

ST. CLAIR BOWER

ST. CLAIR BOWER SERVED AS SOUTHERN BAPTIST PASTOR AND MISSION WORKER IN SOUTH LOUISIANA FROM 1929 UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 1996. HE IS WELL KNOWN FOR WITNESSING TO PEOPLE UP AND DOWN THE BAYOU IN HIS BOAT AND SHARED HIS STORIES IN A BOOK HE AUTHORED, TITLED "BOWER ON THE BAYOU" REV. PERRY SANDERS OF FIRST BAPTIST LAFAYETTE ONCE QUOTED THIS ABOUT REV. BOWER, "IT IS SAFE TO SAY THAT NO OTHER INDIVIDUAL HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BEGINNING OF MORE BAPTIST CHURCHES IN LOUISIANA THAN ST. CLAIR BOWER."

CARL CONRAD

CARL CONRAD FELT THE LORD CALLING HIM TO THE FRENCH MISSION FIELDS OF LOUISIANA WHILE IN COLLEGE. HE HITCHHIKED FROM COLLEGE TO HIS TWO CHURCHES ON ALTERNATE SUNDAYS, THEN WALKED MILES "UP THE PRAIRIE" TO DEVELOP MISSIONS. HIS FIRST CONVERTS WERE AN ELDERLY COUPLE WHO COULD NOT SPEAK ENGLISH. WHEN ASKED IN FRENCH, "WHY DID YOU ACCEPT CHRIST?" THEY RESPONDED. "BECAUSE YOU CAME TO US AND LISTENED TO US." LATER, AS STATE MISSIONS DIRECTOR, HE PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MISSION PASTORS, WHO WERE THE SONS HE NEVER HAD. UPON HIS OFFICIAL RETIREMENT, HE CONTINUED TO SERVE AS A MISSIONS VOLUNTEER UNTIL AGE 90. HE LEFT BEHIND THIS CHALLENGE:

"GO AMONG THE LOST PEOPLE. THEY WILL NOT
COME TO YOU."

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WHAT IS THE BOWER CONRAD MISSION OFFERING?

THE BOWER CONRAD MISSION OFFERING IS THE OFFICIAL OFFERING OF THE EVANGELINE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION. 100% OF THE GIFTS GIVEN TO BOWER-CONRAD ARE USED TO SUPPORT SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCHES IN THE EVANGELINE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION FOR:

- CHURCH STARTS
- CHURCH/MISSION NEEDS
- MINISTERS' EMERGENCY RELIEF

THIS OFFERING WAS NAMED AFTER ST. CLAIR BOWER AND CARL CONRAD. THESE TWO MEN SHARED A PASSION FOR WINNING SOULS AND PLANTING SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCHES IN ACADIANA.



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