

A CASE FOR  
SATURDAY  
SOUL-WINNING

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## ***Introduction***

Every Saturday at Calvary Baptist Church, around 9:45 am people start showing up, getting maps, getting tracts, and praying for the day of soul-winning. What we call soul-winning is a time of the week that we take gospel tracts with church information and invite people to our church and try to be a witness and see people saved.

At the heart of our scheduled soul-winning time is the Great Commission found in the gospels: *Matthew 28:18-20, **18** And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. **19** Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: **20** Teaching them to observe all*

*things whatsoever I have commanded you:  
and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the  
end of the world. Amen.*

Christ is literally telling us His plan for bringing people into His family: He conveys His authority (“All power”) to the church (the only entity that will last “unto the end of the world”) and expects the individuals to “Go ye...” The core job of the church is to:

1. Win souls (“teach all nations”)
2. Baptize them (“baptizing them...”)
3. Disciple them (“Teaching them...”)

A great way to be involved in the Great Commission is to be a part of our Saturday soul-winning time. Not only is it commanded to be a witness, but Saturday

soul-winning time allows us to be a part of something that will matter in 1,000 years, as opposed to most everything else we do on earth. The following points are certainly not exhaustive, but they provide a few practical, logical reasons to come out on Saturdays.

### ***It's a scheduled time***

Because it's regularly scheduled into the week, the Saturday soul-winning time is a great opportunity to be involved. Every Christian should *always* be looking for opportunities to win souls... there's no denying that. It's GREAT that you are a witness at work, at school, at the store and in your neighborhood; but why stop there? A

scheduled time allows you to have that much more opportunity to reach others for Christ.

***It is organized***

Every year we try to reach as many homes as possible for Jesus Christ. This is accomplished primarily through meticulous planning and dedicated hard work. We *could* simply “shoot from the hip” each week and just send people out wherever they wanted, but that would result in certain neighborhoods being knocked repeatedly and others being completely forgotten. “You people were here two weeks ago!” We don’t want that.

Every week, dozens of maps are planned out, highlighted, sectioned into groups, and laid out according to region. This level of detail ensures that no group will overlap houses, and we systematically work through all of Temecula and Murrieta. Further, everyone who moves into the area receives a welcome postcard in the mail. All this adds up to an organized outreach that you can be a part of.

***Your schedule reflects your priorities***

All of us have priorities, and all of us have schedules that reflect those priorities. Obviously, some people have more control of their schedules than others, but everyone

has at least *some* say in what they do week by week. Your schedule is generally full of *expected* things:

- Work
- Kids' school(s)
- Music lessons for the kids
- Band practice
- Sports schedules (practices, games)
- Chores
- Appointments (doctor, dentist, parent-teacher)

These *expected* things are rarely challenged.

- “Well, there’s no way we could go *there* because we *have* to be at practice or John won’t play next week.”
- “Sorry, that date won’t work for me. Rochelle has a music practice on those days at that time.”
- “I’m sorry I can’t talk long. I’ve got to go pick the kids up from school.”

None of these are bad things; they simply reflect something in which we’ve made an investment.

- You have to make it to the music lesson because you’ve paid the teacher for the whole month.

- You have to make it to school so your child gets an education.
- You have to make it to the appointment for your child's health.
- You have to make it to practice in order to get game time.

In all these *expectations*, whether intentional or not, how many of them ignore spiritual growth? What could be better than building into your schedule the expectation to be at soul-winning?

“Well, coming to soul-winning every week would mean I'd never have ANY family time! Saturdays are my only time off.” That is probably true, and many people's schedules (particularly work schedules) cannot be

changed. But... many people CAN change their schedules and don't. Why give MORE attention to sports, music, school, band and karate than to the only thing that will be worthwhile in 1,000 years? Before you say, "I can't come," please reflect a while on what is *expected* in your schedule.

### ***It's a training time***

*Sharing Your Faith.* I never took a class on soul-winning until Bible college. That's not bad or good... I'm simply saying that the best training ground is "out in the trenches." Going soul-winning every week was just as

much (or more) training as sitting through a how-to class.

Soul-winning time on Saturdays helps you learn how to share your faith. Going door to door with someone else who has had more experience, seeing him or her present the gospel to a stranger, and then trying it for yourself is what the Saturday soul-winning time is all about. It trains you to know what to say and how to say it, even if you are simply going through the verses on the back of the tract.

In sharing your faith with others, you will be confronted with thousands of different views on the Bible. Soul-winning not only trains you through experience, but it drives you to train yourself through searching out the

answers to hard questions you might be asked.

*Side Benefits.* Not only do you learn how to share your faith, but you learn a lot of other things as well! Some people pay big bucks for seminars and books on how to make friends, talk to strangers, influence people and make “sales.” We are not salesmen, politicians or motivational speakers when we go soul-winning, but you can’t help but *learn* communication skills when you’re using them with strangers every week.

Now, don’t come on Saturdays just to learn people skills... let your motivation still be that you’re trying to see people come to Christ. All the other skills you learn are just side-benefits.

Another side-benefit is that you learn to read people. Body language, facial expressions, doors slammed on you (THAT'S an easy one to read)... you learn a lot of CIA techniques on how to listen past the words. Again, this is not the main motivation but a side-benefit.

All kinds of training goes on week by week, just by doing. Interested in buying a house in a particular neighborhood? Go door-knocking there and notice neighbors, house structures, traffic, sunlight, breeze, and general quality and age of the neighborhood. Looking for neat landscaping ideas or paint schemes? Go soul-winning in various neighborhoods and you'll have more ideas than you can use.

It sounds silly when it is written down, because these side-benefits are NOT the reason we go soul-winning, but in looking from a practical, logical approach you cannot help but learn about all kinds of various topics.

***It's an easy way to talk about the Lord***

Sometimes in normal conversations with your unsaved friends or family it may be difficult to direct the conversation to spiritual things. “So, Bob, did you enjoy the Rod Run last week? Yeah I saw someone with my old 48 Plymouth all shined up and

looking gorgeous. Say, if you were to die today, are you 100% sure that you would go to heaven?”

That approach might be a little abrupt. Sometimes conversations are easy to steer toward spiritual things, but sometimes they are not. An advantage of Saturday soul-winning time is that people expect you to be talking about your church and the Lord. That is why you are out! That is the whole reason you are on their doorstep.

In many ways, Saturday soul-winning time is the perfect excuse to talk to people about their eternity because just by showing up you have declared your spiritual intentions. You can't beat that!

***It can be fun!***

Again... not the purpose or motivation... but it IS true!

I LOVE going soul-winning with my wife. I LOVE going with one of the teens. I LOVE going with a friend. It's fun to catch up, to learn, to hang out, and to serve God in the process. Soul-winning time is not a time to goof off and mess around, but it IS enjoyable.

On the car ride after soul-winning there are always stories of what happened. "We had this huge dog... We saw this cool car... We met this funny little old married couple..." We often enjoy going out to eat with a big

group after Saturation Saturday, and it is just FUN to be together.

***Most importantly, it's a way to obey God's command to "Go ye"***

Saturday soul-winning is not the *only* way, but it sure is a *great* way to be involved in the Great Commission. God has given us a command to "Go ye..." and our church has set up a detailed, organized, scheduled way in which we can be involved in that plan. If you take God's commands seriously, it would seem that you would WANT to be involved in soul-winning every possible week. In

simple obedience, consider your  
involvement, and we'll see you this Saturday!