

Fall Harvest of 700 Salvations Seen in Marshall County, Alabama

*Evangelist Rick Gage sees fall harvest of more than 700 souls in Marshall County, Alabama
GO TELL Crusade, including salvation decisions at jails and schools.*

GUNTERSVILLE, AL. (BP) -- Fall harvest came early to Marshall County, Alabama, when more than 1,300 made decisions for Christ, including 604 for salvation, during the Rick Gage GO TELL Crusade Sept. 22-25, and around 130 salvation decisions at pre-crusade events plus nearly 600 decisions of recommitment.

Crusade chairman Roy Sullivan of Arab, Alabama, said this area of Alabama, known infamously as "Meth Mountain," is in special need. "There is so much meth used in this county by young people.



"Since the beginning, one and a half years ago, we have been praying and planning and putting all of our efforts into making this crusade happen for Christ and for Him alone," Sullivan added. "This is not about us but is truly all about winning souls for the Kingdom of God."

Among the keys to the crusade's success – in spite of "the long and sometimes difficult road" – were openness to any denomination and any culture. Sullivan explained, "All were welcome to come those four nights to hear about one Lord and one Gospel and one Savior of all."

Sullivan and another co-chairman, Pastor Steve Swords of Victory Baptist Church in Guntersville, said they were impressed that Gage not only was available to speak at the nightly crusade meetings but also at county and city jails, all of the schools, several football practices, a pre-crusade youth rally and a Celebrate Recovery meeting for recovering alcoholics.

Even before the crusade officially began, about 40 were saved at the jails, 80 at the youth rally and 12 at the Celebrate Recovery meeting. Swords said, "Rick Gage would do whatever he could do to reach the lost, even leading a body builder to Christ while he was working out."



An international evangelist for 25 years, Gage said, "Marshall County was an area that was ripe for an evangelistic harvest. The preparation for this outreach was in place for more than a year. To have a successful evangelistic event, preparation and leadership are the two key components."

Volunteers from more than 50 churches in the

county helped with the crusade.

Swords recalled that one of the most amazing salvation stories involved a man who phoned his unsaved sister-in-law, encouraging her to attend the crusade at Guntersville High School Football Stadium.

Tired, she said she would not be able to go, but she did agree to listen to Gage speak over the phone. After about 10 minutes, her brother-in-law checked with her to see if she was still listening. Then after another 10 minutes, he checked with her again but received no reply.

Then he looked down where Gage was speaking and saw his sister-in-law kneeling at the altar before Gage had even concluded his message - ready to be saved.

One of the nearly 300 crusade counselors, Swords said he was able to lead a former football player to the Lord - a young man he had known from seven years before who had become addicted to prescription drugs during those seven years. Now a New Believer, he had not even planned to attend the crusade, but he saw the stadium lights on and stopped to see what was going on.

Gage, president of GO TELL Ministries in Atlanta, was joined by guest speakers Jose Alvarez, Tony Nolan and Steve Paysen. Musical guests were Chuck Sullivan, GO TELL's music director and worship leader for the past 20 years whose father was the crusade chairman, and Joy Fowler.

With the Outcast BMX Bike Team performing, Gage spoke to more than 7,000 students at every middle school and high school in the county about the dangers of drugs, alcohol abuse and premarital sex.

"After one of the high school assemblies, a student came up to me with tears in her eyes - very broken. After hearing her heart and concern, I was able to share the Gospel with her. Right there, next to the high school gym, we led her to Christ," Gage recounted.

"There were so many prayers answered of those who had been praying for lost family members and friends who got saved. God is still in the saving business, and He still uses crusade evangelism to reach multitudes for Christ," Gage added.