

Countdown To Victory

ELECTION GUIDELINES

Fellow soldiers in the battle for moral action,

This brief document is a simple outline of guidelines and suggestions to follow in the upcoming battle against the lottery. It is not intended to limit you in your own creativity and ingenuity, but simply to provide you with some line of direction. It definitely is not an involved effort in literary polish—just a list of suggestions, a tool for your use.

We also hope that it will help to unite us together hand-in-hand across this great state in a Christian battle against satanic forces.

Pray over this material, adapt every bit that you can to your situation, and add to it if you feel so led. I do send it with a prayer to our great God for your success...*our* success in His name.

Eric Chaffin
Executive Director, S.A.N.E.

COMMITTEES

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

I. The Committee

This committee should be a small committee, a chairman and two people at most.

II. The work of the committee

The work of this committee is to push for the registration of voters. Check with the local county election board as to procedure and set up registration tables in some of the local churches. The county election board may appoint some church members as registrars. They will be paid from election board funds for each person registered. Advertise what you are doing, when and where, in the local newspaper and radio and in church bulletins and mailouts. Ask every pastor in the community to announce it from the pulpit. Use every means possible to get people registered. If a church does not permit you to set up a registration booth, go to a Senior Citizen Center or some other easily-accessible, highly-visible place.

PRAYER COMMITTEE

I. The Committee

This can also be a small committee. A good prayer committee might consist of the president of the men's organization, the president of the women's organization, chairman of deacons, a steward or official board member, and Sunday School superintendent.

II. The work of the committee

Submit articles to the local paper about special prayer emphases of various church groups. Put prayer requests in the church bulletin and/or mailout. See that special prayer time is scheduled in the many meetings within

the church. Print and provide prayer cards for every home to place on the dining table, encouraging family members to pray for the cause.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

I. The Committee

This committee should have a good, responsible, active chairman. There should be a committee member in charge of advertising on radio and television. An additional member of this committee should be in charge of all newspaper stories and advertising. Another member should be in charge of all other printed advertising such as window cards, yard cards, direct mail, etc. Start early with direct mailing from the church and district or associational office.

II. The work of the committee

A. Materials may include billboards, printed pamphlets, radio and television spots, newspaper ads and bumper stickers, etc.

B. Distribution of pamphlets and bumper stickers will be done by local churches.

C. Some of these materials may be produced within the local church:

1. Cartoons for church mailout

2. Vital statistics for church bulletins and mailouts

3. A personal letter from the pastor to all members

4. A letter to members, signed by all the deacons (such a letter would certainly be worth publishing in the local paper as well)

D. Begin early with emphasis in your church communications, especially concerning registration.

E. In larger communities, free public access may be available via local cable companies. Be sure to ask if your local cable provider has a *public access* channel.

F. In many smaller communities some free advertising may be available. If you prepare print ads in the form of a news story, you might try the following activities:

1. Elect a general chairman from your county or town, then take his picture and a biographical sketch along with your news story to the local paper, including a list of his responsibilities, goals, etc.

2. Set up a registration booth in the church. Take a picture of the workers and write a story about what they're doing and why.

G. Get your committee together early and often. Have a brain-storming session to discuss all the possible ways you can advertise and get the word out. (Don't overlook the impact of an ad in the local paper signed by the youth of your church, etc.)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

I. The Committee

There should be a Finance Committee for every community, preferably one for each church.

II. The work of the committee

A. Each committee will need to pray much, advertise, and take up a special offering (being careful to announce it well in advance). If the offering goes over your projected goal—one dollar per resident member is a good one—just rejoice. For every church that takes an offering, there may be three that do not.

B. It would be well if your Community Finance Committee chairman were an outstanding leader, had experience in raising money, and knew how to not only work on the local church offering emphasis, but on lay persons who have the ability to contribute in a big way.

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE

I. The Committee

A. Should include a chairman and a volunteer from each denomination in the community.

B. Each of these persons will enlist as many volunteers from his/her own church as possible, whether they be young married women, teens, seniors citizens—whoever is willing.

II. The work of the committee

A. The telephone book for the community will be divided among these many volunteers. On the date suggested, shortly before election day, they will call every member in the phone book.

1) Ask if they're planning to vote against the lottery. If the answer is yes, then...

2) Put a check by the name of those voting against and call them again on election day to remind them to go and vote.

B. Be brief.

C. Be very courteous.

D. Be informative (give phone number for transportation to the polls).

E. Do not get involved in arguments about the issue.

F. Say "thank you" and hang up before any rude persons can become hateful.

G. Do not be discouraged if someone is rude or disagrees with you. Be nice anyway.

H. Here is an example script: "Hello, my name is _____. I'd like to remind you that Tuesday is election day and encourage you to go and vote. If you need a free ride, please call (number), and *please* love Oklahoma enough to vote against the lottery. Thank you and have a nice day."

DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

I. The Committee

This committee will be in charge of distribution of literature door-to-door throughout the community. Appoint a chairman with enthusiasm and energy, who will enlist, push, and set a good example.

II. The work of the committee

A. Enlist all the people you can.

1) The church youth could be of great assistance. Enlist workers in the teens' departments to help you enlist the youth.

2) Never overlook Senior Citizens. They so often feel left out. This is important work. Challenge them and they will serve wonderfully.

B. Distribute the materials two Sundays before the election. This is in case the weather is bad on the final Sunday or if the job isn't finished the first week.

C. Divide the community as you would for a church census or neighborhood canvas.

D. Let each group meet at their own church at an appointed time. Make assignments, have prayer, and go out.

E. If necessary, use church buses and vans to carry worker to their designated neighborhoods or areas of town.

F. Try to get a pamphlet on every front door in town.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

I. The Committee

The transportation committee is exactly what the name implies. Members will provide transportation to the polls for people who need it. Select a chairman who can coordinate drivers for the entire community. His/Her committee might consist of drivers of church vans and buses from other churches. If possible, try to get a driver from the same church as the van or bus being used. The driver is more comfortable with the vehicle he/she drives each week.

II. The work of the committee

A. Provide a vehicle for every general area possible. That way the response to the call can be as prompt as the return trip.

B. Use only one or two phone numbers in advertising, and on the day of the election, have a small committee answering the phones.

C. Have additional workers on each van or bus to help the elderly or physically impaired into and out of the vehicle.

D. If possible, have some appropriate anti-lottery advertising affixed to the side of the vehicle.