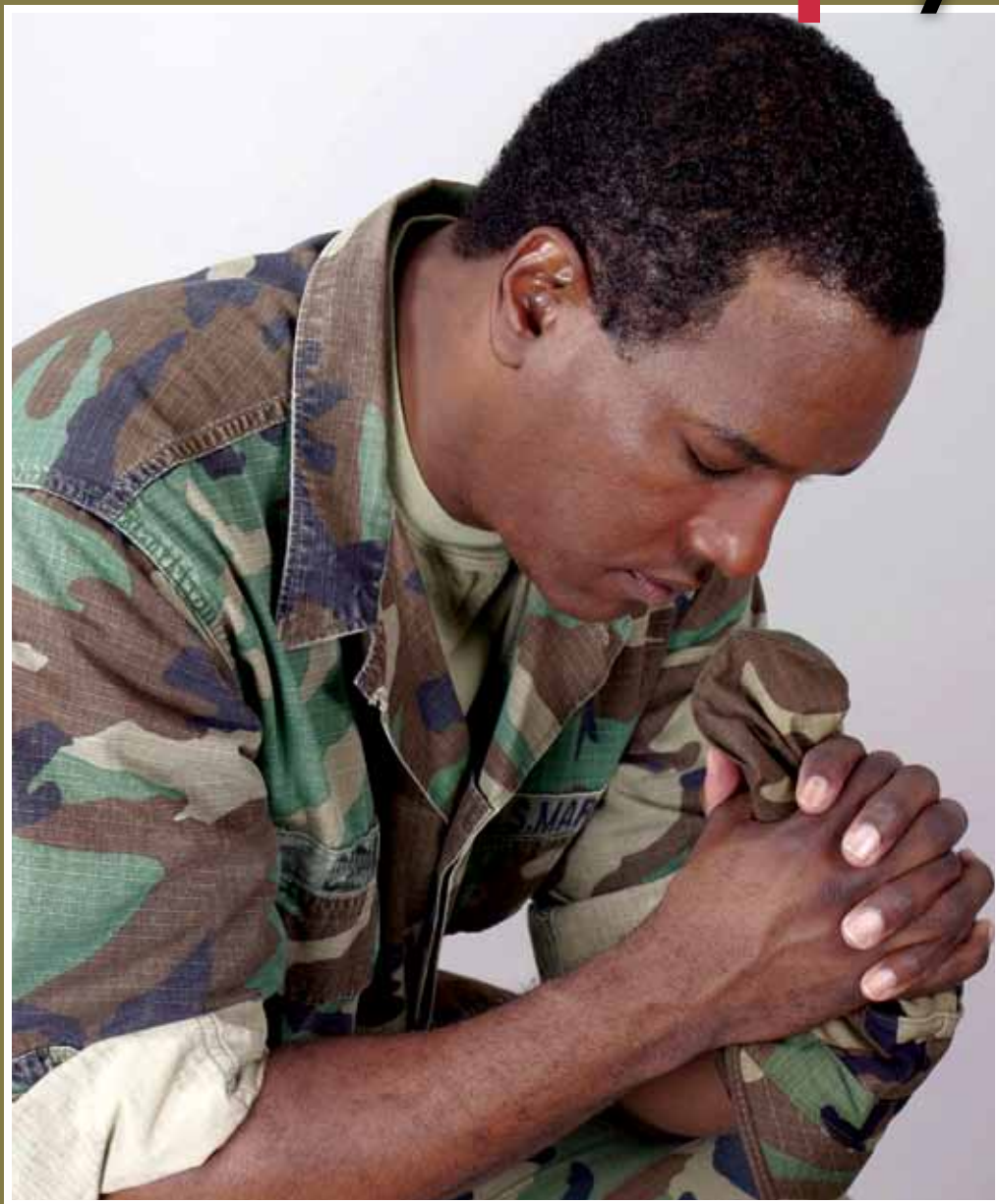


Issue 4
2011

For God & Country

*A Journal for
Military-related
Seventh-day Adventists*





by **Gary R. Councill**
Director, Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries
Chaplain (Colonel), U.S. Army (Retired)

Religious Pluralism

Economic interdependence, immigration, and travel have shrunk the world, if not in size at least in accessibility, communications, and contact with other people. Jet travel brings peoples of many cultures, ethnicities, and religions together in airports, for business, and as neighbors. These contacts present opportunities for Adventists to learn about other religious faiths and provide occasion to witness about their own beliefs as well.

Less than a third of the world's population is Christian, and only half of all people claim adherence to Abrahamic faith in one God. More than a billion people are non-religious (agnostic or atheists). Sikhs and followers of Juche outnumber

Adventists (who even knows what Juche is?). So you are bound to encounter others of non-Christian beliefs. This should cause you to rethink how you relate to others and how you share your faith. Assuming that associates have, know, or believe the Bible could be a basic mistake.

From the earliest Christians until our day, divergent views existed among believers. The book of Acts relates conflicts in the early church about stewardship, missions, and requiring certain Jewish practices for converts. Even today some Christians tend to think and act as though they and their denomination are the only "chosen people of God," the "true Church" and "Remnant". Yet, even a

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cursory study of church history reveals many heroes and heroines of various faith persuasions who loved God, lived His Word, and faithfully witnessed, often at great personal peril.

A humorous observation relates that whenever two Adventists come together, several events are bound to occur: a committee is formed; an offering is collected; and three theologies result – yours, mine, and ours. Adventists often have differing understanding, convictions, and practices on many issues: communion (the Lord’s Supper), Christian lifestyle (bowling, card-playing, dancing, and gambling), funeral and wedding customs, ethics and morality (abortion, birth control and sex), healthful living (diet, drink, and foods), military and other public service, observing holidays (Christmas), personal appearance (cosmetics, dress, and jewelry), role of women in church, recreation, Sabbath observance, stewardship (is tithe paid before or after taxes?), and worship (music). Differences over these

matters mostly arise from cultural traditions or personal interpretation and preferences.

The Apostle Paul’s advice to the “saints” in his day has validity for us now: “You say, ‘I am allowed to do anything’ – but not everything is good for you. You say, ‘I am allowed to do anything’ – but not everything is beneficial. Don’t be concerned for your own good but for the good of others,” (I Corinthians 10:23 and 24, NLT). Personal liberty does not negate respecting others. Neither does “being right”, or “having the truth” (hopefully, the truth has you and me). Rather, “Pay careful attention to your own work... and you won’t need to compare yourself to anyone else. For we are each responsible for our own conduct,” (Galatians 6:4 and 5, NLT). “Do not judge others, and you will not be judged... first get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend’s eye” (Luke 6:37-42, NLT). Sincere respect earns respect.

WHAT IS YOUR STORY?

Many Seventh-day Adventists have faithfully served God and country through military service. This is a legacy that should be shared with family, friends, and the church at large.

Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries is seeking stories of either Adventist veterans or active-duty service members, Guard or Reserves. Please contact the editor at Deena.Bartel-Wagner@nad.adventist.org to learn how your story can be told.



TRUTH

Pluralism doesn't fall neatly into one type. In today's world there are many kinds of pluralism, including moral, cultural, political, and religious.

Cultural pluralism is practiced when minority groups are a part of the dominant society, but maintain their cultural differences. Moral pluralism assumes that there are moral truths but that these are many truths, not just one, and these truths may conflict with one another.

Political pluralism encompasses a government that is delineated by the needs and wants of many.

By definition religious pluralism holds the view that all religions are equally valid. For many individuals, this type of thinking offers them a buffet-style religion, where individuals choose the elements they prefer from various faith traditions and combine them into their own personalized belief system.

One can no longer assume that when an individual states he/she is a Christian that those basic views are truly biblical. The Barna Group learned the following things in a survey conducted in 2002.

- Six out of ten Americans (59%) reject the existence of Satan, indicating that the

Matters!

devil, or Satan, is merely a symbol of evil.

- A large minority of Americans believes that when Jesus Christ was on earth He committed sins. Currently, slightly less than half of the public (42%) holds this view, while half (50%) say Jesus did not sin. The people groups most likely to contend that Jesus sinned include people under age 38 (49%), notional Christians (51%), and atheists and agnostics (62%).
- A plurality of adults (44%) contends that, “the Bible, the Koran and the Book of Mormon are all different expressions of the same spiritual truths.” Just 38% of Americans reject that idea.
- Most Americans believe “truth can be discovered only through logic, human reasoning and personal experience.” A majority of Americans (54%) embraces this perspective, which is at odds with both the traditional Protestant belief that the Bible is the source of truth and the Catholic perspective that the Bible and papal authority convey truth. Men were more likely than women to buy into this viewpoint (57% compared to 49% of women).¹

Today’s religious pluralism isn’t the first time that Christianity has had to take its stand in a pluralistic environment. The Early Church and the disciples were called to tell the story of Jesus in cultures that were

filled with gods, temples, emperor worship, and Greek philosophies. They were able to navigate their way through all of the pluralistic pitfalls of their generation. Today’s Christian can do the same. Here are some suggestions how:

First, remain biblically literate. Know what the Bible says, and why you believe what it says. This means daily study with time to reflect on what you’ve read and to internalize the meanings and implications.

Second, believe that you have a unique faith. God extended salvation and eternal life through the death of His Son. No other faith tradition offers such a remarkable gift. Exercise this belief by growing your friendship with Jesus on daily basis.

Third, know that the life of Jesus and the claims that He made about His identity can be verified outside the Bible. History and archeology, as well as science, speak to these. Search them out for yourself.

Fourth, as a Christian, listen to and love those who haven’t yet met Christ. You can’t expect them to listen to you if you haven’t shown respect to them.

Fifth, remember Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me,” John 14:6 (NLT). The Apostle Peter wrote, “There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved,” Acts 4:12 (NLT). Our faith is true and that is why we are Christians.



Keep the

Conversation
Flowing

Living a Christian life in a multi-religious world is filled with challenges and can be intimidating. Have you found yourself hesitant to share your beliefs with others because you are afraid of offending someone?

It is important to remember there is a difference between religious pluralism and religious liberty. Religious pluralism promotes the

idea that all religious beliefs are basically the same and that all roads lead to God. Religious liberty can be defined as allowing followers of all religions to practice their spiritual beliefs without fear of discrimination or oppression. Seventh-day Adventist Christians should practice religious liberty by showing respect for individuals and their beliefs. But we can't stop there. As Christians, we are called to tell the story of Jesus and His soon return to the world.

A few guiding principles can assist you to fulfill Christ's commission to go into all the world to make disciples of Christ.

- Your witness must be based on following the example and teachings of Jesus. He is our ultimate role model. Grow in your understanding of who Jesus is and you will better reflect Him and what He represents to others.
- Compassion and love are an accurate reflection of God's character to a world that is often uncompassionate and unloving. Loving your neighbor without censure can lead to opportunities for discussion of what you believe.

- Act with integrity, compassion, and without arrogance. Be honest in even the smallest matters. Find physical ways to demonstrate you care for others. Never share your faith in arrogance.
- Show respect for all who follow faith traditions, even if those traditions vary from yours. Find common ground by promoting respect and justice for the common good.
- Remember that all people are God's children. He loves them as much as He loves you.
- Use discernment as you reach out to others who believe differently than you. Be respectful of what they have to say and sincerely listen. With careful listening you will learn and understand more about a person's beliefs and be better equipped to minister to them.
- Build friendships with people who follow a different spiritual path than you. This facilitates mutual understanding on the part of all parties involved.
- Recognize you may meet people who need to hear words of reconciliation from a Christian before they are ready to hear words of the Gospel.

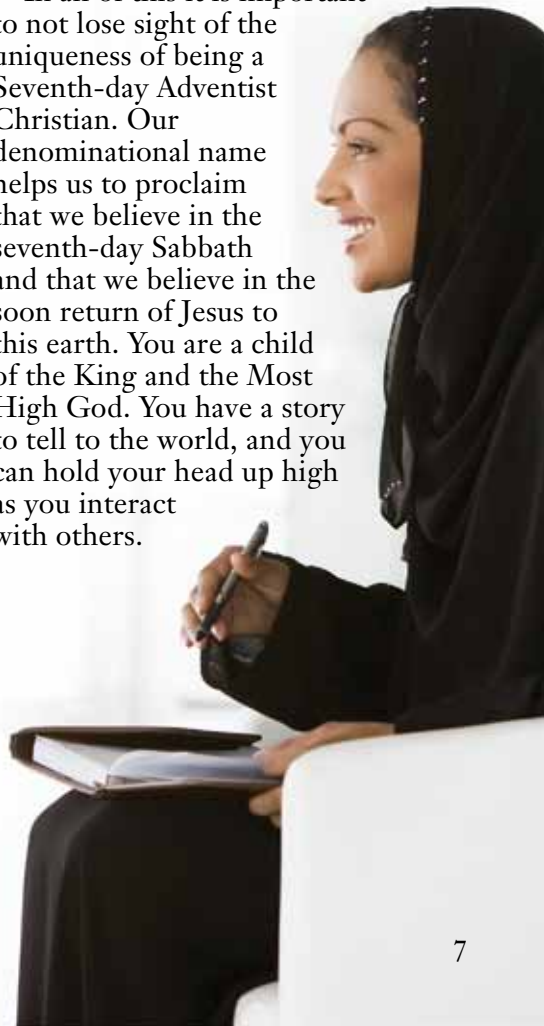
Barriers of religious differences can be broken down through a life that demonstrates you are truly interested in people as individuals and not just someone you are trying to convert to your way of thinking. Jesus demonstrated these principles throughout His ministry.

Although religious differences exist, we live in a worldwide community. Tearing down stereotypes contributes

to greater understanding, while bias and prejudice do not lend to open discussion and relationship building. Using stereotypes and prejudice are not necessary to reach others for Christ, and are even counterproductive. Neither you, your God, nor your church benefit from their use. Replace these with appreciation and respect for the differences and similarities and communication with others will open up in areas that previously remained closed.

Mingle with others and grow in your understanding of their beliefs. This will drive you to find a better understanding of your own personal beliefs and provide growth in your personal spiritual walk with God.

In all of this it is important to not lose sight of the uniqueness of being a Seventh-day Adventist Christian. Our denominational name helps us to proclaim that we believe in the seventh-day Sabbath and that we believe in the soon return of Jesus to this earth. You are a child of the King and the Most High God. You have a story to tell to the world, and you can hold your head up high as you interact with others.



Who's Your Hero?



From ancient to modern times, human traditions have included heroes. Often these are individuals who have acted bravely, done a kind deed, or achieved some physical accomplishment. The dictionary defines a hero as someone “of extraordinary bravery, fortitude, or greatness of soul.”

Media’s opinions help to shape the public’s perception of who should be considered a hero. Movie stars, athletes, and music artists are held up as people to be followed and admired. Many have achieved fame in spite of ethical, legal, or personal troubles.

As a Christian it is important to carefully choose your heroes. The Bible gives the criteria about what to imitate in Philippians 4:8. “Whatever things are noble, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.”

Hebrews 11 speaks of a different group of heroes in what has become known as the honor role of faith.

YOUR CHOICE OF HEROES WILL IMPACT YOU SPIRITUALLY, MORALLY, AND INTELLECTUALLY.

These Bible characters were not without their faults. David committed both adultery and murder. Abraham lied about his relationship with Sarah. Sarah laughed at God's ability to give her a son in her old age. Jacob actively sought to deceive Isaac, his father. Rahab was a harlot.

In spite of their failings, overall their lives were full of faith and endurance. It is by this standard that we should live daily. "That you may be imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises," (Hebrews 6:12).

If imitation of another person is what we do, then choosing the right characteristics to emulate is highly important. As the Apostle Paul wrote, we should look for that which is noble, virtuous, and praiseworthy.

In another passage in Hebrews, we are instructed to, "Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith," (Hebrews 13:7). Paul is saying that godly, truth-speaking people are whom we are to look to as our heroes, whether they are biblical or modern-day characters. Examine an individual's love for Christ and determine if this is demonstrated on a consistent basis. Are they devoted to prayer and do they have a passion for the gospel and the things of God?

Although humans can't read the hearts of men, the way a person lives life can be a good roadmap showing the destination of the heart's intent. Contemplate the lives of your heroes. Read accounts and learn what there is about their faith you should choose to replicate. The ultimate hero can be found in the person of Jesus. Seek to model your life after His and those who have chosen to imitate Him (1 Peter 2:21-25).

- By studying those who are true spiritual heroes your own faith can grow. Their examples can lead you to a closer friendship with Jesus.
- Often a hero has chosen not to follow the way of the crowd. In spite of challenges they have chosen to follow God rather than man. Moral choices today can become easier when you've studied examples of those who have successfully gone before you and stood unflinchingly for what they believe.
- The life of a hero can often lead you into a greater understanding of their world and the history that surrounded their choices. Also it can often lead you into a greater understanding of the Bible.





Dear Soldier...

The fall of 2009 found the Vermont National Guard making preparations for its largest deployment to a combat zone since World War II. Approximately 1500 soldiers would deploy to Afghanistan.

The news of so many fellow Vermonters fulfilling their duty to their country made an impact on the members of the Central Vermont Regiment Pathfinder Club. "Our club was just starting its Pathfinder year and I had challenged each member to live evangelism full-time

for the coming 12 months," said Jim Brown, former club director. "Upon hearing news of the deployment, our Pathfinders and staff wanted to have their own mission in reaching out to these troops."

After much discussion, the Pathfinders chose to share God's love with each of the deployed soldiers by writing a letter and sending a prayer card to each soldier every month. This project couldn't be done without permission from the military.

"We spent a lot of time in prayer before we made our request," said

Brown. “Then there were several weeks of phone calls and emails explaining our project, along with a submission of sample letters and cards.”

Many other hurdles had to be crossed, including security concerns. At one point it looked as though permission would be denied. “The Pathfinders and staff kept praying that God’s will would be done,” said Brown. Finally the mission was approved!

With permission granted, the club faced another daunting task. Postage and paper had to be purchased. The club was committed to sending 1,500 soldiers two pieces of mail each month, making a total of 3,000 mail pieces monthly. Multiply those times the 10 months that the troops would be deployed and the club was looking at 30,000 stamps, letters, and cards and 60,000 envelopes.

The Pathfinders decided that a printing company could supply the paper products. It seemed natural to ask Brown, their club director, whose parents own L. Brown and Sons Printing Company if they would be willing to donate the letters, cards, and envelopes. With that donation secured, the next step was raising \$13,200.00 to cover postage costs.

Brown had a friend who is a manager of several radio stations throughout Vermont. “I had written a business plan for the entire project and projected in it that he would provide free advertising on three of his radio stations,” said Brown. “We met for lunch and he read through the plan. After he finished reading, he looked up and stared at me. I thought, *Oh no, I expected too much.* Instead his words were, ‘You know Jim, this is really cool, but we should use all 10 of



my radio stations statewide.”

During the next three months the 10 stations broadcast the voices of the Pathfinders explaining their mission to more than 800,000 people across Vermont, and parts of New Hampshire, and New York.

A local bank vice president agreed to help with online donations capability and provided 34 branches statewide where donors could make their financial contribution to the project. He also agreed to allow information cards to be placed at 150 teller stations in all 34 branches along with posters on every door in the banks that told about the mission. The branches themselves began holding bake sales and book sales to help the Pathfinders raise their goal. “The postage funds were raised by a truly grassroots movement,” said Brown. “Small financial gifts do add up to make a difference in an project like this. The largest donation that came in was \$150 and that was from a colonel who had deployed with the troops.”

Each month the Pathfinders would write letters and make cards. “At first it was a little difficult because



they didn't know what to write," said Brown. "Then the soldiers started to respond by writing letters back. This made it personal to the Pathfinders. With each month that passed the Pathfinders themselves began to introduce talking about God and what He meant in their lives."

Although the Pathfinders were busy with writing letters and cards, they wanted to do something for the families that were back at home. "We began to plan weekend missions of meeting the families and doing something to help them," said Brown. Club members mowed grass, painted houses, helped shingle roofs, and brush-hogged fields.

"We asked individuals and businesses the question, 'Do you want to be part of something that is bigger than any of us?' and they couldn't wait to become involved," said Brown. Contractors volunteered their time to help the club with technical jobs, such as shingling. Local businesses, including Sherwin Williams, Aubuchon Hardware, and Ace Hardware donated supplies.

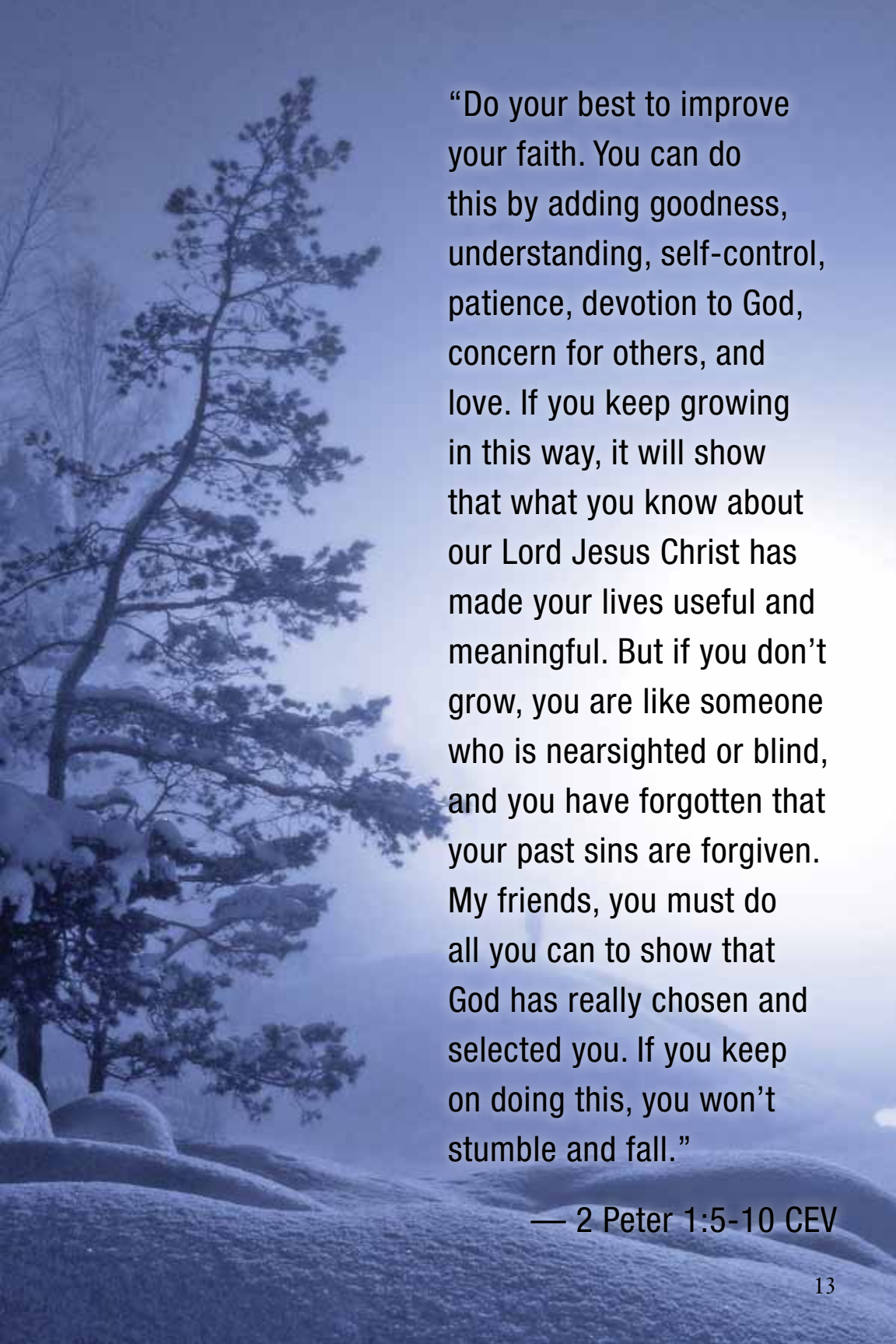
"The operational tempo was intense," said Brown. "We started

with 20 missions stateside in addition to the letter and card writing. It wasn't long before the kids said that wasn't enough. They wanted to do more." Every weekend found the club visiting military families to show their support.

When the 10 months came to an end, the mission didn't end. "We began to have the opportunity to meet the soldiers we had been corresponding with during the mission," said Brown. "We've extended an invitation to each family to share a meal with us. So far we've had 180 personal responses."

Brown and his family regularly meet with 10 of the families and continue to build their friendship with them. "One or two of the families have become our very close friends and we hang out all of the time," said Brown.

For the Pathfinders, their lives will never be the same. When you become involved in living evangelism on a daily basis it changes who you are and how you look at the world.



“Do your best to improve your faith. You can do this by adding goodness, understanding, self-control, patience, devotion to God, concern for others, and love. If you keep growing in this way, it will show that what you know about our Lord Jesus Christ has made your lives useful and meaningful. But if you don’t grow, you are like someone who is nearsighted or blind, and you have forgotten that your past sins are forgiven. My friends, you must do all you can to show that God has really chosen and selected you. If you keep on doing this, you won’t stumble and fall.”

— 2 Peter 1:5-10 CEV

ANGER AND BOUNDARIES



by Bob Davidson, M.Div., M.Ed., LMFT, CSAT
Director, Family Institute, P.C.

Anger has a unique way of controlling our lives – even when we say we don't get angry. When uncontrolled anger erupts, it *will* be expressed either in an *aggressive*, hostile/toxic way or it will be expressed in a destructive *passive* way. We will express that anger *outward* toward other people or *inward* at ourselves. Expressed anger ranges from physical and verbal explosions to the more passive hurtful way like religious addiction (different than spirituality) and sexual addiction, affairs in and out of the family, compulsivity, co-dependency, and depression. If anger controls us, we will tend to be extreme when it erupts.

We have a right to disagree and be angry with someone we love. What we don't have a right to do is to be abusive or neglectful (passive-aggressive) when we express that anger. If we use silence and do not talk, we are abusive. If we explode, swear, and rage we are abusive. Neither extreme is healthy. Both

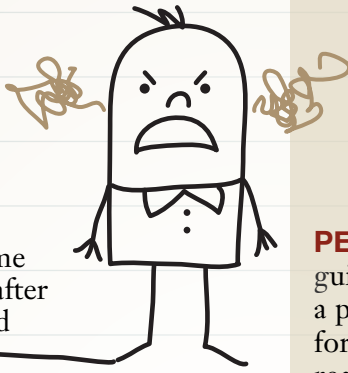
are power. Both are a misuse of our power. Silence isn't golden, it's power. If you use silence you know how powerful it is. Proverbs 15:1 says: "A *gentle answer* [not silence] turns away wrath." For the rageaholic Proverbs 15:1b says: "... but a harsh word stirs up anger." Proverbs 19:19 says: "A hot-tempered man must pay the penalty; if you rescue him, you will have to do it again" (NIV).

Lack of boundaries, or crossing them, is one of the significant reasons for anger to erupt. Boundary violations cause us to feel negative emotions such as fear, hurt, shame, and anger. I had a client named Betty*, who vividly experienced feelings because of crossed boundaries. Betty's husband, George, was very excited about retiring. The day after his retirement George quickly pursued his interest in "helping his wife."

After breakfast George stayed in the kitchen and started to "organize" all the pots, pans, pantry, shelves, everything. When he completed the task (four hours later) George was all smiles and expected Betty to

also be happy. However, she wasn't. George had crossed Betty's boundary.

That afternoon Tim, George and Betty's nephew came over immediately after school. George had



promised Tim to go fishing with him and Tim was excited about spending time with his uncle. Immediately after being invited indoors Tim was shown George's "handiwork".

George commented about his frustration and hurt that Betty "was not pleased." Tim quickly understood the problem and said, "Oh! I've forgot that I had a lot of homework and papers to do this week. I won't be able to go fishing for a few days." And he quickly left.

For two more days Betty didn't cook anything for George. Finally at 3 p.m. on the third day, George stepped into the kitchen and began "rearranging the kitchen to the best that he could remember" it being three days earlier. When he was about finished, Betty returned to the kitchen and began making supper for the two of them.

"No!" is a complete sentence.¹ The word "No" is an honest and desirous attempt to set a boundary, make a decision or a choice, or an attempt to be assertive. Sometimes a "No!" is quietly said or expressed; other times it might be firm. But even Christians need to understand that "No!" is a complete sentence.

¹Charles L. Whitfield, M.D., *Boundaries and Relationships: Knowing, Protecting and Enjoying the Self* has a chapter entitled "'No' Is A Complete Sentence."

RAGEAHOLIC: a person who gets excited by expressing rage; a person prone to extreme anger with little or no provocation. (dictionary.com)

PERSONAL BOUNDARIES: guidelines, rules, or limits that a person creates to identify for him or herself what are reasonable, safe and permissible ways for other people to behave around him or her and how he or she will respond when someone steps outside those limits. (outofthefog.net)

TYPES AND EXPRESSIONS OF UNCONTROLLED ANGER

- Aggressive, hostile, toxic
- Physical and verbal explosion
- Passive, destructive
- Addictions such as religion or sexual or affairs
- Compulsivity
- Co-dependency
- Depression

BENEFITS OF ESTABLISHING PERSONAL BOUNDARIES

You will reap several benefits from establishing personal boundaries. Your self-esteem will increase because your self-concept becomes healthy. You will feel more in touch with reality. The control and stability in your personal life will increase. Finally, you will be able to communicate better with others which leads to more fulfilling relationships.

MILITARY CHAPLAINS

ENDORSED by the NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION
of the SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

RANK	NAME	INSTALLATION / CITY and STATE or NATION
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CANADIAN DEFENSE FORCES – ARMY RESERVE

Major	Julius D. Kalmar	Barrie, Ontario, Canada
Captain	Daniel D. Saugh	Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Captain	Floyd S. Spence	Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

U.S. AIR FORCE – ACTIVE DUTY

Lieutenant Colonel	David L. Buttrick	MacDill Air Force Base, FL
Captain	Lane Campbell	Robbins Air Force Base, GA
Captain	Jonathan T. Runnels	Lackland Air Force Base, TX

U.S. AIR FORCE RESERVE

Major	John L. Elliott	Edwards Air Force Base, CA
First Lieutenant	Sherril L. Headen	Scott Air Force Base, IL
First Lieutenant	Richardson N.M.N. Honore	Los Angeles Air Force Base, CA
Major	Jose Y. Munoz	Joint Base San Antonio, TX
Major	Andrew C. Pak	Los Angeles, CA
Major	Elwin C. St. Rose	Reynoldsburg, OH
Captain	Stevie B. Stennis	Concord, CA
Major	Scott J. Tyman	McChord Field, WA

AIR NATIONAL GUARD

First Lieutenant	Robert D. Mohr	March Air Force Base, CA
Major	Ivan L. Williams	Roseville, CA

U.S. ARMY – ACTIVE DUTY

Captain	Howard M. Bankston	Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA
Captain	Tanya K. Bindernagel	Fort Campbell, KY
Major	Dean A. Darroux	Fort George Meade, MD
Captain	Kevin M. Daul	Deployed overseas

Major	Primitivo R. Davis	USACHCS, Fort Jackson, SC
Major	James L. Drake	Korea
Captain	Roland O. Geyrozaga	Fort Bliss, TX
Major	James P. Hall	Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA
Captain	Roy A. Hamilton	Okinawa
First Lieutenant	Jasmine L. S. Johnson	Fort Bliss, TX
Lieutenant Colonel	Milton S. Johnson	Fort Rucker, AL
Major	Joseph M. Kilonzo	Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA
Captain	Michael S. Kim	Germany
Major	Eddie Kinley, Jr.	Deployed overseas
Captain	Daniel U. Korie	Germany
Captain	Raul Maria	Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA
Captain	Carlos Molina	Deployed overseas
Colonel	Jonathan A. McGraw	Italy
Captain	Ramon E. Pena	Fort Sill, OK
Major	Pablo Perez-Maisonet	Fort Benning, GA
Major	Daniel R. Petsch	USACHCS, Fort Jackson, SC
First Lieutenant	Edgardo Rivas	Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA
Captain	Frantzo Saint-Val	Fort Hood, TX
Major	Philip T. Smiley	Netherlands
Major	Arles C. Sutherland	Fort Stewart, GA
Captain	Jorge L. Torres	Fort Benning, GA
Captain	Owen Vazquez	Goodfellow Air Force Base, TX

U.S. ARMY RESERVE

Captain	Wanda I. Acevedo	Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico
Captain	Luis Acosta	Alta Loma, CA
Major	Kenneth A. Anderson	James W. Reese Center, Chester, PA
Major	David J. Arredondo	EAD at Fort Carson, CO
Major	Juan Borges	South Lancaster, MA
Lieutenant Colonel	James D. Bray	AGR Chaplain at Moffett Field, CA (Retires in 31 Mar 12)
Lieutenant Colonel	James C. Clifford	Sacramento, CA
Major	Stephen E. Cozzens	Southfield, MI
Major	Sean Facchinello	Fort Thomas, KY
Lieutenant Colonel	Andrew Harewood	AGR at Fort Bragg, NC
Captain	Richard James	Laurel, MD
Captain	Emmanuel LaPorte	Tulsa, OK
Lieutenant Colonel	Garry W. Losey	EAD at Dover Air Force Base, DE
Major	Ulises S. Mataafa	Riverside, CA

Lieutenant Colonel	James B. Milburn	Visalia, CA
Major	Edgardo Ortiz	Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico
Captain	Evelio Rodriguez	Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico
Lieutenant Colonel	Marvin E. Santos	Presidio of Monterey, CA
Lieutenant Colonel	Robert W. Snyder	Altoona, PA
First Lieutenant	Oswaldo Tanon-Maysonet	Yonkers, NY
Captain	Leo M. Theoret	Moffatt Field, Mountain View, CA

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Captain	Andre D. Ascalon	Swedesboro, NJ
Captain	Saul Castillo	Santa Maria, CA
Captain	William Cork	Ellington Field, Houston, TX
Major	Christopher Guadiz	Deployed overseas
Captain	Anthony L. Kelley	Reliance, TN
Major	Philip C. Willis, Jr.	Camp Atterbury, IN

U.S. ARMY CHAPLAIN CANDIDATES

Second Lieutenant	Eliseo S. Aquino	SDA Theological Seminary, CA
Second Lieutenant	Jorge L. Baez-Ramirez	SDA Theological Seminary, MI
Second Lieutenant	Juan C. Castro-Buitrago	SDA Theological Seminary, MI
Second Lieutenant	Kevin L. Miller	Pastor in Anchorage, Alaska – Applied for AK-ARNG
First Lieutenant	James Painter, II	Valejo, CA
Second Lieutenant	Marcus Rivera-Acurio	SDA Theological Seminary, MI
First Lieutenant	Freddy A. Sanchez-Valerio	Kalamazoo, MI
Second Lieutenant	Michael Sims	Fort Lewis, WA
Second Lieutenant	Jeremiah S. Williams	SDA Theological Seminary, MI

U.S. NAVY – ACTIVE DUTY

Lieutenant	Evan D. Adams	Sea duty
Commander	Raynard Allen	Norfolk Naval Base, VA
Commander	Paul S. Anderson	DeWitt Army Hospital, Fort Belvoir, VA
Lieutenant	Kyron D. Bell	Great Lakes Training Center, IL
Lieutenant	Michael A. Chester	Balboa Navy Hospital, CA
Lieutenant	Mark D. Cox	Deployed overseas
Lieutenant Junior Grade	Andrew M. Francis	Sea duty
Lieutenant Junior Grade	A. J. Grant	Accessioning in March 2012
Commander	John M. Hakanson	Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, WA
Lieutenant Junior Grade	Wilking Jean	Japan

Lieutenant Junior Grade	Kevan Lim	Okinawa
Lieutenant Commander	John R. Logan	Norfolk Naval Station, VA
Lieutenant	Robert E. Mills	Japan
Lieutenant	Michael J. Monroig	Sea Duty
Lieutenant	Terry L. Moran	Marine Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, CA
Lieutenant Junior Grade	Charles Noles	Camp Lejeune, NC
Lieutenant	Robert W. Peters, III	Camp Pendleton, CA
Lieutenant Commander	Santiago Rodriquez	Norfolk Naval Station, VA
Lieutenant	Michael J. Tagalao	Camp Lejeune, NC
Lieutenant Commander	Michael L. Tomlinson	Deployed overseas
Lieutenant	Adrienne Townsend	Japan

U.S. NAVY RESERVE

Lieutenant Commander	Washington Johnson, II	Alerted for mobilization overseas duty
Lieutenant	Joseph M. Rivera, Jr.	Jacksonville, FL
Lieutenant	Andre M. Trofort	DMin at SDA Theological Seminary, MI
Lieutenant	Marvin W. Whiting	Nashville, TN

U.S. NAVY CHAPLAIN CANDIDATES

Ensign	Thandiwe Chiwaya	SDA Theological Seminary, MI
Lieutenant Junior Grade	Fa'asoa M. Fa'asoa	Seminary graduate – Application for AD in process
Lieutenant	Zachary R. Juniper	SDA Theological Seminary, MI
Lieutenant Junior Grade	Jeeyoung Lee	SDA Theological Seminary, CA
Ensign	Jose Monzon	SDA Theological Seminary, MI
Lieutenant Junior Grade	Bradley N. Whitsett	Seminary graduate – Pastor in British Columbia, Canada
Ensign	LaToya V. Zavala	CPE Resident, Norfolk, VI

RESOURCES

Sabbath School

Remember when you used to sit in church, or at school, and they pulled out a storyboard and felts to illustrate a story? The Sabbath School and Personal Ministries department now has a free storytelling app: electronic felts based on the Kindergarten Bible study guide (quarterlies). The app titled “GraceLink” is available for the iPad in the iTunes app store.



The GraceLink app has a default library of “felts” that can be used to tell stories from Scripture. Depending on use and demand, the plan is to release weekly graphic packs that relate to that week’s study and corresponding animation.

“Crayons” are provided so children (and the rest of us) can draw their own story, or add “color” to complement the story you tell with the “felts.” The app also has an

IN THE DIGITAL AGE

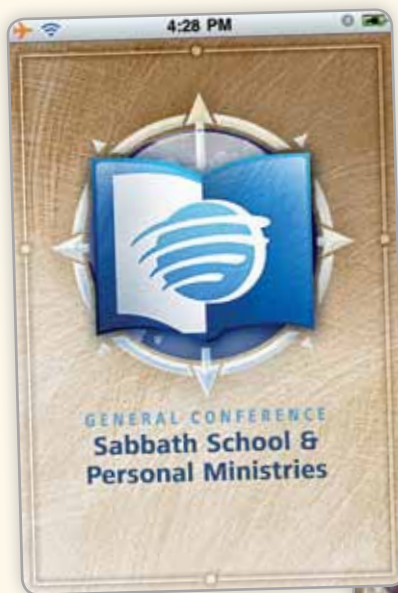
email feature so teachers can email the finished storyboard to kids after the story or kids can email family or friends after they've created their story masterpiece.

The lessons for Beginner, Kindergarten, and Primary Bible Study Guides are included in the app. The Student and Teacher editions are available in English, French, and Spanish. There are plans to include Arabic, Danish, Korean, Mandarin, Mongolian, Portuguese, and other languages when made available by the respective Divisions.

The app was created for kids, but has become a resource for teachers (at Sabbath School and Christian schools) and missionaries. All the felts in a suitcase now fit in an iPad and you can project the app on to a screen.

The Sabbath School app for iPhones, iPads, and Android devices is a free app that provides weekly Bible Study resources for all age groups from Beginners through Adult. The app contains student and teacher editions in English, French,

and Spanish. It also provides media; including a weekly Kindergarten animation, a daily audio reading of the CQ Bible Study Guide, and a weekly reading of the Adult Bible Study Guide, directly through the app. Other resources include the Sabbath School Handbook, Counsels on Sabbath School, and various Cool Tools to enhance Sabbath Schools.



Online Giving

Honoring God through faithful stewardship is encouraged of all Seventh-day Adventists. In the Bible rich blessings are promised to those who return an honest tithe and are generous with offerings to support God's work.

In response to requests from Adventist members in the United States military, the NSO has made arrangements for members in the U.S. Armed Forces serving outside the United States to be able to send tithes and offerings through the North American Division, and thus qualify for a receipt for tax-exempt contributions.

For your convenience go to www.nad.adventistchaplains.org and use the drop-down menu to make your contribution online.

Chaplains and members are encouraged to support ACM/NSO as their "conference" that provides pastoral care and religious materials for their spiritual well-being. Also, please remember to support your base chapel program. Military members serving in countries in other world divisions should contact their conference/union leadership or the division ACM director for further guidance in this area.



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NAD MILITARY CHURCH

Charter Membership

If you are assigned overseas for six months or longer in some type of official government or military-related service for Canada or the United States (active duty in the armed forces, civilian employee, teacher, AAFES worker, contractor, or family member), then you are eligible to join the NAD Military Church. To request a transfer of your membership, visit <http://nad.AdventistChaplains.org>. Click on the link "NAD Military Church."

Membership transfer request forms are available under "Membership."

**Your NAD Military Church
staff and board look
forward to serving you!**

Calendar

FEBRUARY

Offerings

- Feb 4 Local Church Budget
- Feb 11 Adventist Television Ministries
- Feb 18 Local Church Budget
- Feb 25 Local Conference Advance

Curriculum Focus for the Month

Family Life

- Feb 4-25 Black History Month
- Feb 5-11 Christian Home and Marriage Week
- Feb 18 Health Ministries Sabbath

MARCH

Offerings

- March 3 Local Church Budget
- March 10 Adventist World Radio
- March 17 Local Church Budget
- March 24 Local Conference Advance
- March 31 Union Designated

Curriculum Focus for the Month

Women in the Church

- March 3 Women's Day of Prayer
- March 4-10 Adventist Youth Week of Prayer
- March 17 Disabilities Awareness Sabbath

APRIL

Offerings

- April 7 Local Church Budget
- April 14 Christian Record Services
- April 21 Local Church Budget
- April 28 Local Conference Advance

Curriculum Focus for the Month

Stewardship

- April 7 Missionary Magazines (Signs, Message, El Centinela, Priorities)
- April 14 Stewardship Sabbath
- April 21 Literature Evangelism Sabbath
- April 28 Education Sabbath

Thirteenth Sabbath Offering

- March 31 Northern Asia-Pacific Division
- June 30 Southern Asia-Pacific Division

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If you would like to be added to our mailing list, e-mail ACM or call 301-680-6780. Comments and/or articles are welcome and should be sent to the editor at Deena.Bartel-Wagner@nad.adventist.org. Include your full name, complete mailing address, telephone, e-mail address, and current digital photos with all submissions. Items submitted by mail will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed stamped return envelope.

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The National Service Organization is the official military-relations office of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Its primary mission is to provide pastoral care and religious resources to support the spiritual well-being of Seventh-day Adventist military-related personnel.

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-Aristotle

 **For God & Country**
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