



SESSION #4:

Kings Connection

How does Kings Baptist Church function? How can I be involved?

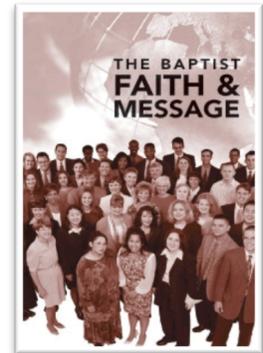
WE ARE LINKED



The Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) was organized in 1845 in Augusta, Georgia. Since its organization, the SBC has grown to over 16 million members who worship in more than 42,000 churches in the United States. Southern Baptists sponsor about 5,000 home missionaries serving the United States, Canada, Guam, and the Caribbean. Additionally, the SBC sponsors more than 5,000 missionaries in over 150 nations in the world.

THE BAPTIST FAITH AND MESSAGE

The term “Southern Baptist Convention” refers to both the denomination and its annual meeting. You become a Southern Baptist by uniting with a Southern Baptist church, one in friendly cooperation with the general SBC enterprise of reaching the world for Christ. There are several major distinctives of the SBC. For a detailed explanation of each, we will refer to the Baptist Faith and Message. This is a doctrinal statement (statement of belief) that was voted on and accepted by the convention in the year 2000.



THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM



Since its launch in 1925, the effectiveness of the Cooperative Program has been dependent upon individuals, churches, state conventions, and SBC entities cooperating, working toward a common goal of sharing the gospel with every person on the planet. Every year, our church prayerfully decides how much of our undesignated offerings will be committed to reaching people both locally and globally through the Cooperative Program. This amount is then forwarded to your state convention (Kentucky

Baptist Convention). During the annual meeting of your state convention, messengers from your church and other churches across your state decided what percentage of Cooperative Program dollars contributed by local congregations stays in your state to support local missions and ministries. Additionally, the KBC determines the percentages to be forwarded to the Southern Baptist Convention for North American and international missions.

WE ARE LED

The leadership structure of Kings Baptist Church is comprised of the congregation, pastors, deacons, and committees. Each of these follow procedures and guidelines set in place by the church as recorded in the Constitution and By-Laws (CBL). The CBL is a document drafted and updated by a committee and only modified by a majority vote in a church business meeting.



Congregation: Our congregation represents the final authority on all matters of the church. We recognize that both Jesus and the apostle Paul appealed to the congregation on matters of church discipline (Mt. 18:15-17, Gal. 6:1, 1 Cor. 5:1-13, Tit. 3:10-11). Therefore, we structure our church government congregationally. Accordingly, our congregation votes on all matters pertaining to church leaders, admission and exclusion of membership, disciplinary issues and the like. Kings strives to carry out this responsibility by calling members to be active in the church through service, giving, and participation in regular business meetings. These meetings provide you with information regarding what's happening throughout the body. Additionally, these meetings provide you with an opportunity to vote, influencing the direction of the church.

Pastors: The Bible teaches that pastors are **servant leaders**. Following the biblical pattern established by the apostles in the early church, pastors primarily devote their time to shepherding God's people through preaching and teaching God's Word. In addition, pastors administrate and oversee all functions of the church. A pastor must meet the stated qualifications in 1 Timothy 3:1-7.

Deacons: The Bible teaches that deacons are **leading servants**. This is a special body of men instituted by the early church. There are specific qualifications of these men given in 1 Timothy 3:8-13. Their role, as indicated by their name, is to serve. The name "deacon" literally means "servant." Deacons help to free up the pastors to preach and teach God's word by tending to the physical needs of the congregation (Acts 6:1-7).

Committees: Committees are groups of individuals that have been approved by the congregation to carry out certain tasks in the church. The Nominating Committee recommends individuals to participate on certain committees that the church must vote to approve.

"How do you see the invisible God? By looking at the local Christian congregation. We display God's glory by organizing our churches after the pattern he has shown us in His Word. This is what the church must be devoted to." – Mark Dever