

study guide

Introduction

In Luke 10:2, Jesus says the harvest of souls is plentiful, but workers are needed. Through the Cooperative Program, workers are trained and sent for the harvest of souls.

What you will learn in session three

Kentucky Baptists are helping to train and send church planters across Kentucky and North America through the Cooperative Program. We are also helping existing churches become healthier and have a greater impact for Christ through revitalization efforts.

When you give through the Cooperative Program, a portion of the money stays in Kentucky for the work of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board staff as they help churches with trainings, consultations, resources and disaster relief. The other portion is forwarded to the Southern Baptist Convention and used for the work of the International Mission Board, the North American Mission Board, six seminaries and other SBC organizations.

In 1919, Southern Baptist Convention leaders began to work toward meeting the financial needs for all of the missions and ministries of the SBC and of the individual state conventions. Out of this effort, the idea of cooperative giving was born and the Cooperative Program was launched in Murray, Ky., in 1925.

Discussion questions

- How can we obey Jesus' call to pray for workers to be sent into the harvest? How can we join in the harvest of souls?
- What are the benefits of our church being a part of something that is greater than just us?
- Why are churches stronger when they work together?
- Why are the four pegs of the Kentucky Baptist Convention important? (Recap from session one)