

National Baptist Congress of Christian Education

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Teacher Series

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About ASBC

- ✓ 4,279 Members
- ✓ 2,200 joined in last 3 years
 - ✓ Modal age – 31yrs
 - ✓ Median age – 52yrs
- ✓ 52 Active ministries of service & support

About ASBC

1. Proper balance of the five purposes of a church

5 Purposes of Church

Acts 2:40-47

- a. Worship
- b. Fellowship
- c. Ministry
- d. Evangelism and Missions
- e. Discipleship

About ASBC

1. Proper balance of the five purposes of a church
2. Removal of the things that leave a bad taste in people's mouths about church

What are the top ten things people
hate about church?

Top 10 Things People Hate About Church...

- Service too long
- Immoral leadership
- Double Standards
- Overemphasis on money
- Boring
- Irrelevant ministry
- Rude Church members/ushers
- Afternoon Services
- Fear of Embarrassment
- Politics from the Pulpit

About ASBC

3. Proper balance between tradition & novelty, doctrine & relevance, seasoned & younger
4. Exploring new effective and efficient ways to teach God's Word & reach the lost

Outline

Tuesday: Assumptions that hinder teaching

Wednesday: Learning a new language

Thurs: The message and the method

Acts 17:16-34
Paul in Athens

They were not unbelievers or
atheists or unholy – they wanted to
believe but didn't know how

They were not hostile to
Christianity just adverse to
anything that did not make sense

Paul was willing to stand and argue
for the faith – he answered their
challenges, understood what he was
defending, and believed it could
stand

Paul took the time to exegete his
context, crack the cultural code,
and learn the philosophical
language of the Athenians

Is your church/classroom more like
John 20 or Acts 1:8?

Effective communication
requires a shared language

Effective Ministry Requires...

–Learning the language of the people you are ministering to

I Chr. 12:32; I Cor. 14:6-17

Sanctified Nonsense

Post-Desegregation

Post-Desegregation

This is the first generation to experience and reap the full benefits of the opportunities and challenges made available in a desegregated America

Post-Desegregation

- More exposure to educational opportunities
- More financial resources and opportunities to manage
- Greater work, family, and recreational time commitments

Post-Desegregation

- A loss of the influence of community
- The breakdown of traditional familial support systems

Post-Desegregation

- Poorer school systems
- Moral and ethical relativity
- Life challenges beyond racial issues

The Church's challenge in a
post-desegregated world is
to remain *RELEVANT*

The opposite of boring is
relevant

Relevance in Church

- Ministries
 - Service
 - Support
- Teaching
 - Topical Based Curricula

Possible Topics

- ✓ Bible Basics
- ✓ Faith Foundations
- ✓ Praying with Power
- ✓ Parenting God's Way
- ✓ Why did I get Married?
- ✓ What Baptist Believe
- ✓ Disciplines of Discipleship
- ✓ Sanctified Sex

Possible Topics

- ✓ Books of the Bible
- ✓ Challenges to Christianity
- ✓ This Job is Driving Me Crazy
- ✓ Doctrines that Divide
- ✓ Witnessing in the World
- ✓ Fathering like the Father
- ✓ Honor thy Parents

The great challenge to relevant
teaching is finding *GOOD*
BIBLICAL resources

Resources

- SSPB
- LifeWay
- Christian Book Distributors
 - Cokesbury
 - UMI

Post-Soul

Post-Soul

This is the first generation of Blacks that have been influenced and shaped by voices external to the Black Church. The Church no longer has a monopoly on shaping Black spirituality, values and community.

The Black church is now in competition with Hip-Hop culture, celebrity lifestyles, and other religious expressions

Post-Soul

- The Bible's authority and integrity have been called into question by the world in which we live.
- This generation is skeptical and leery of traditional church
- They are ecclesiastically illiterate

Ecclesiastical Illiteracy

- Church customs
- Church language & clichés
 - Christian doctrine
 - Scripture
 - Hymns & History

The challenge for the Church in
a post-soul society is examine
our methodologies for ministry

What People are Searching for:

- ✓ Vibrant, exciting, and timely ministry
- ✓ Relevant, clear, and coherent teaching
- ✓ Spiritual, intellectual, and relational fulfillment

What People are Searching for:

- ✓ A welcoming atmosphere
- ✓ A safe and clean environment
- ✓ Programs for children, couples,
and singles
- ✓ Convenient non-competitive
scheduling

The Tempest Winds of Change

- ✓ Death of denominational boundaries
- ✓ Rise of Mega-Church
- ✓ Role of women in leadership and clergy
- ✓ Specialization of ministries
- ✓ Specialized sermon series

The Tempest Winds of Change

- Staff driven
- Church campus: sanctuaries, life centers, education buildings, housing
- Presence on the Web
- Multiple Services / Sites
- 90 minutes – 2 hour Services

The Tempest Winds of Change

- ✓ Use of Media and Technology:
Tapes, CD's, DVD's, Video
Projection, Streaming
- ✓ Plurality of Musical Forms & Arts
- ✓ Greeters / Welcome Team
- ✓ Professional Publications

Post-Literate

Post-Literate

In the history of humanity there have only been two major shifts in communication media and method:

Oral → Written (Literate)

Written (Literate) →

Electronic

Post-Literate

- World Wide Web – 98% surf the Internet and check emails daily
~ only 13% have a library card.
- Computer Technology – 87% own a computer
- High-tech video games, MP3, IM, TXT, Blackberry/Bluetooth, iPod/iPhone/iPad

Post-Literate

- Wireless Communication
- Cable/Satellite Television
“On Demand”
- Multiple flows of
information, e.g.
CNN/Sportscenter

Post-Literate

- Social Networking:
Facebook, Twitter, YouTube

Post-Literate World

- There are no secrets or privacy
- Information can and will be checked
- There is no content control of what information goes out – positively and negatively

The challenge for the church is to embrace and utilize the technology and tools that are available and be sensitive to time

The Church and Technology

- Failure to be on/use the internet means you are invisible to this generation and do not speak their language

Church's Website Should

- Be for members more than guests
 - Offer online giving
 - Offer online registrations
- Offer streaming broadcasts and VOD
- Highlight the ministries of the church with contact information

Church's Website Should

- Contain “What we believe”
 - Receive prayer requests
- Share God's plan of Salvation
 - Be primary vehicle of communication for church information – “check the web”

Post-Literate World

- ✓ On-Demand
- ✓ 140 Characters

You must be sensitive to time!