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Why I Like the Baptist Co-operative Program

By

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THE Co-operative Program is the plan of Southern and Kentucky Baptists for supporting all phases of their benevolent, educational and missionary work through the regular weekly contributions of the members of the churches to this common fund, in which all the causes share in proportion to their needs. There are seven reasons why I like this Co-operative Program.

First: It enables me to carry out my part of Christ's program of service—benevolent, educational and missionary.

When he was here he healed, he taught, and he preached the gospel. (Matt. 4:23.) When he went away he committed this three-fold ministry to his disciples. They, in turn, have passed it down the generations until now the task is in our hands.

Our Co-operative Program carries out his service of benevolence to the human body in (1) orphans' homes, (2) hospitals, and (3) old ministers' relief.

The ministry to the minds of men, or education, is carried out in our (1) schools and colleges, (2) seminaries and (3) missionary training schools.

His ministry of preaching the gospel is carried out in (1) state missions, (2) home missions and (3) foreign missions.

When I give time, talent or money to the Co-operative Program of Southern Baptists I am carrying out the full plan of Christ to this whole lost world.

GIVES SHARE IN EVERY TASK

In the second place, the Co-operative Program enables me to have part in all that is being done. I am not personally able to build an orphans' home, or hospital; to build a school or to send missionaries. But when I put my gift, however small, into the Lord's treasury and four million other Baptists do the same thing the aggregate of all the gifts can then perform all of these tasks. If I am not contributing, therefore, to the full Co-operative Program I am denying myself the privilege of taking a part in the whole.

Third: The Co-operative Program enables me to have some part in the whole work of Christ each and every week of the year. It is very different from making a spasmodic emotional gift to some one cause just once a year.

Fourth: This Co-operative Program enables me to do all that needs to be done because it includes every sort of service to every sort of somebody that any sort of anybody may wish to render. It is the only program in the world that is all inclusive of every human need. Other institutions and organizations serve young men exclusively, or young women and boys, or the sick, but none of them, except this, includes all human beings. This Co-operative Program serves needy humanity of all ages, classes, races, colors, nationalities; kindred peoples and tongues in all parts of the world. Therefore, there is no justification for anyone feeling that it narrows his life and service and influence for him to concentrate all his efforts in this Baptist Co-operative Program. It is the widest, broadest, biggest, fullest, richest program of service to be found on the face of the earth.

PROGRAM EMBODIES GOD'S PLAN

Fifth: This Co-operative Program enables me to carry out God's financial program for

