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# Fulfilling the Great Commission

**GCR** Great Commission Resurgence

by Jeff Ginn, Executive Director

**T**he Southern Baptist Convention voted overwhelmingly last summer to form the **Great Commission Resurgence Task Force (GCRTF)**.

This task force is prayerfully and diligently preparing recommendations on how we can better pursue the fulfillment of the Great Commission. The SBC will consider the task force's report in Orlando at this year's convention.

**The release of that report is due on May 3, 2010** in anticipation of the convention. Watch for it at [www.pray4gcr.com](http://www.pray4gcr.com). I encourage you to read the GCRTF's report. Also, numerous articles in Baptist Press have appeared that give varied perspectives on the proposals and the possible ramifications. Let's pray that the report's recommendations will strengthen our convention-wide commitment to a cooperative approach to mission support and practice.

Recently, the officers of our state network met with staff leadership in a retreat to consider the GCR and possible ramifications. I am so grateful for the godly wisdom and sweet spirit of these leaders. There is absolute unity on the basic issue of desiring to pursue the Great Commission more effectively. The SBCV has in its spiritual DNA and unique history an unwavering commitment to missions.

Fresh evidence of this commitment was demonstrated in the unanimous adoption of our own Vision 20/20 Report this past November. Predating the GCR movement, SBCV churches had already set about casting a new vision for helping to fulfill the Great Commission.

Our leadership believes that SBCV priorities

are in sync with the heart and Word of God. They provide us with clear "marching orders," regardless of what happens in other spheres. Furthermore, our conviction is that they represent much of what the GCRTF is attempting to achieve—greater resources for missions, streamlined organizations, church planting priorities, Kingdom mindset, etc.

The challenge is that we continue steadfastly on the course He has set before us. Remember, our state network can only stay the course as our constituent churches do the same. Sacrificial giving must begin with individual believers, be modeled by local churches, and upheld by SBC partners. Let's recommit ourselves to this joint effort of reaching the nations for Christ. In doing so, there is a sense in which we can help set the pace for our entire national network.

Some years ago, I saw a documentary on the Colorado River. Major tributaries such as the Gunnison, the San Juan, and the Green River unite to make it a mighty force; however, as it courses through several arid states, innumerable users siphon off the precious water. The result is that the once powerful, life-giving Colorado peters out before it ever reaches the ocean. It ends just inside the Mexican border sixty kilometers from the sea. Wetlands and wildlife that once thrived on its delta have given way to barren mudflats. May God grant that we be vibrant tributaries who facilitate the life-giving flow of the Gospel!

## RESOURCE

**Website:**  
[www.pray4GCR.com](http://www.pray4GCR.com)

**SBCV Contact:**  
Call 888-234-7716 for details from your region's missionary.

**Prayer:**  
Pray for the members of the GCR Task Force and for God's leadership to be upon them.

