:

## When personnel is limited:

- ✓ 1. Use VBS material throughout the summer at your regular meeting times. The VBS theme, songs, crafts, etc. can be used. Simply view each weekly meeting time as one "day" of the VBS program. In this way, you can utilize regular teaching staff, plus those who would not be able to help on weekdays. We call this "Summer Sundays" at Angelus Temple. The first Sunday is a big kick-off day and on the last Sunday of the summer the children present a program followed by an all church fellowship. Ideas for these events are usually included in the VBS material.
- ✓ 2. Have VBS at night. This one week program would be conducted in the traditional manner. Simply change meeting times to the evening. This allows working adults to participate as well as "year round" school kids.
- ✓ 3. Use a "class rotation" system (suggested in Gospel Light VBS curriculum). With this method, a lead teacher is assigned to each activity area (i.e. craft, story, snack, games). Groups of children are then rotated from one area to another. Each group has an adult or youth leader who escorts the children from room to room, then serves as a helper in each area. This method lowers the required number of actual teachers (those who must commit to preparation time). Also, it decreases the amount of preparation time required for lead teachers (he/she only prepares one aspect of the lesson and then repeats it with each incoming group). By "lightening the load" for everyone, people more readily commit to help.

## When funds are limited:

- ♣ 1. Use the "class rotation" system just described. This method significantly lowers the number of teacher's materials required.
- ♣ 2. Be selective and creative with crafts. Start with what you have and adapt ideas to utilize your resources. Choose crafts that only require inexpensive materials, or substitute expensive materials with items you already have.
- ♣ 3. Ask your church family to donate needed craft materials (print a list in your church bulletin).
- ♣ 4. Do without student guides. Substitute other student participation activities (role play, quizzing, puzzles, games, etc.)
- ♣ 5. Purchase a VBS director's pack first. Go through the materials and order sheet to determine what additional items will be absolutely necessary. Substitute other non-essential items. For example make your own promotion and attendance posters rather than ordering specially made ones. Buy stickers at a dime store and use 3 x 5 cards in place of registration cards.

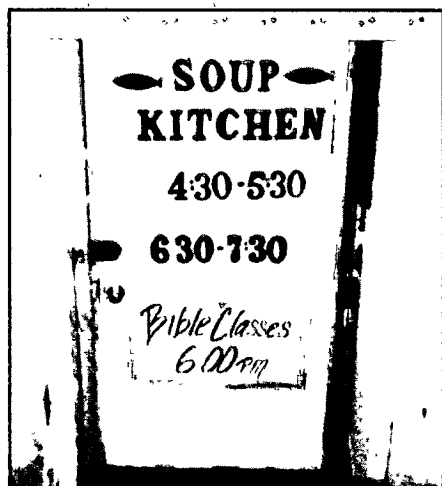
In looking for workable alternatives for VBS the key is to **keep our focus on what we can do** rather than on limitations. Let's be creative! (It's more fun that way!)

**Check into the VBS curriculum for 1992:**  
**SON MOUNTAIN**  
Guided by God's Wisdom  
Based on Proverbs and the life of Christ



# Second Chance Ministries Providence Foursquare Gospel Church

Despite being well fed, I decide I ought to check out the Tuesday dinner at the Foursquare Gospel Church, on Niagara Street, in Elmwood. The church isn't much more than a store front, with the minister and his family living upstairs, but somehow it's my favorite soup kitchen this week, for it has little institutional backing. There are the minister, his wife - who makes the delicious meatballs for the sandwiches, and salad - and a few volunteers.



Inside the spare hall, some religious slogans adorn the walls and a trio is singing religious rock 'n' roll. The trio is from the minister's old church in Wareham, Massachusetts.

I met the minister, my first day on the streets. Tired from hours of walking, I sat in the sun on the steps of the church. In a while, a battered van pulled and a stout, smiling man emerged. I asked if it was all right to sit on the steps, and he said yes: "Got to enjoy the sun while you can." His name was Walter Lunt. I, in fact, remembered him from my street sojourn two years earlier, when one night I had a wonderful rich soup in his church.

Lunt and his wife, Ginnie, have been here for 3½ years, with virtually no organized support ("We don't know where [support's] gonna come from, but we'll accept

it"). While we were talking yesterday, a man from a nearby halfway house came by to donate some extra vegetables and eggs. Lunt also told me that a woman had given him \$200 for a Christmas dinner.

He used to distribute food baskets weekly, beginning with 30 and soon increasing them to 100. When he learned that the food was sometimes sold for alcohol or drugs, Lunt decided to concentrate on the Tuesday night soup kitchen and the Sunday noon meal (to get that, you have to attend the 11 a.m. church service). With \$20, Lunt can feed 150, often with enough food left over for people to take some home. Like most managers of soup kitchens and food pantries (collections of mainly nonperishable items for donation), he buys his supplies at a tiny fraction of their retail cost from the Rhode Island Community Food Bank - which is supplied by donations from supermarkets and other businesses.

Lunt speaks of the Lord as if the two were friends - as I imagine indeed they are - and says that churches all over the world have to get back to feeding the hungry. "You can't preach the gospel to people with empty stomachs."

"Images and Lessons From a Week With the Homeless" by Richard J. Walton  
Article from Sunday Journal Magazine/February 12, 1989



## *Recovery Ministries:*

Evangelism in the 21st Century  
by Ted Roberts

### The Present Realities

As a nation we are experiencing a war on the family. Only 10-15% of American families are "Nuclear Families."

### Two implications for the church in the 90s:

We face the greatest door of evangelism we have ever had.

We face the greatest challenge the church has ever faced.

- ▬ 15 million alcoholics in America;
- ▬ Each alcoholic touches four other people;
- ▬ 28 million children of alcoholics;
- ▬ 25-33% of women have been sexually abused before age 18;
- ▬ 1 out of 5 women have been beaten by their husband or live-in partner;
- ▬ 60-70% of church goers are struggling with dysfunctional families, addiction, or codependency.

Excerpted from "The Pastor's Update Monthly" cassette program, October 1991, Charles E. Fuller Institute of Evangelism and Church Growth, Pasadena, California.

### **"Seeing is Believing"**

"Evangelism cannot take place in an atmosphere that is void of a spiritual demonstration of the life of God. Evangelism is bringing "relevant" truth to real need. Jesus never *did* evangelism - He *was* evangelism; there was always a manifestation of spiritual reality in His life that sought real people and real people responded."

EVANGELISM ENCOUNTER by Dick Sisson, Victor Books

# NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

This article was edited from an interview with Mrs. James Dobson, Chairman of the National Day of Prayer, conducted by Pat Verbal, Gospel Light consultant. The Foursquare Department of Christian Education feels it offers excellent outreach opportunities for youth groups and adults as well as children in your churches.

May 7, 1992 marks the 41st observance of the National Day of Prayer. President and Mrs. George Bush are serving as honorary chairmen. Shirley Dobson, co-founder of Focus on the Family, will serve as the national chairman. Shirley's task force will coordinate and distribute information to interested groups and individuals. Her goal is to help make citizens aware of their **right, privilege and responsibility to pray** for our nation, its leaders, and its people on this historic day.

*Pat: Why have you been willing to assume such a large task as the chairman of the National Day of Prayer?*

**Shirley:** I am a product of prayer. I was raised in a home with an alcoholic father. My mother sent me to Sunday school at a small evangelical church where I came to know the Lord, and my life was wonderfully changed. Accepting this chairmanship is my way of saying "thank you" to the Lord for all the blessings He has given me. Also, being involved with Focus on the Family, I see the issues facing this nation. I feel there is no hope for our country unless we call upon the Lord.

*Pat: What is the 1992 theme for the National Day of Prayer?*

**Shirley:** The theme is "LET US PRAY." Our focus is found in 2 Chronicles 30:6 where King Hezekiah commanded Israel to "Return to the Lord...that He may return to you." (NIV) The King wanted to celebrate the Passover, but the people did not come because the priests had not consecrated themselves. Hezekiah called them to purify themselves in order to get ready to celebrate.

I feel many of our problems can be laid at the feet of the church because we have watered down the Gospel. Also specific sins are rarely pointed out from the pulpit. We have been asleep on issues such as prayer in schools and abortion, and as a result we have lost many of our freedoms. This year, for the first time on the National Day of Prayer, many denominational leaders will come together in Washington, D.C. to symbolically repent and intercede for the sins of the church.

*Pat: Why it is so important to involve the children?*

**Shirley:** I found the Lord as a child. Prayer helped develop my spiritual character, and I derived my morals from the standards of the Bible. This country was founded on a biblical heritage. I was reminded recently that the first schools were in churches. The Bible was the textbook and set the standard for conduct. Since prayer has been

removed from schools, our children are without any direction or hope.

*Pat: How old should children be before they begin to pray for America?*

**Shirley:** As soon as they first understand prayer. Jim was three years old when he began a prayer life. If prayer is modeled in the home, children will want to follow.

*Pat: In what ways can children take part in the National Day of Prayer?*

**Shirley:** Children can write prayers for our country and send them to their school principals, mayors and government officials. Posters can be designed calling people to prayer and placed around the community.

*Pat: How can those who work with children in churches and schools impress on them the importance of this historic day?*

**Shirley:** Read the Presidential Proclamation to the children and discuss its significance in light of America's needs today. Invite children to attend local observances of the National Day of Prayer. Plan a prayer service at your church or school. Let the children help lead the service selecting scriptures and songs that call us to prayer. A field trip to a historical building can encourage children to praise God for their rich heritage of faith.

"See You at the Pole", a campaign led by the National Network of Youth Ministries in San Diego, California, inspired over one million young people to pray around the flag poles at their schools this fall. We also encourage this same participation on the National Day of Prayer. When we call children to prayer, they will respond.

*Pat: How can we help you and your committee in this huge undertaking of calling our nation to united prayer?*

**Shirley:** Our biggest job is to educate people about the National Day of Prayer. We have lost many of our freedoms because we have been asleep. I feel if we don't get involved and support the National Day of Prayer, we could end up forfeiting this freedom, too.

The National Day of Prayer is not just a national event. It is a friend inviting a neighbor over for coffee and joining in a time of earnest prayer for our nation.

For further information please write to:

The National Day of Prayer

P. O. Box 15616

Colorado Springs, CO 80935-5616

"Giving Meaning to Your Child's Prayer Life" is a resource printed by Gospel Light for parents and teachers. Packets may be ordered from: **Foursquare Publications, 1910 W. Sunset Blvd, #200, Los Angeles, CA 90026. (213) 484-0105.**

# "THAT THE GENERATION TO COME MIGHT KNOW..."

The very heart of the Christmas story which was told and heard by countless thousands this past season is the incarnation: the coming of God in human form. But do our children, this generation, know Jesus in a personal and intimate way? Is Jesus a reality in their daily living? Is the Christian life a "way of life?"

We are admonished in Psalm 76 to:

- ▶ open our mouths in parables
- ▶ utter dark saying of old (stories handed down)
- ▶ share the praises of the Lord
- ▶ share the strength of the Lord
- ▶ tell of His wonderful works which He hath done



The reason? "That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born" (Psa. 78:6a). Reaching the children of this generation is the greatest challenge we've ever faced. But face it we must.

The **HOME** plays a vital part in the Christian education of a child since parents have a tremendous influence. The percentage of influence sizes up as follows: 16% from church, 31% from educational institutions and peer group, and 54% from home. The home is the primary training center for the child. But what about the child who is a member of a non-Christian home? Who is responsible?

The **CHURCH** that desires to fulfill the Lord's command to be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth (Acts 1:8b) is faced with the challenge of not only contributing to the spiritual growth of its children, but of also going beyond its tiny "Jeruselems." The church needs to go where this generation is — in the parks, playgrounds, schools, housing complexes, trailer parks, detention homes and orphanages. It is in these places where we often find the innocent, helpless and fearful children. Holidays are an ideal time to reach "our generation" with the story of Jesus. Perhaps it will be the simple act of including a children's gospel tract\* with a gift, or a card showing in picture and word the person of the Lord Jesus. The joy that is experienced as they accept Jesus, the greatest gift ever given, could result in a more meaningful and happy year in the lives of children who have been exploited, hurt, abused, unloved and unwanted.

Above all, may we meet the needs of this generation in the name of Jesus, The One who died for all mankind, including the children!

\*"Ben and His Second Birthday" tract is available from Foursquare Publications. This tract is designed for children. \$7.25 per 100.

---

## "BE BOLD, BE STRONG"

---

David Silveira is an actor who has worked on television, films and the stage. He is best known for his portrayals of young children on stage. He has played Winthrop in "The Music Man" several times and Little Jake in "Annie Get Your Gun."

Since May of 1986, David, along with his wife Danielle, have been reaching kids by delivering the message of Jesus Christ through various characters. He uses a very lovable "nerd", "Albert Heinsten" to teach children about God's acceptance of their peers. To help confront the problem of peer pressure, he uses a modern day character named "Ripster the Righteous Rapper."

The latest characters are James and John Bold. The "Bold Brothers" are on fire for Jesus! This last summer four District camps heard a message about being bold in the Lord through the 1991 "Setting the Captives Free" musical tour.

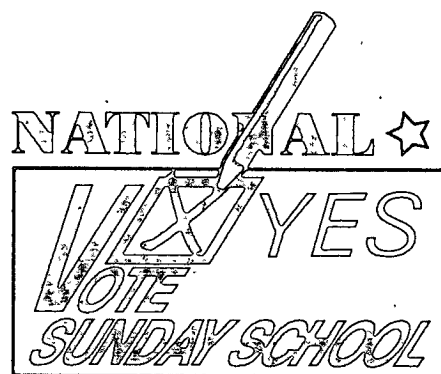
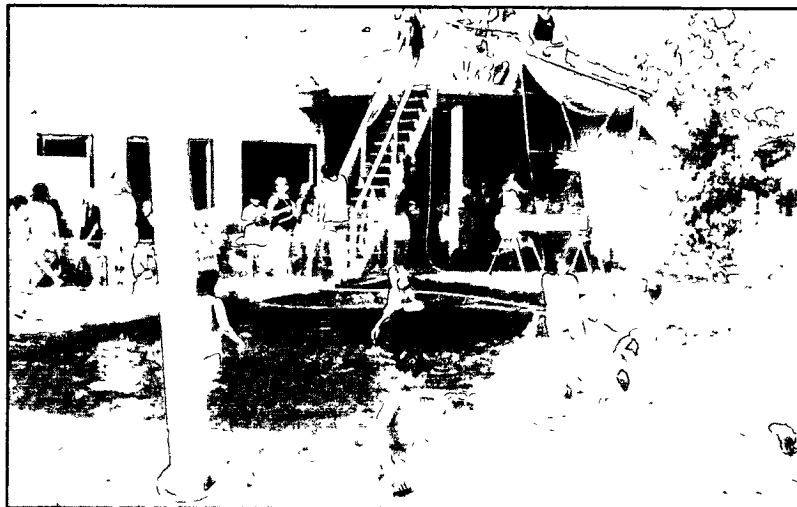
David attends Hope Chapel Northridge and can be contacted at: 9714 Sepulveda Blvd. #213, Sepulveda CA 91343 (818) 892-91105



# SLIDING INTO SUMMER FUN... WITH "CAMP CAN DO"

Sunnyside Foursquare Church, home to some very creative people, decided to invite the "world to the church" this last August. How did this happen? Frank George obtained a good portion of a slide from a water slide park that had gone out of business. Thus, for those few hot summer days in Clackamas, OR, a water slide with a specially built pool was a part of the "Camp Can Do" Vacation Bible School. 790 children registered. Did they have enough help? No. You just do it! God blesses what you have and it works. 225 children made first time decisions for Jesus Christ!

(Suggestion: Often shopping malls or supermarkets are a good place to check in obtaining displays or decorative ideas for special events.)



SUNDAY ★  
★ SCHOOL ★  
CONVENTION  
AUGUST 12-14, 1992  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

## You're Invited to "Vote Sunday School"

On August 12-14 eight denominations with over 10,000 people will gather for the "Vote Sunday School" convention at Tarrant County Convention Center, Fort Worth, Texas.

Full-Gospel Christian education leaders throughout North America will gather to focus on the mandates of Sunday School. There will be over 200 plenary sessions including administration (small, medium, large church tracks), childhood, youth, adult and family life, singles, church growth and evangelism.

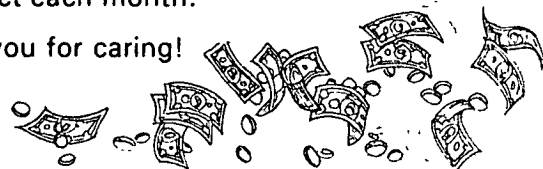
You will not want to miss this opportunity! See information brochure and poster enclosed.

## Where Do Sunday School Tithes Go?

Foursquare Christian Education is supported by the tithes received by district offices from Foursquare Gospel Sunday schools and Christian education. A portion (25%) is retained by the district for local Christian Education ministries. The remainder is sent to the National Christian Education office and is used for the general administrative expenses of Christian education ministries under the direction of the Board (Foursquare By-laws).

Your Sunday school tithe is a vital part of providing edited material, teacher's training, product development (such as Good News Bears!), and consultation work. Help your district Christian education representative and us do a better job for you by faithfully sending your Sunday school tithe to your district each month.

Thank you for caring!



**DIRECTIONS FOR FOURSQUARE CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS** is a resource published quarterly by the National Department of Christian Education in Los Angeles, California. You may receive bundle (5 or more) copies of the newsletter to distribute in your church for a small charge to cover shipping costs.

If you would like to make a contribution to this newsletter we would appreciate hearing from you.

NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
1910 West Sunset Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90026  
213/484-0105