

Caribbean Union Conference of SDA
Personal Ministries Department

One-on-One Witnessing
10 MINUTES FEATURE

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The CARU Director & Field Directors of the Caribbean Union Conference of SDA

GO AND DO

One-on-One Witnessing 10 MINUTES FEATURE

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From the desk of: THE PRESIDENT

DR. KERN TOBIASPresident of the Caribbean Union

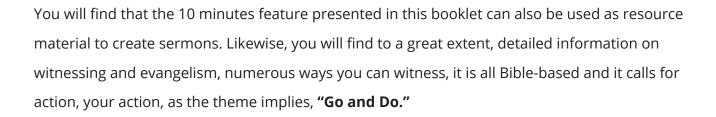
SDA.

I bring Christian greetings to every member of the Caribbean Union Conference of

Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

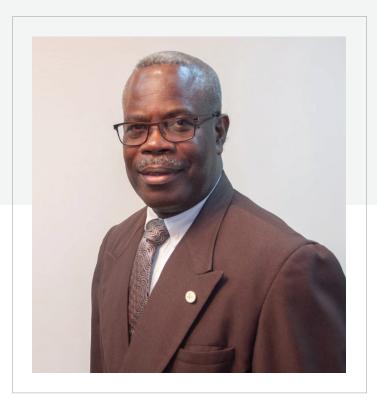
Let me take the opportunity to express my

gratitude to Pastor Ashton O'Neil and his personal ministries directors from within the Caribbean for their contribution to this booklet, and for the theme that has been chosen, **"Go and Do."**



May God bless you as you use this booklet to encourage members, and be encouraged in the work of the Lord!

Yours respectfully,





We encourage you to:

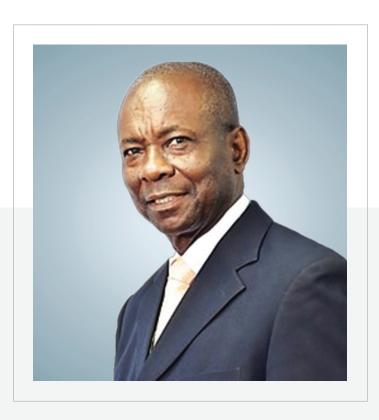
"GO AND DO"

PR. ASHTON O'NEIL

Personal Ministries Director Caribbean Union Conference of SDA

Dear Soldiers of Christ,

We are thrilled to provide the "Caribbean Union Go & Do Booklet" to the dedicated officers of the Personal Ministries Department serving in our seven hundred-plus con-



gregations within the Caribbean Union. This comprehensive booklet is an invaluable and essential resource, equipping our officers with the necessary tools and information to empower and support their ministries.

It contains ten powerful, inspiring, and informative presentations from nine Personal Ministries

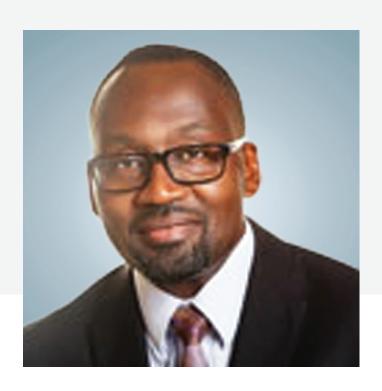
Directors (one from each field) and me. This material provides practical methods and principles for

effective evangelism in your territory.

These specially prepared presentations are designed to inspire and motivate our members. They are ideal for use during the 10-minute promotional period in your church. Please note that some are long and need two or three periods to cover the entire material. May this resource be helpful and inspiring to you and your congregation, encouraging you to "Go and Do" God's will. Maranatha!

Your brother in Christ's service





PR. HESKETH MATTHEWPersonal Ministries Director
North Caribbean Conference of SDA

PREPARING THE SOIL FOR A RICH HARVEST - I WILL GO

How many would enjoy seeing new people join the Church through baptism regularly? The good news is that it can happen at your Church. Luke reminds us in Acts 2:42 that "the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved." The first important point is that the Lord desires to add those saved daily to this Church. It is also essential to note that the Lord is He who grows the Church. Every occasion promoting church growth must be God-centred; every baptism attests to God's miraculous life-transforming

power. The human instruments God employs, the gifts and talents evident in reaching others for Christ should never eclipse the fact that God is the one who grows the Church.

While church growth is God's doing, God still invites us to partner with Him in reaching others with the gospel. This passion of Christ for saving the lost and the need-ed participation of each disciple in the process is described in Matthew 9:35-38, "Then Jesus went about all the cities and

villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He told His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the Harvest to send out laborers into the harvest."

The fact that Christ has designed a method to reach the distressed and the de-jected brings us to the second and central point of this presentation. Christ has already given His Church a technique to reach the lost. It is a perennially relevant approach that no human intellect can improve, as it was offered by the greatest evangelist, Jesus Christ Himself. What is this unmatched method? Jesus introduces the method using the metaphor, "The harvest is truly plentiful, but the laborers are few." Jesus advances a method of reaching lost people identical to the several steps farmers employ to gener-ate fruits. The harvest analogy connotes an evangelism cycle that resembles the agri-cultural process. Note that there are at least two more passages where Evangelism par-allels the agricultural process.

The first is Luke 8:4-8, "And when a great multitude had gathered, and they had come to Him from every city, He spoke by a parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock, and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some



fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold."

The second is John 4:34-35, "Jesus said to them,

"My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this, the saying is true: 'One sows and the other reaps. I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."



Here is a big third point that followers of Christ must take seriously. Just as there are phases in the agricultural process that require the intentional engagement of the farmer to produce fruit, soul-winning is a process that requires the purposeful exercise of each stage in the evangelism process. As in the agricultural cycle, Evangelism has five significant phases critical for producing and preserving the evangelistic fruit. They are as follows:

- 1. Soil Preparation
- 2. Seed Planting
- 3. Cultivation
- 4. Harvesting

PRESERVATION OF THE SEED

Today, we will focus on the first phase in the cycle: soil preparation. We are familiar with what is required to prepare the soil physically, but what does the soil represent, and how do we ready the soil within the evangelism construct? Jesus answers these questions in Mark 4:13 -20. "And He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? How, then will you understand all the parables? The sower sows the word. And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts. These likewise are the ones sown on the stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately re-ceive it with gladness; and they have no root in themselves and so endure only for a time. Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they stumble. Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit: some thirty and some a hundred."

PREPARING THE SOIL

a. The first step in the growing season is preparing the ground for the seed.

- b. The ground represents the soil of the human heart. (Mark 4:14-20).
- c. In Matthew 13: 1-23, Jesus elucidates even further, "Therefore hear the parable of the sower: When anyone hearers the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and



immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in him-self, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, he immediately stumbles. Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who

hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. But he who received the seed on good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundred, some sixty, some thirty."

d. Just as the hard ground must be broken up so the seed can take root, the human heart must be softened to receive the truths of God's Word.

Ellen White posits," As the garden must be prepared for the natural seed, so the heart must be prepared for the seed of truth.... No one settles upon a raw piece of land with the expectation that it will at once yield a harvest" (The Adventist Home, p.145). How do we participate in breaking up the soil - the human heart to receive the Word of God? Here's a simple but powerful truth. "The Scripture record tells us that in order to ac-complish this, Jesus "went about doing Good" (Acts 10:38). By loving ministry to the needs of others, He opened their hearts to the spiritual truth He longed to implant. In fol-lowing His example, we too will find success in reaching heart" (Discipleship Handbook, 200).

What machinery is employed to break up human hearts to receive the Word? The answer is doing good ministering to the needs of others.

Doing good and meeting people's needs through tangible and intangible forms of kindness break

up the hard human heart. Ellen White contends, "Diligent, persevering labor must be put forth in the preparation of the soil, the sowing of the



seed, and the culture of the crops. So it must be in the spiritual sowing" (Adventist Home, p. 146). Mrs. White also submits, "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, "Follow Me." Accompanied by the power of persuasion, the power

of prayer, the power of the love of God, this work will not, cannot, be without fruit. (Ministry of Healing, p. 143, 144).



Acts of Kindness, community services, and meeting the community's felt needs are how the Church and individual disciples prepare the soil for receiving the Word of God. This first step of soil preparation is non-negotiable. "When we demonstrate genu-ine love and care by ministering to the needs of those in our communities, we can make lasting friendships, build trust, and bring down defences. Then, when the seed of

God's Word is sown, it will find hearts that are fertile and opened in receiving the truth" (Discipleship Handbook, p.200). Here are some ways we may partner with God in preparing the soil of the human heart to receive the Word of God.

PRACTICAL WAYS OF PREPARING THE HEART

- 1. Build friendships by striking up conservation and being a good listener.
- 2. Minister to needs (Move lawns, share meals, Babysit, Give a ride).
- 3. Do an activity together of particular interest to your friend.
- 4. Be sensitive to periods of stress and crisis in people's lives.
- 5. Compliment Community Calendar.
- 6. Conduct Environmental Impact Day.
- 7. Single Mother care initiatives.
- 8. Soft Skills Classes.
- 9. Use Church Facilities for Community.
- 10. Back-to-school events.

What are some initiatives you or this Church may undertake to prepare the soil (human heart) to receive the Word of God?



DR. KAY WHITEPersonal Ministries Director
South Leeward Conference of SDA

EVERY CHURCH A WITNESSING COMMUNITY - I WILL GO

INTRODUCTION

When an individual accepts Christ as Savior, he or she has a God-given mandate to accomplish God's mission. Ellen White posits, "No sooner is one converted than there is born within him a desire to make known to others what a precious friend he has found in Jesus. The saving and sanctifying truth cannot be shut up in his heart." Christians are instructed to collaborate with Christ in saving souls to whom He has expressed His love by His sacrifice on the cross.

God calls the Christian to be a disciple and then gives him/her the power to be an effective witness to all people groups. The local Church should understand that Evan-gelism is not an event and strive to create a culture of Evangelism. There is a significant task for each member to accomplish. It is all about T.M.I. (Total Member Involvement). The call to evangelize is an individual call, but it is also a collective call, as the entire Church is encouraged to be involved in fulfilling the mission. The Seventh-day Adventist Church has a mandate to proclaim the good news about

Jesus and His Kingdom.

THE GREAT COMMISSION

When Jesus left Earth to return to Heaven, He sent His Holy Spirit to aid His disciples in spreading the gospel. God calls for converted individuals to work on His behalf. He admonishes His disciples to minister effectively to others and gives them the power re-quired to be effective. The mission of the disciple is articulated in the great commission which Christ gave to His disciples. The commission is to go and reach all nations on be-half of Christ, baptizing them and making them disciples. as promised to give him or her the authority to pursue and accomplish His mission.

do so. The scripture makes it clear that Jesus has all authority, and the be-liever then has the assurance that he or she can undertake His mission with His help. The strength and power to be an effective disciple come not from the disciple himself but from Jesus, who has promised to give him or her the authority to pursue and ac-complish His mission.

2. EVANGELISM AND CULTURAL UNDERSTAND-ING

Evangelism and church growth will continue to be challenging areas for Sev-enth-day Adventist congregations if a culture of Evangelism is not created. It is critical for the Church to create an environment for members to grow and become



The disciple can evangelize the world with the confidence that he or she has the au-thority to

passion-ate disciples of Jesus. A culture of Evangelism will become evident within a congre-gation when it acknowledges that its identity is found in the great commission given by Jesus.

Therefore, the activities within the local Church should reflect that Evange-lism is a priority, and the leaders should pray daily for the passion to reach out to those who are lost.

There is a direct link between passion for the lost and church growth. The leaders of the Church should demonstrate this passion through a deep personal relationship with Jesus. Consequently, this passion will infiltrate and impact individual members of the Church. In a congregation where a culture of Evangelism exists, sincere prayer will ascend on behalf of those who are lost, and an intentional plan will be put in place to reach those individuals.

The commission calls for churches to reach persons from all people groups and cultures in this world, preparing them for the kingdom of God. It has been observed that churches create their own culture, and even the individual member has a dis-tinct cul-

ture. There is also a distinctive culture within the community where the church ministers, and it is critical that the local congregation understand this cul-ture. The local Church should interact with the community as it seeks to understand the cultural context and values shaping the com-

munity.

The context influences the strategy which will be employed to win the community for Christ.



3. AN INCARNATIONAL APPROACH- THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF JESUS

Christ utilized the incarnational approach to save a lost planet destined for de-struction. The Bible explains that Jesus left Heaven and came down to a sin-cursed earth to redeem humanity from



the bondage of sin. Moreover, Jesus' mission was realized when He came to this Earth to reside as a human being in order to effec-tively identify with sinners, although He was sinless. The Bible states, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." (Hebrews 4: 15). The central motif of Jesus' ministry was the "coming of the Kingdom of God."

When Jesus ministered on Earth, He touched the lives of many. He met sinners, inter-acted with them, and shared a message of salvation through understanding the cul-ture, worldview, and context. In addition, in His preaching ministry, Christ used appropri-ate analogies that were

common and centered on everyday aspects of the lewish culture. As He observed the people's way of life and participated in the events, He was better able to minister to them. Jesus' message was focused on specific incidents that may have recently occurred or incidences the people may have witnessed often to evangelize them. In the local Church, there should be a similar emphasis. Ellen White shares, "A well-organized work must be done in the church, that its members may un-derstand how to impart the light to others and thus strengthen their own faith and increase their knowledge." The life of Jesus serves as an authentic and appropriate ex-ample since He was socialized into a culture, participated in that culture, and effec-tively ministered within the context of that culture.

CONCLUSION

After Jesus' departure, He sent His Holy Spirit to aid His disciples in spreading the gospel. God calls for converted individuals in the 21st century to work on His behalf. He admonishes His disciples to minister effectively to others and also gives them the power required to be effective. The disciple should evangelize the world with an understand-ing of the cultural context and confidence that he or she has the authority to do this. The Bible is unambiguous in its pronouncement

that Jesus has all authority, and the be-liever then has the assurance that he or she can accomplish His mission. with His help. The strength and power required to become an effective disciple comes from Jesus, who promised to give each disciple the authority to pursue and accomplish His mission.

Moreover, the great commission found in Matthew 28: 19, 20 articulates, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy

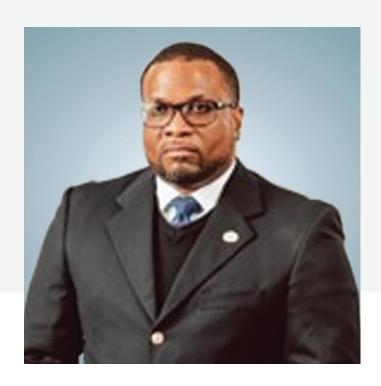


Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, Io, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. "There is a call from God to every believer to go and make disciples.

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DR. NIGEL WALCOTTPersonal Ministries Director
South Caribbean Conference of SDA

MAKING WITNESSING DEPOSITS - I WILL GO

Scripture Reference: But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost comes upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the Earth (Acts 1: 8).

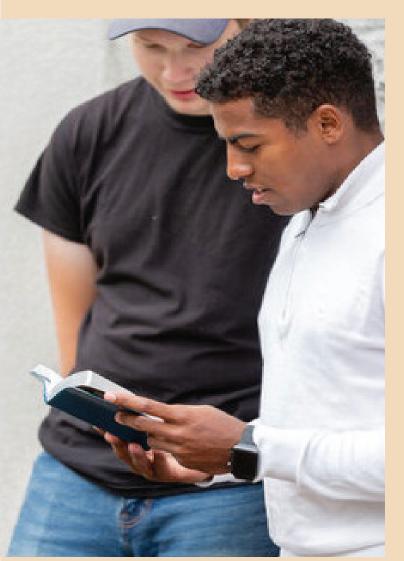
Becoming a witness is an essential part of Christianity and should be treated by all Seventh-day Adventist church mem-bers as sacred. The growth and development of the Church and the planting of churches in new areas hinge on how seriously the Church takes witnessing. In his letter to Theophilus, Luke enacts the last instruc-

tions given by Jesus to the disciples that they should wait at Jerusalem for the promise of the Father. This promise would come in the person of the Holy Spirit, and as promised, the disciples re-ceived power. They became witnesses throughout every single community of the world in their time.

Pay particular attention to who they were to witness first. They would start their wit-nessing at Jerusalem; I liken Jerusalem to their home.

The first soul after himself/herself the Christian should seek salvation for are members belong-

ing to their household, wives/husbands, children, and other family members. One can't be an effective wit-ness if he is a hypocrite; more precisely, the church member should not live a double standard life, i.e., living one way at home and another outside. In other words, your neighbours are not fooled by your church attendance every Sabbath. So live right at home first, be efficient in your witness at home, ensure that your family members spend time in private devotions daily, and ensure that your family connects with God daily through family worship every day.



The life the church member lives at home would then be expressed to their neigh-bours or neighbourhood. In the case of the disciples, they became witnesses to Ju-dea. How do you become witnesses to your neighbours? You become an effective witness to your neighbours by showing a genuine interest in them. When your neighbours realize you genuinely have their interest at heart and they feel your love, they become susceptible to your teaching; you have now opened the doorway for the Holy Spirit to do His work in the individual.

Finally, you cannot make daily deposits to witnessing without becoming an effec-tive witness to people you do not like or do not like. Luke says that God will give you the power to become a witness to unlovable people. The Jews despised the Samar-itans, but that does not mean they were not people to be saved. The church member can only accomplish actual witnessing when he is filled with the abiding pres-ence of the Holy Ghost. Finally, the essence of true witnessing can be found in the Pen of Inspiration; Ellen White, in her book 'Ministry of Healing", states, "Christ's meth-od alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered



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CALL TO WITNESS - I WILL GO

The words of a very well-known song sound like this:

Die liefde van Jesus is wonderbaar,

Wonderbaar, Prys Sy Naam

Die liefde van Jesus is wonderbaar

Wonderbaar vir my (herhaal)

Kom ons verheerlik Sy Naam

Kom ons verheerlik Sy Naam

Die mense verander maar Jesus nooit

Kom ons verheerlik Sy Naam

Translated into English:

The love of Jesus is wonderful,

Wonderful, praise His Name

The love of Jesus is wonderful

Wonderful to me (repeat)

Come, let us glorify His Name

Come, let us glorify His Name

People change, but Jesus never

Come, let us glorify His

Amazing words, isn't it?

A mighty testimony sung by a well-known singer.

Aren't we all called to testify about the wonderful love of Jesus?

Before answering this question, let me check from the dictionary what the follow-ing two The witness is the person who tells about what he has heard, seen or experienced.

Back to our main question:

Are we not all called to witness about the wonderful love of Jesus?



words mean:

- A testimony
- A witness

According to the dictionary, a testimony is a "statement by a witness about what he or she has personally heard, seen or experienced.

The pen of inspiration tells us in the book "The Desire of Ages" p. 340, the following:
"As witnesses of Christ, we must tell what we

know, what we ourselves have seen and heard and felt. If we have followed Jesus, step by step, we will have some-thing significant to tell about the way in which He has led us. We can tell how we have tested His promise and found it true. We can testify to what we have known of Christ's grace. This is the testimony the Lord asks for, and for want of which the world will perish." The above quotation shows that if we want to testify for the Lord

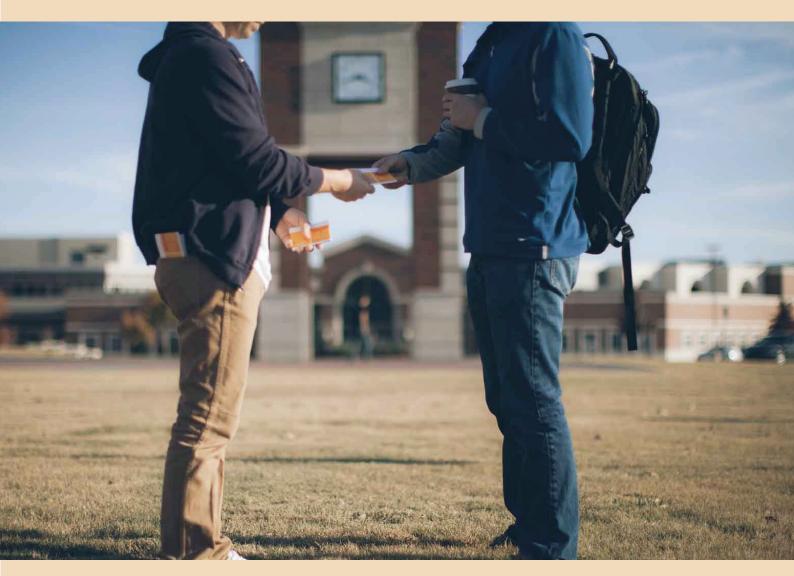
- We must know Him
- We must know Him personally
- We must personally have an experience of Him The Bible contains numerous examples of people who fulfilled the calling to go simply by sharing their experience of Christ with others. People

who shared the opinion of the songwriter: "The love of Christ is wonderful".

For example, we think of:

- 1. The possessed man whom Jesus healed in Mark 5
- 2. The adulterous woman at the well in John 4

Jesus proved his love to these two people. When they were called to go and tell about their situation, they did not balk.



"And he went away and began to proclaim in the Dekapolis all that Jesus had done to him, and all marveled." Mark 5:20

"And out of that city many of the Samaritans believed on him for the word of the woman, who testified, He hath told me all things that I have done". John 4:36

Why did this man and woman not hesitate to go?

Because they had a personal encounter with

Christ, they heard, saw, experienced Christ Himself and felt His love.

In Acts 1 verse 8, the Lord promises to give power to those who will be His witnesses to the uttermost part of the Earth.

"But ye shall receive the power of the Holy Ghost, which shall come upon you: and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the Earth. And when He had said these things, He was taken up, for they saw it, and a cloud took Him away from their eyes." Acts 1:8

The key is to obey through the filling of the Holy Spirit, which we can ask of the Lord daily.

There are plenty of examples of others who, like the possessed man and the adulter-ess, have obeyed the call. Think of Esther, Peter, Paul, and John.

Your testimony can save a world, and your witness can win souls for the Lord. Your testimony can hasten the return of Christ.

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be

preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" Matthew 24:14

It is becoming increasingly evident that we are living in the end times. We witness this every day when we switch on the television or radio or even when we look around us. During times of economic hardship, many people feel hopeless about their future in this life because they have not had an encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ.

The key is to obey through the filling of the Holy Spirit, which we can ask of the Lord daily.

Are you called to witness?

Are you called to go?

The love of Jesus is wonderful!

Let us go to share this love with our loved ones

and friends.

God's blessing!



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Grenada Conference of SDA

MAKING EVANGELISM A PRIORITY - I WILL GO

The prolific nineteenth-century writer Charles
Dickens editorializing on his day says it was the
best of times and the worst of times. Indeed,
it is a most fitting description of our time and
Western culture. We live in a speeding launching,
mouse-clicking, screen-swiping, technologically
sophisticated generation. We have conveniences that kings could only dream about less than
a century ago. But at the same time, we have
unprecedented levels of suicide, divorce, chronic
depression, child pornography, rape, high cost of

living, police brutality and racial profiling, emerging trends advocating gen-der fluidity which spawns a re-defining of the traditional family structures and values.

Moreover, we are witnessing an all-pervading sense of hopelessness among all classes. The post-COVID sale of sleep aids and other forms of sedatives has arisen exponentially as a desperate generation tries to cope with the social complexities of modern life. The British author and evangelist A. W. Tozer put his finger on the pulse

when he declared that the world is perishing for want of the gospel. Against this heart-wrenching back-ground, Could there possibly be a better time for the people of God to intentionally make Evangelism a priority? It's absolutely frightening that in many church board and executive meet-

Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be in-stant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts



ings, the Great Commission is steadily becoming the Great Omission.

I want to suggest five reasons why the Church should make Evangelism a priority in our day:

1. THE EXIGENCY OF THE TIME DEMANDS IT.
In his last letter to the young preacher Timothy,
Paul writes with passion and convic-tion, I charge
thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus

shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables (2 Timothy 4:1-4).

The prophet of Patmos speaks candidly in Revelation 13 of an imminent end-time coalition between the land beast and the sea beast that will abrogate freedom of religion and enforce a social order based on a tenet of Sunday sacred-

ness and the supremacy of a global religio-political system. In addition, the writer of the Hebrews tells us that the reign of sin hardens the human heart (Hebrews 3:13). So the longer they remain in sin, the more likely they are to desire only sin. The news headlines clearly show that we have come to a time when men's hearts are growing harder by the minute. We must, therefore, make

graves because some Christians didn't reach them in time.

2. EVANGELISM MUST BE A PRIORITY BECAUSE IT IS CENTRAL TO THE GREAT COMMISSION.

Making Evangelism a priority requires a collective effort within the body of Christ. On the occasion of His departing discourse, the Master enjoined



Evangelism a personal, corporate and budget-ary priority. The gospels demonstrate that God's call to repentance is so urgent that the Lord Jesus, while here on Earth, demanded that those He sent to proclaim it abandon social and societal obligations and go and preach the gospel (Luke 9:59–62). People will die and go to Christless

His disciples to go and make disciples of all nations, teaching them to observe all that He had commanded them. Evangelism is the Church's main mission in a morally bankrupt, sin-soaked society. We are not sent to be revolutionaries forming militias and anti-government insurgent mobs but as a battalion of spiritual physicians.

We should actively support and encourage one another to step out in faith and spread the Good News. Prayer, encouragement, and collaboration can significantly impact our ability to carry out the Great Commis-sion. The gospel –the good news of a loving crucified and risen Redeemer -- is the only elixir or panacea for a sin-sick world.

3. IT IS A CARDINAL EVIDENCE AGAINST WHICH OUR CONVERSION IS AUTHENTICATED.

Ellen G White says, "No sooner does one come to Christ than there is born in his heart a desire to make known to others what a precious Friend he has found in Jesus; the sav-ing and sanctifying truth cannot be shut up in his heart. ... If we are clothed with the righteousness of Christ and are filled with the joy of His indwelling Spirit, we shall not be able to hold our peace. If we have tasted and seen that the Lord is good we shall have something to tell." (SC p. 17). The truly converted disciple naturally and will inexorably be fired up to go and save the lost. He or she is ready at all times. Peter, zealous for the precious faith for which he would later die, enjoins us to always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15). In addition, Paul clearly underscores this in his let-ter to the Corinthian brethren. He writes, "For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! (1 Corinthians 9:16). On one occasion, the sixth-century prophet Jeremiah,

called in his youth to be Heaven's mouthpiece to a stubborn and recalci-trant nation. He tried to stop preaching but found that he couldn't,



confessing later that it was like fire shut up in his bones (Jeremiah 20:9).

Make no mistake about it: every converted soul is an ambassador of Christ (2 Corinthi-ans 5:20–21 20). To make Evangelism a priority, we must first shift our mindset. It is cru-cial to recognize that sharing our faith is not a burden or an obligation but a joyful op-portunity. Viewing Evangelism as an act of love and compassion, motivated by the desire to see lives transformed, can bring

about a radical change in our approach. Paul says, "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.

4. IT SHOWS THE DIVINE COMPASSION FOR LOST HUMANITY



So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also" (Romans 1:14-15)

As ambassadors of Christ, we must fortify ourselves with knowledge and wisdom to ef-fectively communicate the Gospel message. Invest time studying God's Word, deep-ening our understanding of biblical truths, and familiarizing ourselves with answers to common questions and objections. By doing so, we become better equipped to share our faith with confidence, clarity, and love.

Given that, we know that Christ is the only way of salvation; therefore, as a source, sal-vation is exclusive. There is only one way. Jesus could not have made it clearer in John 14:6: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." Jesus had an urgent message. He had an exclusive message. We must be con-veyors of that narrowly defined hope. Not the social prescriptions. Trying to find soul satisfaction in Eastern mysticism, yoga, utilitarian philosophies, or Masonic secret socie-ties is like a thirsty man drinking salt water; in the end, he

would have only worsened his thirst.

We must love the lost sinners as God has loved us. In the words of Charles Spurgeon, "The saving of souls, if a man has once gained love to perishing sinners, and love to his blessed Master, will be an all-absorbing passion to him. It will so carry him away, that he will almost forget himself in the saving of others. He will be like the stout, brave fire-man, who cares not for the scorch or for the heat, so that he may rescue the poor creature on whom true humanity hath set his heart." –

FINALLY, MAKING EVANGELISM A PRIORITY KEEPS THE CHURCH ALIVE

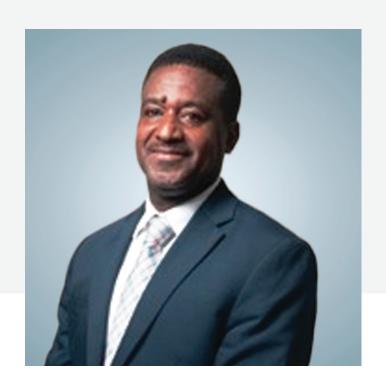
When Evangelism is shifted as the Church's highest operational priority, the Church would have already begun to die; in other words, when Evangelism dies, so does the Church. My late professor, K. G. Vaz, at Northern Caribbean University, said that the Seventh-day Adventist Church would either evangelize or fossilize.

It is absolutely incontrovertible that when churches fail to move outwardly, they tend to obsess inwardly. Restless soldiers who are not trained, motivated, or driven to face the enemy on the battlefield may begin to fuss with each other over little things in the barracks. Think about it for a moment: where has a lot of your Church's energy been expended lately? Rancorous business meetings? Expressions of petty church prefer-ences? Worship wars? Power

struggles? Those are inward obsessions. Lead your Church to an evangelistic priority and watch the focus shift for the better. Those who are evangelistic are obedient to Christ. Being obedient to Christ means following His teachings and becoming better fruit-bearing disciples.

CONCLUSION

Let us not forget our primary purpose as Christians - to be witnesses and agents of God's love, grace, and salvation in a world desperately in need. Making Evangelism a priority means aligning our hearts with God's heart, seeking opportunities to share the Good News, and equipping ourselves to communicate effectively. By prioritizing Evan-gelism, we bring glory to God and participate in His redemptive work. Let us rise up, embrace our role as ambassadors of Christ, and boldly share the transformative mes-sage of salvation with those around us. May our efforts bear fruit as we obediently fulfill the Great Commission and make disciples of all nations.



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KNOCK, KNOCK WHO'S THERE? - I WILL GO

Without dating myself, while growing up as a youngster, one of the games I played was called "Knock, Knock". In this game, there is a vibrant reliance on the person on the other side of the door – "who's there". As simple as this game was, it reminded me of what John said in Revelation 3:20, where Jesus stands at the door and knocks on the hearts of human beings.

The knocking of Jesus is a significant request to come in so He can make the changes required to fit humans for Heaven. In addition, human

beings will be empowered to become passionate disciples who want to go into the world and spread the everlast-ing gospel to others.

God is calling us "to go and do". This call isn't a catchphrase or a motivational ta-gline, but I dare say, a mandate from God himself. In John 17:18, we see Jesus speak-ing to His Father and saying, "As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world." As the disciples were directly sent back into the world by Je-sus, we today are also being sent.

As disciples, we are called to respond to an Evangelistic KNOCK.

K- Know what you know. John 17:3 - "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." Knowing the God that you present to your contact is very important. As witnesses, we are called to share with others what we know through our own experiences. You must un-derstand what is written in the article/magazine/ track to be more effective in what you share.

N – Nice to be nice, more of being nice. Ephesians 4:32, - "32 And be ye kind one to another,

with whom we share the everlasting gospel.

O – Organize efficiently. Luke 14:18 - "28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?" By keeping clear and comprehensive notes of your contacts, you will be organized. "God requires order and system in His work now no less than in the days of Israel. All who are working for Him are to labour intelligently..." (Patriarchs and Prophets p. 376).

C - Connect. I was told that if you can't connect, you can't correct. Matthew 28:19, 20 - 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Fa-ther, Son, and Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:" Through your connection with the people you can help them to become disciples.

K - Keep the contact in prayer. James 5:18 – "pray one for another... The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

So knock, knock? Who's there? A passionate Disciple.

tender-hearted..." As disciples, God expects us to show politeness, kind-ness, and respect to those



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25 WAYS TO WITNESS - I WILL GO

Ellen G. White once said, "Every follower of Jesus has a missionary role to play for Christ within their family, neighbourhood, town or city where they reside." Testimonies, Vol. 2, p. 632.

She further explains, "The humblest and poorest of the disciples of Jesus can be a blessing to others. They may not realize that they are doing any special good, but ... they may start waves of blessing that will wid-en and deepen, and the blessed results they may never know until the day of final reward." Steps to Christ, p. 88.

Are you looking for ways to work for Jesus?

Here are 25 different and effective ways you can
be a witness in 2023 and beyond:

- 1. Identify the elderly in your community, especially those who live alone. Make ar-rangements and visit them: sing songs, talk with them, listen to their life story, and pray for and with them.
- 2. Visit your local hospital to offer your prayers for those who are sick and need healing.

- 3. Keep tracts and magazines to share with others when travelling by car, bus, train, or aeroplane.
- 4. Write a note to someone, expressing your care and praying for them regularly.

ing note.

7. Whenever you shop, buy extra food, prepare it, and deliver it to your less fortunate neighbours. Let them know the food is a gift from God, who loves them.



- 5. Arrange to visit children in orphanages to sing and pray for them.
- 6. Bake extra loaves of bread and share with your less fortunate neighbours. Include an uplift-
- 8. Prepare "Cheer Up" cards, pictures, poems, and inspirational thoughts for shut-ins, the sick, and children in hospitals or homes .
- 9. Plan a specific day and location at a busy

supermarket to distribute religious books like "Steps to Christ", "Desire of Ages" and "The Great Controversy".

10. Volunteer at local soup kitchens, Meals on Wheels, and distribution centres.

12. Visit a grieving family and offer them comfort and hope during difficult times. Ensure that you are respectful and compassionate towards their feelings and emotions.



- 11. Volunteer for childcare services to offer a mother a much-needed break to rest, run errands, or attend to other family members' needs.
- 13. Visit and comfort a family who lost their home to a fire or natural disaster.

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- 14. If you are a teacher, offer additional academic support to struggling students and use the opportunity to share God's love.
- 15. Volunteer to teach English to migrant and refugee children and adults and show them God's love.
- 16. Help older people in your area by providing transportation, companionship, and spiritual support.
- 17. Volunteer to clean up and cook a hot meal for elderly people and share God's love.
- 18. Sponsor a child or children in Church or another school.
- 19. Organize a concert at a popular spot with a singing group and band.
- 20. Volunteer to give Bible Study to your neighbours and friends.
- 21. Organize a small group to study God's Word and share refreshments
- 22. Volunteer to preach at an open-air meeting or visit a senior or children's home.
- 23. Volunteer to assist with Vacation Bible School.
- 24. Arrange with your church team to conduct a house-to-house prayer walk for peo-ple in your neighbourhood.

Encourage your FRANS – Friends, Relatives, Associates and Neighbours to watch or lis-ten to Adventist programs on Social Media.

Everyone can be a Witness. Why not start today?



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ONE-ON-ONE WITNESSING - I WILL GO

INTRODUCTION

If studied well, "weaning" can help us understand the importance of one-on-one witnessing and the Church's responsibility to teach and train its members to witness and survive in a world filled with distractions that pull disciples away from the command of God. What command you ask? In Matthew 28:19, 20, the Bible records Jesus saying to each of His disciples,

"...go and make disciples of all the nations, bap-

tizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

God has ordained it for His disciples to work for the salvation of others. Do we take seri-ously that which God has commanded? And if we aren't, then why? Ellen White places a serious emphasis on the fact that we all are called to partici-pate in that work of witnessing.

Every true disciple is born into the kingdom of

ing, believing, and even arguing that they cannot witness and that is not their strength or that they are too shy or do not know how to do it. Instead, the Church should train and prepare its disciples to em-brace the calling to go, and God will



God as a missionary. He who drinks of the living water becomes a fountain of life. The receiver becomes a giver. The grace of Christ in the soul is like a spring in the desert, welling up to refresh all, and making those who are ready to perish eager to drink of the water of life. (emphasis supplied).

Therefore, disciples should not waste time say-

supply all their needs. Otherwise, the refusal to participate in personal witnessing threatens the Church's and the disciple's survival. It is, therefore, incumbent on every disciple to embrace the training that will empower them, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to get involved in the work of personal wit-nessing.

The Church – The Body

God's command to go is for the entire Church. The Church is not the building but the people. Every one of us as members or disciples must participate in this church work just as we see each other in the actual anatomy of the human body. Each body part has its unique role in satisfying overall bodily function. So, the respiratory system (which is a "network of organs and tissues that help you breathe [and] includes your airways, lungs and blood vessels." The respiratory system comprises several parts, each with its unique function.

That is the beauty of the human body. When all systems and body parts function as God created, you are at an optimum, but if any part or system stops, that could mean more pressure on other parts or death. According to the Cleveland Clinic:

Organ failure is when one (or several) of your vital organs stops functioning. It can be a gradual (chronic) or sudden (acute) process. Your vital organs are the ones you can't live without. When one of your vital organs begins to fail, you'll need life support to aid or replace the failing organ and do the jobs it's no long-er doing. Sometimes,



organs recover, but sometimes they don't. When organ failure is final, it can be fatal.

Therefore, the body must be cared for by eating well, sleeping well, and following healthy principles to keep its bodily function at its best or else it will be chaos.

The Bible uses this analogy so that, as disciples, we can understand our unique role within the Church. If we each cease to do our parts, that could be fatal for both the individual and the body. In I Corinthians 12, Paul writes:

For, in fact, the body is not one member but many. If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. And if they were all one member, where would the body be? But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpre-sentable parts have greater modesty.

This is how the Church works. It needs every one of us, as disciples, to take God's command personally and fulfil the unique functions which God has given us. Each of us can't do the same thing, but each of us must witness. And what do we mean by witnessing? Peter explains it beautifully by saying, "sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear." Wherever we go, we are the Church, and often, we will find that one-on-one witnessing is inevitable and necessary for our growth and development and the Church (the body of believers).

When this simple concept is understood, believers will embrace their unique role given by God so that He gets all the glory. The disciples' "going and doing" show the world and body of believers that we belong. Jesus Himself said in Matthew 10:32, 33, "Therefore whoever confesses me before men, him I will also confess be-fore My Father who is in Heaven. But whoever denies me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in Heaven."

God wants us to speak up. He wants us to share the good things that He has done in our lives. He wants us to use our gifts and allow the Holy Spirit to lead us into all truth as our assured authority and responsibility today. Will you go?

The Church, the Body and Weaning

While the Church is responsible for training members, it will not be fully at its best until it sends them out just as Christ did. We have been empowered to do ministry and the building of the Church. In Ephesians, Paul sums it up: "And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stat-ure of the fullness of Christ (emphasis supplied)."

The Church must motivate Christ's disciples to work. The Church must provide opportunities for newborn babes to see, grow and then be allowed to fulfil their God-given task. Just as a mother takes care of their newborn, giving that baby love, care, nurture, and protection. Jessica Scheunemann says, "Moms have an important role in their child's mental health because they provide basic necessi-ties (i.e., food, water, shelter, and sleep) and form a secure attachment with their young child." Therefore, the Church must provide such to its newborn, including but not limited to "providing a safe environment, talking with them, having appro-priate expectations of them and learning to their unique way of expressing them-selves." Integral to the role of motherhood is the proper modelling of behaviour, speech and all else to help a child realize the appropriate functionalities of being human and doing some things independently.

Another vital role the mother provides for the child is breastfeeding, and according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "breast-



feeding has health benefits for both babies and mothers. Breast milk provides a baby with ideal nutrition and sup-ports growth and development. Breastfeeding can also help protect baby and mom against certain illnesses and diseas-

es." In order words, breast milk prepares the child for the next step into independence. Paul in Hebrews 5:12 writes, "for though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first princi-ples of the [b] oracles of God; and you have come to need milk

forever or for too long will not be able to realize his or her full human potential. That is why the weaning pro-cess is essential in a mother-child relationship as weaning provides the opportunity to: "switching an infant's diet from breast milk or formula to other foods and fluids."

If the weaning process is aborted prematurely, a



child will not receive the nutri-tion and strength needed to combat diseases and be independent. Weaning must be done but done correctly. The National Institutes of Health observes, "The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends feeding infants only breast milk for the first 6 months after birth. After 6 months, the AAP recommends a combination of solid foods and breast milk until the infant is at least 1 year old." That's important to be done for the transitioning.

Likewise, while training, the Church must first demonstrate to new disciples what they feed on, but as they are taught to go out, it should be a blend of sending and demonstrating. For example, Matthew 10 shows Jesus sending out His disciples, "These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: "Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans." Then, he would ask them to re-port, advise and correct them.

and not solid food."

The Church must model and train its members how to be independent to be able to handle objections in the field of work. A child sheltered

To save its disciples and itself, the Church must wean disciples so they can build themselves,

fulfil God's work, and grow themselves. But while weaning is necessary for survival, for every disciple to be a witness, the Church must feed them well and help them work as witnesses wherever

The command to "go" In Matthew 28 does not come without the assured presence of Jesus with us. That is an important fact that disciples must



they find themselves. And as much as the process of weaning disciples may be complex and scary, it must be done to send disciples out into a world that needs them. Remember, Jesus said, "...The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few."

It is important to wean disciples very well as a church, or else the body would have failed itself.

How to Witness One-to-One

never forget as they partici-pate in one-to-one witnessing. God will not leave you alone. Observe how the Bible guarantees us that "...God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." and in John 14:18, Jesus says, "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you." Additionally, in John 16:13, Jesus further declares, "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but what-

ever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come." Jesus has made all provisions to ensure our place in witnessing to others.

The Bible also says that "...one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills." Every disciple has a role in the body, and God has al-so given each a requisite gift, which the Holy Spirit uses to help bring others to Christ. Therefore, you have no excuse that your Church is not using you. If you are in the Spirit, you will be a witness unto all at home, work, play, community, among friends, every-where. Here are a few things recommended for one-to-one witnessing:

- 1. Pray. You cannot witness with the leading and power of God. Though we each have a responsibility to work, this work is God's. So, pray that He will have His leading with you and the work. If you are sure about the spiritual gift you have been given, pray that it be re-vealed to you. If you are shy and filled with excuses, plead with Him to take it away. You can also start with one-to-one witnessing by offering prayers with individuals.
- 2. You must want and love people. If you do not want to see people saved, if you aren't willing to spend nights praying for these people you meet, if you are not willing to invest time, money, and effort in-to them, then put that before God. We

all need to be there.

- 3. Start Small. Do not look at the mammoth task the Church has to ac-complish but what you can handle and what you have been as-signed. If you are still being weaned, small steps help the transition-ing to go well. Therefore, learn to smile, start small conversations with friends you are comfortable. Practice with them and it will help you get stronger to move forward to other things or bigger aspects of the work that you can handle.
- 4. Start where you are. Start in your home, community, at work or among friends. That is your field, and you need to win them too.
- 5. Read and listen to testimonials (mission reports). Listening to how people started the work in their sphere will only give you experience vicariously and which you can benefit from practically. Listen to how they overcame shyness and obstacles in their way to reach their family, friends and even communities.
- 6. Get a Mentor. A mentor can motivate, guide, advise you. With His experience and your sharing of encounters, that mentor and cor-rect and keep you going.
- 7. Get a Partner. While small group is powerful but so is one-to-one wit-nessing.

8. Tell people what Jesus has done for you. Let

pation, Religion and Testimony. People generally like to talk about themselves. The following are



no one intimidate you. Jesus has saved you and is working in your life. Tell people that. Tell them how much you trust Him despite your circumstances.

9. Use principles like F.O.R.T as conversation starters and guide. FORT stands for Family, Occu-

sample questions that can be used. They are taken from the book Win-some Witnessing by Gary Gibbs page 19.

- (I) Family: How is your family doing? Are you originally from this area? In what area were you raised?
- (ii) Occupation: What kind of work do you do?

How long have you worked there? (If retired or unemployed) What type of work did you do? How do you like your job?

(iii) Religion: What is your religious background?

Do you attend a church? Which Church do you attend? Does your whole family attend together?

(iv) Testimony: My life before I accepted Christ was ...How I be-came a Christian or I am not a Christian because...Or I left the Church due to...

10. Listen. One-to-one witnessing is personal and perhaps very intimate. Be willing to listen to the individual without casting judgements. Remember, you are trying to become this person's friend. If you are not willing to lis-ten, then do not lead the person on.

God requires this from each of us. We are His witnesses and servants (Isaiah 43:10). Observe and read about Jesus with Nicodemus, the woman at the well. See how interested He was in them. He wanted them saved.

CONCLUSION

No longer should a disciple hide and offer excuses as to why they are not in-volved in the exciting work of one-to-one witnessing. If the Church does its part right, feeding, leading, training, weaning, and sending out, then the disciple's work of one-to-one witnessing will increase and bear much fruit. Remember, we are doing this to-gether, with many members but one body.

Commit today to do your part so that the Church can grow and be at its best in Christ with all working.

Matthew 28:19-20.

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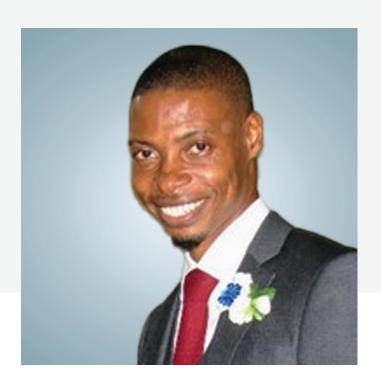
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CHANGED LIVES MAKE A DIFFERENCE - I WILL GO

"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and per-ceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they mar-veled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus" (Acts 4:13, NKJV).

There is unusual power in a personal testimony. When Christ's love warms our hearts and His grace changes us, we have something significant to say about Him. It is one thing to share what Jesus has done for someone else. It is quite

another to share what He has done for us. It is difficult to argue against personal experience. People may debate your theology or interpretation of a text or even scoff at religion. But when an individual can say, "I once was hopeless but now have hope; I was filled with guilt but now have peace; I was purposeless but now have a purpose," even skeptics are impacted by the power of the gospel.

The New Testament church exploded in growth.

There were 3,000 baptized on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:41). Thousands more were added to the Church a few weeks later (Acts 4:4). Soon, the authorities recognized what was happening. These New Testament believers had been with Christ, and He changed their lives. His grace transformed them, and they could not keep silent.

These believers were new in Christ and had to tell their stories. Peter, a loudmouthed fisherman, was transformed by the grace of God. James and John, the sons of thunder who had difficulty controlling their tempers, were transformed by the grace of God. Thomas, the skeptic, was transformed by the grace of God. The disciples and members of the early Church each had their own stories to tell, and they could not keep silent. Notice this powerful statement by Ellen G. White in the book Steps to Christ: "No sooner does one come to Christ than there is born in his heart a desire to make known to others what a precious friend he has found in Jesus; the saving and sanctifying truth cannot be shut up in his heart."—Page 78

In the autumn of 2004, a survey went to a sample of Seventh-day Adventist congre-gations in the North American Division to be given to attending members on a partic-ular Sabbath. The purpose of the survey was to discover their devotional and evan-gelistic practices. How do Adventist Christians fare in Evangelism? The 1,689 surveys

told us.

A topic of particular interest included in the 2004 survey was a question asking the relative strength of nine factors in influencing the respondents to join the Adventist church. Below is the result.

How Do People Join the Church?

Brought up in an Adventist home: 59%

A friend or relative: 58%

Read books, journals, and other material: 49%

Public evangelism meetings: 36%

Bible studies in the home: 34%

Visits by a pastor: 20%

Television or radio programs: 20%

Bible correspondence course: 19%

Material on the internet: 7%

Others: 22%

Most people come to the Lord through the influence of a web of relationships and friendships.

Personal influence is the most effective way of reaching people for the gospel. So what does God do? For example, how does He reach police officers? By disguising full-time ministers as police officers. Giving them the necessary gifts, passions and cre-dentials, He assigns them to police departments all over the nation. The same is true for construction workers.

So, in every city, every town and every country, you will find full-time ministers, dif-ferently made

and differently gifted, in every business and vocation. Like salt from a saltshaker, God scatters us everywhere to suit His flavour. He salts the Earth with His ministers, giving them gifts to

1. Intentionally build relationships with five people every year. They should be indi-viduals within your circle of regular contact — far better than your nearby rela-tive, friend, co-worker or neigh-



influence their friends, families and co-workers.

HOW DO YOU DO IT?

Here is an easy and practical 10-step strategy to help you win others to Christ.

bor than your dear old aunt across the country.

2. Pray for them daily, asking God to intervene in their lives and lead them to Him-self. Ask the Lord to keep you faithful in your intercessory

prayer and passionate about reaching them with the gospel.

- 3. Minister to their needs: physical, spiritual and social. Take the time to be a true friend. Make them feel loved and special.
- 4. Share your values with them, such as why you do certain things and why you don't do others, and always link everything to Jesus. Help them see that the Christian faith is not a set of rules but a relationship with a wonderful God.
- 5. At the right time, offer your testimony with them. Tell them how much Jesus changed your life and how much He means to you. There is no evidence more persuasive than this.
- 6. Introduce them to Jesus. Tell them His story and how He is the hope of the world and the only way to God. Give them a gospel presentation.
- 7. At the appropriate time, invite them to Church, a concert, a special program such as Easter or Christmas, an evangelistic meeting, a small group (it would be great to start one in your home), a Sabbath School class or anything else that you may think of. This will ease them into church life and help connect them with other Adventist Christians.
- 8. Study the Bible with them so they can under-

stand the Christian faith and what it means to be a Seventh-day Adventist Christian.

- 9. Nurture the new believer. Disciple them. Help them to grow in the Christian faith. Become their pastor and encourager.
- 10. Teach them to reach others. Reproduction is essential to the work of God.

One day, you will be walking on the streets of gold holding the hand of Jesus, and someone will come to you and say, "I am here because of you." That is worth all the investment you put into people.

(Mark Finley), Making Friends for God: The joy of sharing in His Mission, 3rd quarter July- September 2020 Kidder.S. joseph, The Big Four: Secrets to a Thriving Church Family; Review and Herald, Publish Association.2011. There are no sources in the current document.



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USING CHRIST'S METHOD FOR TRUE SUCCESS - I WILL GO

Any organisation, institution, company, or dynasty rely on structures and methodologies to achieve its objectives. The Church of the Living God, with the gospel Commission to preach salvation to all men (Matt. 28:19-20), has also ap-plied various methodologies to achieve its objective. We have used the far-reaching and impacting method of litera-ture that sometimes goes where it may be difficult for ordi-nary humans to connect. The public campaign method is a powerful evangelistic tool that transforms the

community where it is conducted. I believe, however, that every Chris-tian church will affirm what was said by Ellen G White in the book Ministry of Heal-ing: "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with people as one who desired their good. He showed sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He invited them, "Follow Me."

Jesus, our perfect example, was not prevented

by cultural differences, prejudice, ethnicity, or creed. He did not discriminate nor show bias; he was solely interested in the salvation of everyone he came into contact with. Every step was made in com-passion towards those he came to seek and to save. Jesus spent time in genuine and loving interactions with people, demonstrating a deep concern for even those deemed the least in society.

Christ also physically demonstrated the method he left for us by doing things no priest or prophet had done before. Matthew chapter eight tells of Jesus healing a man with leprosy; he did not just heal him by speaking the words, though he pos-sessed the power to do so; instead, he stepped out of the ordinary, did what was practically forbidden and touched the man, making him clean. In those days, be-cause of the contagious nature of leprosy, everyone was cautioned to keep their distance from one infected; when someone believed themselves to be healed, they would still, by law, have to show themselves to the priest that he may pro-nounce truly they have been cleansed from that dreaded disease.

Shortly after, in the same chapter, the Bible declares that as Jesus entered Caper-naum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. His plight was that his servant was home paralysed and suffering terribly, and Jesus' first response was, "Shall I come and heal him?" Jesus exhibited the need for that personal touch, dealing with each

case on its merit and with each person as if it was them alone he came to save. In John chapter four, Jesus met a woman of Samaria with a questionable reputation at a well; though he knew her back story, he started the conversation by breaking the cultural barrier by asking her for a drink of water. Jesus made the experience so personal that the songwriter penned the words:

He touched me, oh, He touched me And oh, the joy that floods my soul Something happened, and now I know He touched me and made me whole Jesus did not leave us without help; apart from setting the perfect example, he granted us his help in making us just like him. He says FOLLOW Me, and I will MAKE you fishers of men (Matthew 4:19). Whenever in our Christian journey we desire that need to have an interpersonal connection with someone for the sake of their salva-tion, let us remember Jesus has first called us to follow him that he may transform us into fishers of men. He knows how to teach us to apply the best tact and text, mak-ing us approachable, warm, and friendly.

In her book Ministry of Healing, Ellen White declares, "We need to come close to the people by personal effort. If we would give less time to sermonizing and more time to personal ministry, greater results would be seen. The poor are to be relieved; the sick cared for, the sorrowing and the bereaved comforted, the ignorant instruct-



ed, and the inexperienced counselled. We are to weep with those who weep and to rejoice with those who rejoice. Accompanied by the power of persuasion, the power of prayer, the power of the love of God, this work will not, cannot, be without fruit."

We have the opportunity to introduce Jesus to someone daily. That person may not share our culture, disposition, ethnicity, or even our language, but the fact remains that if we apply Christ's method, we will succeed in spreading the gospel.



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