

Cooperative Program

What happens when Christians unite?

Southern Baptists are a fellowship of over 16.3 million members in approximately 44,223 churches in all 50 states and Canada. These churches work together through approximately 1,182 associations, 41 state conventions, 1 fellowship, and the Southern Baptist Convention to accomplish through voluntary cooperation far more than they could ever do alone.

Cooperative Program (CP) Missions—What it is:

Simply put, the Cooperative Program (CP) is a partnership of missions support through the combined effort of churches within the Southern Baptist Convention. It was first launched in 1925 with the purpose of uniting individuals, churches, state conventions and other Southern Baptist entities toward the common goal of reaching the planet for Christ.

Cooperative Program Missions—How it works:

A portion of the contributions received each month at *LIFE* is designated to the Cooperative Program at the Nevada Baptist Convention in Reno, NV.

The State Convention then decides over the distribution of funds received from *LIFE* and other churches in Nevada as to how much is allocated to send and support missionaries, train pastors, and other ministry leaders; provide relief for retired ministers and widows; and address social, moral, and ethical concerns relating to our faith and families.

The bottom line – people around the world hear the gospel and receive Christ.

Cooperative Program Missions—What it does:

- Various evangelistic and educational efforts are being funded.
- Approximately 5,100 missionaries who are engaging more than 1,170 different people groups around the world are being supported.
- New church plants are being made possible (*LIFE* received substantial funding).
- Each year the education of some 16,000 pastors, missionaries, and ministry leaders is made possible.

- As a result of the above, about 836,898 new believers were baptized in 2006!
- Retired pastors and widows receive financial help.

Cooperative Program (CP) Missions—Its Potential:

If “two are better than one” (Eccl. 4:9), how much better are 16.3 million? This is the current membership in more than 44,223 Southern Baptist churches across the United States. With a global population exceeding 6.5 billion and a command to take the gospel to every nation, we must enhance our cooperative efforts if we are going to fulfill Christ’s command.

How can you get involved at *LIFE* to help CP Missions reach its potential?

- 1: **Pray.** Pray regularly for your Southern Baptist missionaries in your state and around the globe. “Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers.” Matthew 9:38 (HCSB)
- 2: **Go.** Be involved in some sort of missions endeavor. Talk with your pastor about the available opportunities. You are God’s missionary right where you live. “Go...and make disciples of all nations.” Matthew 28:19 (HCSB)
- 3: **Give.** Out of love for the Lord, give regularly to Him through your church. If you are not tithing, begin to do so and also discover the blessings of giving beyond the tithe. Encourage your church to increase its participation in Cooperative Program (CP) Missions.