

# Manual for



Vincent ten Bouwhuis Ministries  
and Worldwide Missionary Foundation

# Mass Gospel Crusades

[www.vincentministries.org](http://www.vincentministries.org)

## **Introduction**

As an interdenominational crusade ministry, our Mass Gospel Miracle Crusades are aimed at blessing the local church. We do not aim to come and set up a church of our own but simply to serve the local church that already exists. As an evangelist I have one thing on my heart and mind, and that is “to win souls for the Lord Jesus Christ”. In other words “an evangelist has the nets to catch the fish but he needs the pastor’s boats to empty them into”. I believe that this is the way for evangelistic outreaches to work, we work together to see souls saved and brought into the Kingdom of God, everybody doing their part to see towns, cities, areas and nations reached with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

This manual is not intended as a rule book, more as a resource to the local church and crusade leadership. It is intended to ensure that all comes together well for a successful Gospel event. It is a guide to enable us all to make the best effort for the Lord and for His Gospel, to spread that Good News of Jesus Christ as far as we can.

## **The Aims of a Gospel Crusade**

As already mentioned, a Gospel Crusade is not aimed at starting new churches. It is simply aimed at working together with the local churches that already exist to reach the lost of a particular area or city and then to see the new converts planted into those local fellowships. A Gospel Crusade will normally last from three to five days and will consist of worship, preaching, and prayer for the sick.

Here is a sample outline of a crusade meeting,  
Everything will be Holy Spirit lead but for example:

**18:00hrs** As the crowd is assembling worship music on tape playing

**19:00hrs** Welcome/Announcements and opening prayer.

**19:10hrs** Worship (lead by local church)

**19:40hrs** Preaching (Evangelist Vincent)

**20:25hrs** Prayer for the sick and other Holy Spirit ministry (Evangelist Vincent)

**20:40hrs** Testimonies

**21:15hrs** Final worship and close.

Normally we would like to run the crusade from Friday to Sunday for a three day event or from Thursday to Sunday for a four day event. That way people that are working in the week or travel from far have the opportunity to visit the crusade.

Obviously this is a rough guide and times would change to suit the local culture. It is important to remember that everything is aimed at the un-churched. A crusade is not a Christian service held at another venue; its focus is the lost.

Please check also that the dates do not fall into a Monsoon rain season.

## **What is Needed?**

It goes without saying that for an event such as this to take place there needs to be an amount of organization to place before, during, and after the Crusade. These events are normally aimed at reaching entire cities, surrounding villages and the region and not just a single area around a church building. It is beneficial to have all or as many as possible local Christian fellowships working on the crusade as possible. There is a wonderful power in unity/ agreement and it would certainly shake the devil to see God's people standing together to reach their city/region for Christ.

There are a number of groups/areas that we suggest be put in place for the organization. These groups should be made up of Christians from across the different fellowships, ensuring that every fellowship is involved. Remember, this Crusade is there to bless the local church, it is not something that we want to just come and do but we want your church to make the event theirs. You will probably find that these groups will need to meet together on occasions, just to ensure that everyone is working towards the same goal.

Below is the list of the groups/areas and the responsibilities thereof

### **1. Site Management**

The site management team could oversee the following:

The site that the crusade will take place on is very important and great care and attention should be given when identifying it. It needs to be a place that is easily accessible for people who live all over the city/area to be reached. Whilst a Church building would perhaps be the most convenient place, we recommend that Church buildings are not used for two main reasons, as the event is aimed first and foremost at non-churched people it is important to have a place that they are used to and that does not present a barrier to them. For a lot of non-Christians walking into a church building is a very big step and can put people off even attending the event. Secondly, we want to keep the event as interdenominational as possible and so not using a particular churches building will help to give every fellowship their ownership of the event. Depending on local weather, we recommend as far as possible to hold the crusades out doors.

This will help attract more people and will be easier for people to just walk into. Large tents can also be used. If this is not possible than a public building such as a theater or sports stadium is recommended.

**An adequate sound system** must be secured for use. This system must be able to project the sound clearly across the whole crusade site. If the people can not hear then the whole event will have little impact. It is also important that the sound system is able to cope with singers and a few musical instruments such as guitars and keyboard. There must also be enough microphones to ensure that every one who needs one will have one.

**A stage** will also be required. It is important that the people who attend the event can see what is going on. The size of the crowd will effect how high the platform needs to be. It also needs to be large enough for the worship group to be able to ministry from. Because nearly all crusades are outdoors it is likely to go on after dark then consideration needs to be given to lighting. It is important for health and safety reasons that people will be able to see were they are walking etc.

## **2. Councilors**

The counseling team plays a very important role during and after the event. After the Gospel has been preached and people have responded to receive Jesus into their life's it is important that we get their names and details for follow up and linking into a local participating church. This would be the job of the counseling team. They would approach people after they have made a decision for Christ and take their details, pray with them and give them a follow-up booklet. They would also give them the details of a local participating church for them to attend. After the crusade had finished.

These counselors could also visit the new converts to ensure that they are encouraged in their faith and that they have linked up with a church fellowship.

Because of the nature of this job, the counseling team must be carefully selected. Pastors from participating churches should recommend people in their churches who they know to be spiritually strong enough to take on this task. The number of counselors needed would vary according to the expected size of the crowd.

### **3. Intercessors**

We all know the importance of intercession. This is vital in a Gospel Campaign. We recommend that prayer groups be set up for the event weeks before it starts. The necessity of soaking an event like this in prayer can not be overstated. Pray walking the city and a prayer march will also benefit the crusade. It is also important to have intercessors praying whilst the crusades are going on. Making sure the crusade team, the churches, the meetings themselves are prayed for is very important. The intercession should also engage in spiritual warfare, making sure that the area has been prepared spiritually for a mighty harvest of souls.

### **4. Publicity**

A terrible thing happens when no publicity is done, NOTHING. The publicity is crucial. Use every means to let everyone know everywhere about the crusade. Here are some ideas. We recommend that there is a build up in publicity to the event. The aim is to get the whole city talking about the event and getting excited about it. If possible, use local radio and television to announce the event regularly from about one month before the start. As the crusade approaches begin to increase the publicity. Use leaflets, posters, street banners, bill boards and in the days before the crusade car+megaphone-announcement all over the city. From the week before the crusade an idea would be to have cars driving around the city announcing the event through mobile sound systems.

The idea is to cover as much of the city as possible. Make sure that the details, time, place, etc are displayed clearly on all publicity. Letting people know that there will be prayer for the sick will also help get peoples interest and that people are coming from across the world for this event. It is also important for the publicity team to keep the churches informed of the crusade. The Publicity team would also be in charge of informing the local churches of the event details. Everyone can get involved with this job.

## **5. Music groups.**

It is hoped that the local churches would provide worship from within there fellowships. This way we would ensure that the music used would be culturally relevant and it would also insure church participation. It is recommended that a different church group is used on each night. It is important to remember that everything has to be aimed at the un-churched. So the songs that are chosen should have an evangelistic message to them. It should also be remembered that the majority of people attending the event may be foreign to the way we worship, so consideration should be given to this. Pending on the size of the expected crowd, dance groups could also be used. The worship should be lively and attractive to people.

## **6. Security.**

The amount of security that is needed will depend on where the event is to be held. For instance, if the crusade is to be held outside, then 24hr security may be required if sound systems, etc, are to be left set up. We recommend that people are available to keep an eye on the event as well.

The security team may need to liaise with the police if they are involved. Traffic management will also come under this group.

## **7. Ushers**

Whenever there is a crowd it is important to have a group of people who can control and organize them. Again the expected size of the crowd and the venue for the event will dictate how many people are required for this group. A rough guide is 1 Usher per 200 people of expected crowd size. Thus for a crowd of 50,000 people 250 Ushers are needed. Basically the usher's job is to keep the crowd in an orderly fashion and to collect the offering. Ensuring entrances and exits are kept clear and that the crowd move in a safe and calm manner at all times. The ushers would also be responsible for ensuring that the people attending the event sit/stand in the designated areas.

### **General helpers (setting up/down etc).**

Last but by no means least, is the general helpers. A lot of work is needed to set up sound systems, seating, the stage, and general tidying up during and after the event. This group is extremely important as they will allow others to concentrate more fully on their responsibilities.

## **Finances**

Vincent ten Bouwhuis Ministries itself operates by faith and having "all the promises of God". The majority of the income of VTBM comes from our partners. We believe that God supplies all the needs for His work and workers, therefore if a crusade is planned within His will, all the finance will be forthcoming, from whatever source.

In some African and other extremely poor countries it is obviously difficult for the local churches to sponsor an event on this scale, but we ask that as much as possible for your support. However in countries that are not extremely poor there is a great blessing of the local churches support.

Not only does this conform to the scriptural principle of sowing and reaping, but the local church is very powerfully motivated to see the success of the event if they are intimately involved in this way. We normally always take up an offering to give the people the opportunity to be blessed and in the event of shortfalls we expect to recover that by faith. We ask also for your continual prayers for partners to be added to the ministry.

## **Pastors / ministers Fire Conference**

We are not only passionate about winning the lost but we also want to see the local Christians taught, inspired and fired up for the task of soul winning as well. That is why as part of the crusade we would like to run our “Fire” conference. This would normally happen in the morning of the Saturday the crusade week. It is aimed at the local church and the new converts that have come to Christ during the crusade. This event could be held in a church building, at the crusade ground or at some other appropriate venue. As with the crusade we would like to have a local worship group to be available to lead worship as well as a church choir to ministry during the conference.

## **In Conclusion**

We believe that through working with the local Church, together we can make a serious impact on the cities, towns and areas with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our heart is God’s heart that “none should perish” (2 Peter 3:9). As co-laborers with God may we see His heart cry for the lost fulfilled with multitudes ushered into the Kingdom of God.

**God Bless you in Jesus name**

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