By Message Staff

LAFAYETTE – Chip Luter challenged students to evaluate their relationship with Christ during the final moments of Student Night at the Louisiana Baptist Evangelism Conference Jan. 27.

“Evaluate your relationships tonight,” Luter told the crowd gathered inside the worship center at the First Baptist Church in Lafayette. “If you don’t know Jesus, it’s the number one relationship you need.”

Several students embraced the call to stand for Christ, though ECON organizers did not have a final number of decisions.

Luter, pastor of Idlewild Baptist Church’s Sulphur Springs campus in Tampa, Fla., told students, pastors and others based on his message from 2 Corinthians 5 they have a mission from God, a ministry and message of God, a mandate from God and a motivation that is God’s love.

“You are am ambassador for Christ,” he said. “You give people a taste of Jesus they don’t know.

“You are not just an ambassador, but God is using you to make his appeal,” he said. “God is making His appeal through us. He didn’t have to use me and He still doesn’t have to use me. God can do it all by himself but He is going to use stinky, wretched us. He doesn’t need us but He chooses to use us.”

Prior to his message, Haughton evangelist Luke Hockenjos shared his testimony of how the Holy Spirit intervened and prevented him from killing another man at the end of a high-speed chase near Ruston on Nov. 2, 2014.

After a three-week road trip across several states, Hockenjos finally made it back to Ruston on Nov. 23, 2014, and preached his first sermon at Unity Baptist Church in Oak Grove. He has been in full-time evangelism ministry since.

Hockenjos said the support of his mother, Cindy, Christ followers he reconnected with from his past during the road trip and First Baptist Church in Ruston all helped point him to Christ as he transitioned from a life of addiction to drugs to a passion for sharing the Good News.

He encouraged the crowd to love sinners and “give em Jesus.”

“We need to be the type of people who will welcome sinners into God’s house,” he said. “Our God that we serve is the God for the broken.”