

## **Are you properly equipped to serve in your church?**

By STEVE RICE, Kentucky Baptist Convention

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Have you been recruited or asked to volunteer for a ministry role at your church, but you're not sure how to effectively do the job? Then the Kentucky Baptist Convention has created a training conference with *you* in mind!

During August 2018, the Kentucky Baptist Convention EQUIP TOUR is coming to a town near you! The EQUIP TOUR could be described as a mini-Super Saturday. The goal of the tour is to provide helpful, practical training that will equip believers to serve their KBC churches with confidence and with excellence.

We are providing training in all six regions across the state (listed below) on weeknights from 6-9 p.m. We believe the brief, weeknight schedule will allow busy families to receive much-needed training without giving up an entire Saturday. With six locations, there will be at least one EQUIP TOUR stop within driving distance of every church in Kentucky. Here are the dates and the locations:

Hopkinsville / West Region – August 13

Edgewood Baptist Church

Glasgow / South Central Region – August 14

Glasgow Baptist Church

Bardstown / Central Region – August 16

Parkway Baptist Church

Prestonsburg / East Region – August 20

Fitzpatrick Baptist Church

London / South Region – August 21

FBC London

Georgetown / North Central Region – August 23

Gano Baptist Church

Training will be provided in the areas of Church Finance, Children's Ministry, Church Security, Guest Ministry, Ministry Wives, Prayer, Revitalization, Student Ministry, Sunday School, Women's Ministry, and Worship/Music. Here's a brief overview of the topics being covered:

### **Church Finance**

This conference called "Handling Money in Your Church" is primarily for treasurers, financial secretaries, and others who handle any part of the church finances. Led by Don Spencer, CFP®, Director of the Church Financial Benefits Department of the KBC, the main focus will be on protecting a church's financial integrity with appropriate internal controls, how to structure and report compensation for ministers and church employees, and issues regarding the handling of charitable contributions.

## **Children's Ministry**

The children's conferences will focus on putting Christ at the center of every children's Bible lesson as we lead in the church and in our homes. We will also explore ten (10) common behavior problems in children along with practical tips and suggestions.

## **Church Security**

With active shooter incidents on the rise and increasing hostility towards Christians, the days of attending worship with peace of mind are sadly in the past. Learn how your church can better prepare and protect your worshippers from those who want to do them harm in a conference called "Protecting Your Church and People."

One proven method of improving church security is by reviewing actual, real cases of crime in churches. A careful look at these incidents in the conference "Case Studies of Crime in Church" will give you information that will help you provide a safe place for staff, members, and visitors.

## **Guest Ministry**

Have you ever wondered how you should follow up with a guest? Do you know how to show proper interest and care? Is there a system in place that encourages them to return for another visit? We are offering a conference called "Follow Up with Every Guest" that will answer all these questions.

## **Ministry Wives**

As a woman, do you ever feel like you are in a difficult place in life/ministry? The conference "Grace in the Garden" will help you find joy and contentment no matter your station of life. You will learn more about what it means to be both faithful and fruitful no matter what circumstances may be confronting you on your Christian journey.

## **Prayer**

Two conferences are offered in this area. "Prayer Resources for Your Church" and "Spiritual Formation for the Pew" will help you establish an effective prayer ministry along with a program for teaching the basic spiritual disciplines.

## **Revitalization**

"Leading Change in the Church" will teach how to introduce change at an appropriate pace in a local church. "Developing Strategy for your Church" will help to identify the greatest priorities in your church for the coming year and develop a strategy to implement revitalization.

## **Student Ministry**

"Gospel Centered Apologetics" will help you lead your students to defend their faith. "Reaching and Keeping Today's Students" will look at the importance of going to unreached students, discipling students in the church, and equipping students to reach their peers.

## **Sunday School (Adult Teachers)**

"Organizing My Class to Grow" teaches that without a vision for your class, growth and progress will be rare. Without personal enlistment of a team to pursue the vision, the work will be overwhelming. Without planning, the team will flounder. Take steps that lead to numerical and maturational growth this year.

"Discipling Those I Teach" will teach that God has given you the responsibility to shepherd those in your class. How can you deepen your relationships? How can you help them take steps to grow in the likeness of Jesus? How can you adjust your preparation and teaching in ways to focus on their discipleship growth?

### **Sunday School (Directors)**

“3 Growth Transitions That Matter” asks how can your classes connect, invite, and enroll new people? How can your classes teach members to grow together, serve, and share Jesus? How can your classes increase relationships, care, and fulfillment? Planning for these 3 transitions are critical.

The conference “Vision, Goals, and Leadership Matter” will discuss that vision and goals are essential to effective leadership to produce results and satisfaction. Guidance for developing your vision and goals will be provided.

### **Women’s Ministry**

The conference “Emerging Trends in Women’s Ministry” will be offered twice. Attendees should come prepared to discuss the direction of Women's Ministry in Kentucky Baptist churches today. The class will exam current approaches and new ideas.

### **Worship & Music**

In the conference “Worship & Music Roundtable” there will be an open class discussion regarding current challenges and relevant worship topics. In “Do’s and Don’ts of Music Ministry” you will learn basic truths that will help you become the best worship leader you can be in your church.

To register, go to [www.kybaptist.org](http://www.kybaptist.org). For more information, call the Church Consulting and Revitalization Team at (502) 489-3571 or toll-free in Kentucky (866) 489-3571, or send an email to [cheryl.frerman@kybaptist.org](mailto:cheryl.frerman@kybaptist.org).

*“And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.” **Ephesians 4:11-12 (ESV)***