

PLAN HOW FAITH PROMISES WILL BE RECEIVED

Determine prior to the service whether the pastor or the missionary will receive the Faith Promises. More commonly the two will work together. A good plan is to have the missionary receive the Faith Promise cards from the ushers and write the monthly or yearly total, depending on how the goal was set. The cards are handed to the pastor who reads the total of each card. These are added by the person previously named for this purpose.

EXPLAIN THE FAITH PROMISE PLAN IN DETAIL

If the missionary is experienced in raising Faith Promises, he or she may do this prior to the message, or if you prefer, you may order a DVD from AGWM which gives an excellent presentation.

RESERVE AMPLE TIME FOR THE KEY ELEMENTS OF THE SERVICE

The key elements of this service are the explanation of the Faith Promise plan, the message and receiving and tabulating the Faith Promises.

A lost world is waiting on the results of this service. These key elements should not be rushed. It will require a minimum of 45 minutes to explain the Faith Promise plan, minister, challenge the congrega-

receive and tabulate the Faith promise total.

You know what time your congregation begins to get restless, awaiting dismissal. It is a simple matter of beginning the explanation of the Faith promise plan some 45 or 50 minutes prior to the hour of dismissal.

Yes, that is a long time, but you are doing it for the lost. That is why we are here and it only happens once each year!

RECEIVE FAITH PROMISES

The message has ended. Now lead the congregation in prayer, asking guidance from the Holy Spirit as to the amount of each personal commitment.

Allow couples and families to consult with each other before making their commitment. Some pastors ask people to bring their Faith Promises to the front as a family and lay them on the altar. In this case, ushers simply take the cards to the pulpit as they are received.

TRUST GOD FOR THE RESULTS

The people have been inspired and motivated for a moment of decision. They are prepared to take a step of faith. Believe in your people and expect a miracle.

CELEBRATE THE RESULTS

Ask for a trumpet blast or a drum roll as you read the grand total. Celebrate the response of the congregation and give God the glory.

Rejoice in the fact that every Faith Promise made assures that others will hear the gospel, maybe for the first time!

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Dear Pastor



The
CHECKLIST
for
Planning the
**FAITH
PROMISE
SERVICE**


ASSEMBLIES of GOD WORLD MISSIONS

Preparing for the Faith Promise Service

Without a doubt it is your desire to see the Faith Promise service become a huge success, but this doesn't happen by accident. We must plan as well as we can and then bathe those plans with prayer. Following are a few steps that will help you have successful results in this critical service. Remember, there is a lost world depending on it!

SECURE THE MATERIALS

There is a great variety of materials available from AGWM/AGUSM that you may order either from the catalog or from agwm.org. The items that are absolutely necessary for the Faith Promise service include: Theme banners, posters, [What is a Faith Promise](#) brochures and Faith Promise cards

BUILD EXPECTATION

Promote Faith Promise Sunday several weeks in advance, allowing time each Sunday morning to spotlight the upcoming event, always with excitement. This is the premier event of the year!

Build faith while announcing the Faith Promise goal by illustrating how each individual can become personally involved.

On the Sunday prior to Faith Promise Sunday preach on missions. Let the congregation see the pastor's passion for the lost.

At the close of this service, distribute a copy of the brochure [What is a Faith Promise](#) to every family unit. This will give them a week to learn more about faith promises and consider their personal commitment.

CREATE THE ENVIRONMENT

When the people enter the building on Faith Promise Sunday, regardless of which entrance they may use, they should see that this is not just another Sunday. Today is special. They should see posters in the lobby and the halls. As they enter the sanctuary they will be impressed by a theme banner, the posters and flags lining the platform.

The spiritual tone of the service is a critical part of that environment. Hopefully, there are prayer-partners who have been seeking God's blessings for this service. Believing that we are moving in God's will, there are a few steps that we can take that will assure better results.

- Be time conscious - Keep announcements to a minimum and plan reception of new members, baby dedications, etc. for another occasion.
- Be sure that both the congregational and special music carry a missions theme. Missions is not a theme for the service, missions is the theme!
- Prepare the ushers for their special duties during this service - Make certain that the ushers know that at the close of the message, they will receive the faith promises, not with the offering plates, but taking two or three cards at a time to the platform where they will be tabulated.
- Distribute Faith Promise cards to everyone sometime prior to introducing the missionary

speaker. This is a time-saver and time is critical.

PLAN TO TABULATE

Some object to tabulating Faith Promises at the close of the service because it takes extra time, but not if it is planned as a part of that service. There are at least four advantages to tabulating Faith Promise results at the close of the service that are not realized otherwise.

1. Tabulating during the service creates great excitement, something that is lost by simply announcing that the total will be presented next week.
2. Taking the time to tabulate communicates the importance of Faith Promises.
3. Hearing the individual Faith Promise totals announced encourages others to believe that they can believe God, too.
4. Very simply, tabulating totals results in more and larger faith promises.

Prior to the service, set up a table and chair close to the platform with a view of the pulpit for the tabulator.

Provide an adding machine, if possible, to keep a running total. Handheld calculators have no way to quickly find an error. Make sure the tabulator is experienced and able to maintain a running total of Faith Promises as announced.