

BAPTIST VIEWpoll

MAY 1980

VIEWpoll is a cooperative effort of the Sunday School Board and Home Mission Board to monitor quarterly certain key areas of Southern Baptists' awareness, thought, and action.

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BAPTIST VIEWpoll for May, 1980

I. INTRODUCTION

This report is a presentation of the findings from the May, 1980 poll of the Baptist VIEWpoll panel.

There are currently 732 members (268 pastors, 300 ministers of education, and 164 directors of missions) on the Baptist VIEWpoll panel. Of these, 81.7 percent (219) of the pastors, 88.0 percent (264) of the ministers of education, and 95.1 percent (156) of the directors of missions participated in the May poll.

Items on the May poll involved twelve areas of interest:

- Amount of emphasis upon evangelism in SBC church literature
- Effectiveness of preaching in America today compared to ten years ago
- Ways to improve preaching
- Contemporary issues that preaching should address
- Missions Digest
- Outlook of church leaders and pastors
- Church missions committees
- Bold Mission projects undertaken
- Staff member responsible for evangelism
- Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- Budgets
- Critical needs in starting new churches

II. COMMENTS ON THE FINDINGS

- A. The majority of directors of missions (55.7%) and ministers of education (52.6%) reported that the amount of emphasis upon evangelism in SBC church literature is "about right." And, the largest portion (43.8%) of the pastors agreed with this stance. However, one-third of the respondents (37.1% of the ministers of education, 32.1% of the directors of missions, and 29.7% of the pastors) reported that the emphasis in the evangelism area is "somewhat too little." One-fifth (20.1%) of the pastors reported that the emphasis in this area was "too little."

- B. The largest portion of each panel group (44.4% of the ministers of education, 40.4% of the directors of missions, and 37.4% of the pastors) viewed the effectiveness of preaching in America today compared to ten years ago as "less effective." The second largest portion of the respondents (28.3% of the pastors, 28.2% of the directors of missions, and 26.1% of the ministers of education) felt there was "little change" in the effectiveness of preaching today compared to ten years ago. Just over one-fifth (21.8%) of the respondents felt that preaching today is "somewhat more effective" than previously, while 4.7 percent felt that it is "much more effective" today.

Cross tabulation data of this item reveals a significant difference between directors of missions who serve east/west of the Mississippi River. Forty-six (46.4%) percent of the directors of missions who serve east of the River indicated that preaching today is "less effective" compared to 29.1 percent of their counterparts who serve west of the River and took this position.

- C. Respondents were asked to rank, according to importance, six items for improving preaching in America, and when their responses were statistically weighted the rankings of the six items were established, in order of importance, as follows:

1. More conferences and seminars on preaching (a weighted ranking of 4.95)
2. Better program of continuing education by our seminaries (a weighted ranking of 4.28)
3. Off campus seminary classes (a weighted ranking of 4.27)
4. Better teaching in our seminaries (a weighted ranking of 4.25)
5. Better printed helps from the Sunday School Board (a weighted ranking of 3.14)
6. A preaching department in each state convention (a weighted ranking of 2.85)

- D. What important contemporary issues should preaching address? According to the respondents, the contemporary issues which preaching should address are: (1) moral and social issues of the day (49.6%)--world hunger, sexuality, human rights, pornography, drugs, materialism, etc.;

(2) Bible based teachings (49.3%)--eschatology, doctrines, evangelism, stewardship, consequences of sin, salvation, discipleship, etc.; (3) the family (40.4%); (4) the church in the world (34.9%)-- living the Christian life daily, dedication, faithfulness, witnessing, etc.; and (5) a variety of issues such as moral decay (19.2%), the current crises (11.9%), the Christian in politics (10.3%), Christian ethics (13.6%), Bold Mission Thrust/missions (5.3%), etc.

- E. Seventy-seven percent of the directors of missions and 58.9 percent of the pastors reported that they receive Missions Digest--a new missions publication sent free to directors of missions, pastors, and other selected denominational employees. Even though ministers of education are not on the mailing list to receive Missions Digest, half (50.4%) reported receiving the publication, which suggests that pastors are passing it along to other staff members. Evidently, about one-fifth (19.2%) of the directors of missions and almost forty percent (39.3%) of the pastors are not enough aware of the publication to recall it when asked about it (it is possible, of course, that a small portion of the directors and pastors are not, in fact, receiving the publication due to mailing list and mail service problems).
- F. The largest portion of pastors (44.8%) reported that the leaders in their congregations were "somewhat optimistic" about the future of their churches, while the largest portion of ministers of education (39.9%) reported that the leaders in their congregations were "extremely optimistic" about the future of their churches. An additional 29.2 percent of the pastors reported that leaders were "extremely optimistic," while an additional 33.7 percent of the ministers of education reported that leaders were "somewhat optimistic."

Fifty-seven percent (57.1%) of the directors of missions reported that pastors in their associations are "somewhat optimistic" about the future of their churches, while an additional 11.5 percent reported that pastors were "extremely optimistic."

Table 1 depicts the relationship between panel members' responses to this item in December 1978 and the responses of the same individuals in May 1980. Obviously, there have been noticeable individual changes,

TABLE 1

In general, are the leaders/pastors in your congregation/association optimistic or pessimistic about the future of their church(es)?

May, 1980	Pastors					Ministers of Education					Directors of Missions				
	December, 1978					December, 1978					December, 1978				
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Extremely optimistic	50.8%	22.1%	25.0%	(1)	(1)	69.5%	20.0%	(5)	-	(1)	(7)	11.3%	- %	-	-
Somewhat optimistic	40.4	54.6	35.7	(6)	(2)	20.8	50.0	(3)	(1)	-	(5)	66.2	51.7	(6)	-
Tentative	5.3	19.8	32.1	(4)	-	8.3	20.0	(5)	(4)	-	(1)	15.0	41.4	(2)	-
Somewhat pessimistic	3.5	3.5	3.6	(1)	-	-	8.3	-	(2)	-	(1)	7.5	6.9	(2)	-
Extremely pessimistic	-	-	3.6	(1)	-	1.4	1.7	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	(1)	-
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%			100.0%	100.0%				100.0%	100.0%			
	(57)	(86)	(28)	(13)	(3)	(72)	(60)	(13)	(7)	(2)	(14)	(80)	(29)	(11)	-
			(187)					(154)					(134)		

- 1 - Extremely optimistic
- 2 - Somewhat optimistic
- 3 - Tentative
- 4 - Somewhat pessimistic
- 5 - Extremely pessimistic

NOTE ON READING THE TABLE: Observe that 187 pastors, 154 ministers of education, and 134 directors of missions participated in both polls. Looking only at the 187 pastors involved, observe that for December, 1978, 57 pastors reported that their leaders were "extremely optimistic," 86 reported that their leaders were "somewhat optimistic," 28 reported that their leaders were in a "tentative" stance about the future of their church, 13 reported that their leaders were "somewhat pessimistic," and 3 reported them to be "extremely pessimistic." Of the 57 pastors who reported "extremely optimistic" in December, 1978, 50.8 percent reported "extremely optimistic" in May, 1980, 40.4 percent reported "somewhat optimistic," 5.3 percent reported "tentative," and 3.5 percent reported "somewhat pessimistic." The rest of the data can be read in the same way that the pastor data has been presented.

but overall the percentage of those "extremely optimistic," "somewhat optimistic," etc., remained about the same for both time periods.

- G. The largest portion of the pastors (42.1%) reported that their churches' income was "ahead of budget," while the largest portion of the ministers of education (46.1%) reported that the income of their churches was "behind budget." Churches "behind budget" are predominantly medium size churches.

Table 2 reveals the relationship between panel members responses to this item in June, 1979 and the responses of the same individuals in May, 1980. Noticeably, there have been individual changes, and overall percentages reveal that fewer churches/associations were ahead of budget in May, 1980 as compared to June, 1979.

Ministers of education serving in "new"* SBC states reported significantly more frequently than did their counterparts in "old"* SBC states that their churches were "behind budget" in their income.

HIGHLIGHTS H THROUGH K ARE BASED ON RESPONSES FROM ONLY PASTORS AND MINISTERS OF EDUCATION.

- H. When pastors and ministers of education were asked about the effectiveness of their churches' missions committee, the largest portion (36.0%) reported that their churches did not have a missions committee. And, cross tabulation data reveals that significantly more of these churches are located in "old"* SBC states as compared to "new"* SBC states.

Of those churches that do have missions committees, it would appear that their effectiveness is not all that commendable in the eyes of staff members.

- I. When panel members were asked to report the type of projects their churches had undertaken as a direct result of Bold Mission Thrust, three types of projects were most prominent: (1) participation in associational Bold Mission projects (36.0%); (2) mission trips outside

*See Appendix for list of "old" and "new" SBC states.

TABLE 2

In terms of income this year, is your church/association ahead of budget, meeting budget, or behind budget?

	Pastors			Ministers of Education			Directors of Missions		
	June, 1979			June, 1979			June, 1979		
<u>May, 1980</u>	<u>Ahead of budget</u>	<u>Meeting budget</u>	<u>Behind budget</u>	<u>Ahead of budget</u>	<u>Meeting budget</u>	<u>Behind budget</u>	<u>Ahead of budget</u>	<u>Meeting budget</u>	<u>Behind budget</u>
Ahead of budget	57.0%	34.0%	30.2%	40.0%	16.7%	16.3%	60.7%	21.7%	5.9%
Meeting budget	25.6	52.8	20.9	25.7	24.4	24.4	30.4	52.2	35.3
Behind budget	17.4	13.2	48.9	34.3	59.3	59.3	8.9	26.1	55.5
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(86)	(53)	(43)	(35)	(30)	(86)	(56)	(46)	(34)

NOTE ON READING THE DATA: Circled percentages depict individuals whose responses were the same in both polls-- June, 1979 and May, 1980 (in other words, no change in their income status). The remaining percentages represent changes in the income status of respondents' churches/ associations.

of their immediate areas (36.0%); and (3) door-to-door "people search" campaigns (28.4%). Twenty-two percent (22.4%) of the churches represented had undertaken no projects as a direct result of Bold Mission Thrust (pastors in this group tended to represent smaller churches).

- J. Three-fourths (74.5%) of the churches represented in the poll do not have a person on the staff (other than the pastor) whose primary responsibility is the area of evangelism/outreach. Seventeen percent of the ministers of education and 6.4 percent of the pastors represent churches that do have such a staff member on a full-time basis, and cross tabulation data reveals that most of these represent the larger churches (1,000 or more members).

- K. Ninety-one percent (91.1%) of the churches represented in the poll collected an Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions this spring. This percentage is probably high due to the proportionately lower response of pastors from smaller churches.

Of those churches that participated, the largest portion (29.4%) had an increase of 10% to 20% over last year's offering, while 21.4 percent had an increase of more than 20 percent over last year's offering.

HIGHLIGHTS L THROUGH N ARE BASED ON RESPONSES FROM ONLY DIRECTORS OF MISSIONS.

- L. Since the first of the year, 30.8 percent of the directors of missions in the poll have assisted churches in their associations in establishing church missions committees. And, cross tabulation data reveals that significantly more of these have been established in "new"* SBC states as compared to "old"* SBC states.
- M. Fifty-five percent (54.5%) of the directors of missions responding to the May poll reported having counseled/met with, since the first of the year, church missions committees representing churches in their association.

*See Appendix for list of "old" and "new" SBC states.

- N. According to the directors of missions, the one most critical need in starting new churches is a "good sponsoring church" (53.9%).

III. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

1. Do you think that the amount of emphasis upon evangelism in Southern Baptist Convention church literature is . . .

	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Ministers of Education</u>	<u>Directors of Missions</u>	<u>Total</u>
too much?	1.8%	0.8%	0.6%	1.1%
somewhat too much?	3.7	3.4	2.6	3.3
about right?	43.8	52.6	55.7	50.4
somewhat too little?	29.7	37.1	32.1	33.3
too little?	20.1	5.3	9.0	11.3
Not indicated	<u>0.9</u>	<u>0.8</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0.6</u>
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(219)	(264)	(156)	(639)

2. How do you view the effectiveness of preaching in America today compared to ten years ago?

	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Ministers of Education</u>	<u>Directors of Missions</u>	<u>Total</u>
Much more effective .	4.6%	5.3%	3.8%	4.7%
Slightly more effective	23.3	18.9	24.4	21.8
Little change	28.3	26.1	28.2	27.4
Less effective. . . .	37.4	44.4	40.4	40.9
Much less effective .	5.9	3.4	2.6	4.1
Not indicated	<u>0.5</u>	<u>1.9</u>	<u>0.6</u>	<u>1.1</u>
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(219)	(264)	(156)	(639)

3. In what order of importance would you list the following items for improving preaching in America? The one which you think is most important should be given a "1," the one of second importance should be given a "2," etc., until all the items have been ranked. (Please rank all of the items.)

	Ranking Total for All Three Groups							N.I.	Totals		Weighted ranking* for each item
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>				
A preaching department in each state convention . . .	4.2%	7.7%	10.0%	10.3%	13.1%	35.0%	9.2%	10.5	100.0%	(639)	2.85
Better teaching in our seminaries . . .	22.9	12.7	12.2	14.6	14.1	11.6	3.0	8.9	100.0%	(639)	4.25
Off-campus seminary classes.	11.0	18.9	21.2	18.0	14.7	7.4	0.3	8.5	100.0%	(639)	4.27
More conferences and seminars on preaching. . . .	27.2	23.8	15.3	13.5	8.1	3.4	0.2	8.5	100.0%	(639)	4.95
Better printed helps from the Sunday School Board . .	4.1	7.4	11.0	16.0	24.1	22.4	5.6	9.4	100.0%	(639)	3.14
Better program of continuing education by our seminaries .	9.4	19.7	21.0	17.4	14.7	8.3	0.9	8.6	100.0%	(639)	4.28
Other.	14.2	2.5	1.3	0.9	1.1	0.8	3.9	75.3	100.0%	(639)	1.33
Not indicated. .	7.0	7.3	8.0	9.3	10.1	11.1	76.9				

NOTE: Ranking by individual panel groups may be seen in Appendix.

*Weighted rankings were derived by assigning a numerical value of "7" to each "1" rank, a numerical value of "6" to each "2" rank, etc., until each rank had a numerical value of 1 through 7. The total numerical value of each item was then divided by the total number of respondents to obtain the weighted ranking of each item. Thus, the greater the weighted ranking of an item, the higher the item in the order of items.

4. What important contemporary issues should preaching address? (Voluntary Responses)

	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Ministers of Education</u>	<u>Directors of Missions</u>	<u>Total</u>
Moral decay (decline in morality, moral irresponsibility). . .	31.1%	16.7%	7.1%	19.2%
The family	36.5	42.8	41.7	40.4
Moral and social issues of the day (world hunger, sexuality, human rights, pornography, drugs, materialism, etc.) . .	50.7	44.7	56.4	49.6
The current crises (energy, inflation, rate of change, refugees, hostages, etc.)	11.9	11.7	12.2	11.9
The Christian in politics	12.3	7.6	12.2	10.3
The church in the world (daily living, lifestyle, dedication, faithfulness, witnessing, etc.) . .	39.3	33.0	32.1	34.9
Christian ethics	10.0	15.9	14.7	13.6
Bold Mission Thrust, missions	6.4	1.5	10.3	5.3
Bible-based teaching (eschatology, doctrine, evangelism, stewardship, consequences of sin, discipleship, salvation, abundant Christian life, etc.) .	42.9	51.5	54.5	49.3
Other (meeting needs of people, value of human life, apathy, interpersonal relationships, etc.) . . .	13.5	16.4	3.7	12.2
Not indicated.	<u>9.1</u>	<u>9.8</u>	<u>7.1</u>	<u>8.9</u>
Totals	*	*	*	*
	(219)	(264)	(156)	(639)

*Percents do not add to 100.0 due to multiple answers.

5. Do you receive Missions Digest?

	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Ministers of Education*</u>	<u>Directors of Missions</u>
Yes	58.9%	50.4%	77.0%
No	39.3	48.5	19.2
Not indicated	<u>1.8</u>	<u>1.1</u>	<u>3.8</u>
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(219)	(264)	(156)

6. In general, are the leaders in your congregation/association optimistic or pessimistic about the future of their church?

	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Ministers of Education</u>	<u>Directors of Missions</u>
Extremely optimistic, great things ahead	29.2%	39.9%	11.5%
Somewhat optimistic.	44.8	33.7	57.1
Tentative, no clear impression of optimism or pessimism	18.7	18.9	18.6
Somewhat pessimistic	4.1	5.3	9.6
Definitely pessimistic, serious problems are at hand or expected	1.8	1.1	1.3
Not indicated.	<u>1.4</u>	<u>1.1</u>	<u>1.9</u>
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(219)	(264)	(156)

7. In terms of income this year, is your church/association . . .

	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Ministers of Education</u>	<u>Directors of Missions</u>
ahead of budget?	42.1%	20.5%	31.4%
meeting budget?	32.4	30.7	41.1
behind budget?	22.8	46.1	25.6
Not indicated	<u>2.7</u>	<u>2.7</u>	<u>1.9</u>
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(219)	(264)	(156)

*Ministers of education are not on the mailing list to receive the publication, but the other two panel groups are.

8. If your church has a church missions committee, in your opinion, how effective is it in helping your church meet mission needs?

	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Ministers of Education</u>	<u>Total</u>
Very effective	3.2%	6.4%	5.0%
Effective	12.8	14.8	13.9
Somewhat effective	22.8	24.2	23.6
Not effective	10.0	18.2	14.5
Church does not have a missions committee	41.2	31.9	36.0
Not indicated	<u>10.0</u>	<u>4.5</u>	<u>7.0</u>
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(219)	(264)	(483)

9. Which, if any, of the following projects has your church undertaken as a direct result of Bold Mission Thrust?

	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Ministers of Education</u>	<u>Total</u>
Door-to-door people search	27.9%	28.8%	28.4%
Door-to-door witness given to "all" persons in "church file".	13.7	12.1	12.8
Mass media blitz of the gospel message to the community	8.7	8.7	8.7
Established a mission.	7.8	17.0	12.8
A mission trip outside of the immediate area	21.5	48.1	36.0
Sponsored/commissioned a Mission Service Corps person.	4.6	12.9	9.1
Participated in an associational Bold Mission Thrust project.	38.8	33.7	36.0
No projects undertaken as a direct result of Bold Mission Thrust.	26.5	18.9	22.4
Other: (Voluntary Responses)			
Trained individuals for witnessing and ministry.	1.4	1.5	
Conducted telephone census/blitz	4.7	0.4	
Established project to increase financial support of missions	4.1	2.3	
Established some type of continuous local ministry.	5.0	0.8	
Established short-term local projects. . .	2.3	1.1	
Paid/shared expenses for ministry.	2.3	-	
Established/expanded radio ministry. . . .	0.9	-	
Other.	0.5	-	
Not indicated.	<u>2.3</u>	<u>2.7</u>	<u>2.5</u>
Totals	* (219)	* (264)	* (483)

*Percents do not add to 100.0 due to multiple answers.

10. Does your church have a person on the staff (other than the pastor) whose primary responsibility is the area of evangelism/outreach?

	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Ministers of Education</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes, full-time	6.4%	17.0%	12.2%
Yes, part-time	12.3	10.6	11.4
No	79.5	70.5	74.5
Not indicated	<u>1.8</u>	<u>1.9</u>	<u>1.9</u>
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(219)	(264)	(483)

11. Did your church collect an Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions this Spring?

	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Ministers of Education</u>	<u>Total</u>
Yes	89.9%	92.0%	91.1%
No	8.7	6.8	7.7
Not indicated	<u>1.4</u>	<u>1.2</u>	<u>1.2</u>
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(219)	(264)	(483)

If "YES," indicate how the 1980 amount compared to the amount collected in 1979:

	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Ministers of Education</u>	<u>Total</u>
Increased more than 20%	26.4%	17.3%	21.4%
Increased 10-20%	28.3	30.0	29.4
Increase was under 10%	13.2	18.5	16.1
About the same as 1979	18.8	19.8	19.3
Decreased some but less than 10%	3.6	5.3	4.5
Decreased 10% or more	5.6	6.2	5.9
Not indicated	<u>4.1</u>	<u>2.9</u>	<u>3.4</u>
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	(197)	(243)	(440)

QUESTIONS 12-15 WERE ASKED ONLY OF DIRECTORS OF MISSIONS.

12. If you were to give the most effective preaching you hear in your area a rating of "10" and the least effective preaching you hear a rating of "1," what percentage of the preachers you hear in your area would you assign the following ratings with respect to overall effectiveness?

Directors of Missions					
Percentage*	Most effective	Rating			Least effective
		9-10	7-8	5-6	
5		12.2%	5.8%	1.3%	7.7%
10		30.7	13.5	11.5	26.3
15		5.8	5.8	2.6	6.4
20		9.6	14.7	16.1	12.4
25		7.7	12.2	6.4	4.5
30		5.8	9.0	11.5	4.5
35		0.6	3.8	5.8	1.3
40		1.9	10.3	14.7	2.6
45		-	1.9	0.6	2.6
50		2.6	5.1	10.9	11.5
Over 50		7.1	6.4	7.1	5.1
Not indicated		16.0	11.5	11.5	14.7
Totals		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
		(156)	(156)	(156)	(156)

13. Since the first of this year, have you assisted any churches in your association in establishing church missions committees?

<u>Directors of Missions</u>	
Yes	30.8%
No	67.9
Not indicated	1.3
Total	100.0%
	(156)

*Percentages have been rounded to those shown in the table.

NOTE ON READING THE DATA: 12.2% of the Directors of Missions indicated that 5% of the preaching they hear in their area would rate in the 9-10 range (most effective); 30.7% indicated that 10% of the preaching they hear would rate in the 9-10 range. The remainder of the data should be read in the same way.

14. Since the first of the year, have you counseled/met with any church missions committees?

Directors of Missions

Yes	54.5%
No	44.2
Not indicated	<u>1.3</u>
Total	100.0%
	(156)

15. From the following list of needs please indicate what you feel is the one most critical need in starting new churches. (Please check only one.)

Directors of Missions

Property	7.7%
Mission pastor's salary	9.0
Lay leadership	19.2
Good sponsoring church	53.9
Operating funds	6.4
Not indicated	<u>3.8</u>
Total	100.0%
	(156)

APPENDIX

LIST OF "OLD" AND "NEW" SBC STATES

"OLD" SBC STATES

Alabama
Arkansas
Florida
Georgia
Kentucky
Louisiana
Mississippi
Missouri
North Carolina
Oklahoma
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia

"NEW" SBC STATES

Alaska
Arizona
California
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia
Hawaii
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Montana
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York
North Dakota
Ohio
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Dakota
Utah
Vermont
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming

QUESTION 3: In what order of importance would you list the following items for improving preaching in America? The one which you think is most important should be given a "1," the one of second importance should be given a "2," etc., until all the items have been ranked. (Please rank all of the items.)

	As Ranked by Pastors						
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
A preaching department in each state convention	4.6%	10.5%	13.7%	10.0%	13.7%	29.3%	6.8%
Better teaching in our seminaries	21.5	9.6	14.6	15.5	14.2	12.8	1.8
Off-campus seminary classes.	8.2	20.1	19.2	17.8	16.4	7.3	0.5
More conferences and seminars on preaching.	29.7	24.2	12.3	10.5	7.8	5.5	-
Better printed helps from the Sunday School Board	6.8	9.1	11.9	16.4	19.6	20.7	5.0
Better program of continuing education by our seminaries.	6.8	15.1	19.2	18.3	17.4	11.4	1.8
Other.	14.7	2.8	0.5	0.5	-	-	4.7
Not indicated.	<u>7.7</u>	<u>8.6</u>	<u>8.6</u>	<u>11.0</u>	<u>10.9</u>	<u>13.0</u>	<u>79.4</u>
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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As Ranked by Ministers of Education							
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
A preaching department in each state convention	4.5%	6.8%	8.7%	11.4%	13.3%	38.3%	7.2%
Better teaching in our seminaries	24.6	12.5	11.4	12.1	14.0	11.4	5.7
Off-campus seminary classes.	10.6	18.2	22.6	18.2	14.8	7.6	-
More conferences and seminars on preaching.	23.1	24.6	17.4	15.9	8.7	1.9	0.4
Better printed helps from the Sunday School Board	3.8	6.8	9.1	15.2	25.0	25.0	6.4
Better program of continuing education by our seminaries.	12.1	21.8	22.0	16.7	13.3	5.7	0.8
Other.	14.4	2.3	0.8	1.5	1.2	0.4	1.6
Not indicated.	<u>6.9</u>	<u>7.0</u>	<u>8.0</u>	<u>9.0</u>	<u>9.7</u>	<u>9.7</u>	<u>77.9</u>
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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	As Ranked by Directors of Missions						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A preaching department in each state convention	3.2%	5.1%	7.1%	9.0%	12.2%	37.1%	16.0%
Better teaching in our seminaries	22.4	17.3	10.3	17.3	14.1	10.3	-
Off-campus seminary classes.	15.4	18.6	21.8	17.9	12.2	7.1	0.6
More conferences and seminars on preaching.	30.7	21.8	16.0	13.5	7.7	3.2	-
Better printed helps from the Sunday School Board	0.6	5.8	12.8	16.7	29.5	20.5	5.1
Better program of continuing education by our seminaries.	8.3	22.5	21.8	17.3	13.5	8.3	-
Other.	13.4	2.6	3.2	0.6	2.5	2.6	7.0
Not indicated.	6.0	6.3	7.0	7.7	8.3	10.9	71.3
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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