

**NEW
TESTAMENT
WITNESSING**

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PREFACE

I have undertaken the preparation of this manual for two compelling reasons. The first: During my years in the Adventist ministry I have seen hundreds or perhaps thousands of earnest, devoted laymen who have spent a great deal of time, effort and money in soulwinning work that did not bring any satisfying results. True, there have been notable exceptions to this rule. But I think it could be said without fear of contradiction that in the typical conference one could find no more than a handful of laymen who are consistently and regularly leading souls to Christ and the church. It is disheartening to see such energy and devotion unrewarded. Furthermore a condition of discouragement has taken the hearts of many dedicated laymen, because they have tried unsuccessful programs so many times. They can scarcely muster the courage to try again, even though carrying a heavy load of guilt from neglected duty. Having led a number of our fine laymen in this new approach to witnessing and seeing the thrill and the spiritual renewal that has come to them as a result, I am determined to share these new methods as widely as possible, so that thousands of our laymen might rejoice in seeing souls led to the Lord and to His church through their ministry.

The second reason stems from the particular phase of the work I have been engaged in; public evangelism. I see so many ministers whose efforts in building church membership and soulwinning have been disappointing. Many have developed proficiency in holding public meetings and these meetings have been rewarding only with such irregularity that each crusade is approached with apprehension. Adding to the frustration is the fact that the more frequently crusades are held in a given pastorate the more the results dwindle. The number of times you can harvest and glean from a field without productive sowing and watering is limited. It is not difficult to see why many ministers have become less than enthusiastic about a reaping crusade when too many times there is nothing to reap. Public evangelism cannot be successful on a continuing basis without a lay-witnessing program that is a going thing.

Finally, we have suffered with a divided evangelism program long enough. The right hand of lay evangelism has not known what the left hand of public evangelism is doing and vice versa. Observing our evangelistic thrust has been not unlike watching a spastic wrestling with a professional champion. It arouses more pity than admiration. The following program gives to the pastor and his congregation a dynamic, fruitful ministry. This program is working. It is not theory or arm-chair philosophy. It is based on the Bible principles of witnessing and the Spirit of Prophecy teachings. It will transform any church putting it into operation.

This book is designed to be used as a text for training classes. If the sections of this book are assigned for study at home and then discussed in the class session, practised on a two by two basis, then demonstrated by a successful worker in the home, results will be assured.

A strong lay program of evangelism is emerging in various churches

the world over. Some of these programs have followed, to an amazing degree, the counsel given us in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy writings. In developing these methods, we owe a great debt of gratitude to such men as Dr. D. James Kennedy and Dr. Archie Parrish of the Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Dr. Jack Hyles, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Hammond, Indiana and others. With much trial and error they have put together methods that work in our day and they have eliminated many things that fail. We thank God for their persistent and devoted work. We have learned eagerly from them as the contents of this manual will reveal.

May the Lord of the harvest bountifully reward the ministers and laymen who study and put to work these methods.

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