

Christian Ministries Church
S.W.A.T. Team Ministry
Street Witnessing **And** Training



Operations

The world has a S.W.A.T. Team that stands for “Special Weapons And Tactics”. Our team has special weapons and tactics as well. Our weapons and tactics are in place to assist us to GO out and SEEK the lost, to RESCUE them from Satan's hold, so that they may be SAVED.

“For the Son of Man came to SEEK and to SAVE what was lost.” Luke 19:10

“but others SAVE with fear, PULLING THEM out of the fire” Jude 1:23

“GO into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15

The S.W.A.T. Team is utilized for a variety of missions due to their versatility, skill and training. This is a team of Christians who have had specialized training in various aspects of street witnessing. You will notice that our church S.W.A.T. Team and the police force S.W.A.T. teams have much in common.

Organization

The relative infrequency of street witnessing events means that S.W.A.T. Team members cannot be left to sit around waiting to be called upon. They will actively be part of the Body of Christ, using their gifts that God has given them. When an event requiring their specialized skills presents itself, they will be mobilized.

The S.W.A.T. Team Members

The S.W.A.T. Team is like a football team, in that effectiveness hinges on every member of the team performing his/her assignment or task that God has gifted them in doing. A team is a group of individuals working together to accomplish an objective.

The desire and calling to become a S.W.A.T. Team member must be matched by persistence and dedication to the mission and direction of this ministry. The following information is presented as an overview of some of the criteria one should have to be a S.W.A.T. team member.

What type of Christian is a good candidate to become a member of the S.W.A.T. Team? Someone who has the love of God in their hearts and a passion for the lost, operating in the Fruit of the Spirit and open to direction when out in the field.

Other personal qualities that make a good S.W.A.T. Team member:

Intelligence: Good skills in reasoning and being able to “think on your feet” are highly sought after traits.

Motivation: Self-motivation is a trait that is very important. Relying on the Lord is the most important. However, there will be times of persecution when out street witnessing. You can't let this discourage you from the Lord using you. Being mentally tough is a great trait as well.

Spiritual Fitness: S.W.A.T. Team members should have a solid Biblical foundation, so as to know who they are in Christ. New Christians are welcome as well, as long as there is ongoing Bible reading to lay a foundation. Daily reading of the Bible and prayer is a necessity. We must stay saturated in the Word of God, so that when out street witnessing, we will be close to the Lord and hear the voice of the Holy Spirit. If not, it is too easy to get into the flesh, which never leads to a fruitful encounter with the lost.

Stability: Having patience, an even temperament is essential. A S.W.A.T. Team member who loses their cool with a lost person who is persecuting them will be a bad witness for Christ.

“And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth” 2 Timothy 2:24-25

Team Spirit: This is important. There is no “I” in “team”. The team cannot afford the luxury of someone who wants to pack it in for the day when things start going badly. You cannot say, “I quit” in the middle of a mission and leave your team. There is strength in numbers.

Two *are* better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor.
For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him *who is* alone when he falls,
For *he has* no one to help him up. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Though one person may be overpowered, two can defend themselves.
A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. Ecclesiastes 4:12

S.W.A.T. Team Positions

Use your specific giftings and abilities in this ministry. Listed below are only some of the positions God can use you in. Some members will have one gifting, some may have all of them while out street witnessing.

Passing out gospel tracts: The ability to pass out tracts with ease.

Witnessing one to one: The ability to talk with someone and witness to them.

Open air preaching: The ability to stand up in front of crowds and preach the gospel.

Camera and video: The ability to take pictures and video to record the witnessing event.

Prayer: The ability to go out with the other team members and pray while they share the gospel.

Examples of S.W.A.T. Team Events

Parades. Public places such as town squares, parks, etc. Concerts. Sporting events. Gay pride events.

Types of Witnessing

Passing out gospel tracts, one to one witnessing and open air preaching.

What to Expect When Joining the S.W.A.T. Team

S.W.A.T. Team members will have mandatory training at several different levels, from classroom work to field operations. S.W.A.T. Team members must be able to work together effectively and as a cohesive unit. This is achieved by training and repetition.

S.W.A.T. Team Leadership Commitment To You

We will train you how to be an effective witness for Christ in various situations. The S.W.A.T. Team, as well as the entire church, will be there to encourage you and pray for you. We will watch your back while out on missions to seek and save the lost.

S.W.A.T. Team Member Commitment

Commit yourself to this ministry. Attend the required training. Attend as many events as possible. Each member is important to the team and is needed when on a mission.

Examples of Training Provided to S.W.A.T. Team Members:

Passing out gospel tracts: How to effectively pass out tracts at various types of events.

Witnessing: How to effectively witness one to one at various types of events.

Open Air Preaching: How to preach in public if this is something you feel comfortable doing.

Apologetics: Learn tactics in defending the faith in various situations.

On the job training: Be paired up with a more experienced team member when out witnessing. Get the hang of witnessing while listening. When comfortable, step in and begin witnessing to others. Learn how to handle yourself in different environments. For example, there may be a difference in how to handle yourself at a parade or outreach event than at a lively downtown crowd at night or a gay pride event.

Special Weapons

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds." 2 Corinthians 10:3-4

1. The Word of God

"For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." Hebrews 4:12

"Take...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" Ephesians 6:17

2. The Armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-18

"...Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." v. 10-11

The Belt of Truth

"With the belt of truth buckled around your waist" Ephesians 6:14

The Breastplate of Righteousness

"With the breastplate of righteousness in place" Ephesians 6:14

Feet Prepared with the Gospel of Peace

"And your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace" Ephesians 6:15

The Shield of Faith

"In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one." Ephesians 6:16

The Helmet of Salvation

"Take the helmet of salvation" Ephesians 6:17

The Sword of the Spirit

"Take...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" Ephesians 6:17

3. Prayer

"Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven." Matthew 18:19

But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you." Matthew 5:44

Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. Mark 11:24

Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Mark 14:38

