



# Network News

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION ADULT MINISTRIES NETWORK

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Volume 7

*"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. John 14:1 KJV*

*"Integrity is a choice. Choose wisely." – The Pocket Power Book of Integrity*

*"Integrity can make a company, church, or home; lack of it can break those institutions." Ibid*

*"Honesty will always be the difference between winners and losers." Ibid*

## IN THIS ISSUE

- **6 Reasons to NOT be a . . .**
- **The Real Word**

### **"On Prayer For Victory In Ministry With Him"**

Greetings Ministry Partners!

World conditions are literally "begging, yea, demanding" that those of us who have been "Called" and "Commissioned" to Front Line Service in The Gospel Army be at our "Duty Stations". The reality that Prayer is the initial connection to access to *Victory* in service with Jesus need not be abundantly documented here. However, I sense that the following from *Gospel Workers*, p. 259, will be encouraging to you in your current Ministry context:

The greatest victories gained for the cause of God are not the result of labored argument, ample facilities, wide influence, or abundance of means; they are gained in the audience chamber with God, when with earnest, agonizing faith men lay hold upon the mighty arm of power.

Our desire is that you will constantly and continually heed this counsel, and keep on testifying about the Victories Our Lord is bringing about in your area.

As we continue with the theme of Victory in Ministry through Prayer, we invite you to *keep on* inviting people to join our ever widening Prayer Circle for God's Blessing on the upcoming North American Division Full Ministries Festival Of The Laity, that will convene in Dallas, Texas, September 7-10, 2011 ([www.festivalofthelaity.com](http://www.festivalofthelaity.com)).

We are in the process of gathering *One Million* people to Intercede for the *Power* of The Festival. Just ask three to Pray, then ask those three to ask another three—and so on! Ask all the Interceders to check in on our Festival Of The Laity Prayer line at [prayer.fol@nad.adventist.org](mailto:prayer.fol@nad.adventist.org). Thank you for your Ministry.

We look forward to visiting with you at the Festival Of The Laity information Webinar on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at 8:00 p.m., Eastern Time (<https://www.1.gotomeeting.com/join/414025033/106252246>).

God Bless You and Yours, Real Good!

JAJ II

## **6 Reasons You Should NOT be a Sabbath School Teacher**

### **You're a natural talker and you just love to talk and talk and talk and ZZzzzzzz zzzzz.**

Effective teachers tend to be great listeners. Devising talking points and questions to allow your class members the opportunity to share in meaningful dialogue is critical. Reading facial expressions and listening carefully to what is **not** being said will help you target areas of discussion that are relevant and timely to your members' needs and interests.

### **Your own life experiences always seem like ideal examples regardless of the topic.**

Effective teachers have the ability to direct the focus away from themselves and onto whom it really belongs . . . Jesus Christ. The weekly lesson period should not be a platform for sharing the triumphs (or defeats) of the teacher. Remember, it's not about you! Being able to craft a discussion that encourages members in this Christian race and uplifts Jesus Christ are the ultimate accomplishments of a great Sabbath School class.

### **You're not really a stickler for time. A few minutes late is no big deal.**

Effective teachers set a good example for promptness and consideration of the time of the class members. Teachers should arrive early for Sabbath School and greet as many class members before class as possible. Set a pattern and reputation for starting and ending on time. Teachers should be models of consistency.

### **You know weekly topics so well you don't even need to study.**

Effective teachers share fresh, divine insight that they receive from constant study, meditation and prayer. The Bible is a living word and as such it contains new revelations and relevant inspiration to meet the needs of each member who attends. A helpful target for preparation time is one hour for each 20 minutes of class time. A 45 minute class should be prepared for by at least 4 ½ hours of study.

### **You're not really a people person, just a good teacher.**

Effective teachers are people persons, even if it does not come naturally. There is a need in every class for the teacher to extend themselves by showing genuine interest in the lives of all class members. Sabbath School involvement should extend beyond the weekly Sabbath morning class period. Calling missing members and engaging new and visiting members should be a regular part of your Sabbath School class. You can and should be an ambassador-of-one sharing the love of Christ with all whom you interact with.

### **You're only teaching because no one else wants to.**

Effective teachers realize the calling on their lives and have a real desire to improve their abilities to their maximum potential. When teachers have the proper mindset, they approach this responsibility with the seriousness it deserves. Even if you're not sure if this is your calling, the Bible plainly says, *"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might."* Ecclesiastes 9:10.

**Being an effective teacher might demand being a "new you". This is an age of change and some changes must be radical and complete. *"And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins, the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins."* Luke 5:37, 38 NIV.**

**It's Time to HIT THE Mark!**

[www.SabbathSchoolCoaching.com](http://www.SabbathSchoolCoaching.com) ©

## **WHAT'S HOT!**

### ***OUTREACH MINISTRIES THAT ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE ACROSS THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION (NAD)***

#### ***TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND – "The Real Word"***

Seven to ten young men – meeting weekly in each other's home to study the Bible. After several years of discussions, debates over a myriad of biblical topics, they realized that "something was missing".

The drive we once had was lacking. The passion we all held for getting to know God started to dwindle. It wasn't for lack of time; we had had plenty of that over the years. It was in this process of self-searching that we pinpointed the cause of our apparent "sickness". We were missing out on one fundamental practice Jesus had employed during His ministry on earth – discipleship.

It had been said that much of Christianity talks of the freedom in salvation, the many free gifts offered us by our Lord and Saviour; however, there is a price to be paid by those who would serve Him. This ideology can be summed up in a simple statement, "Salvation is free, but Discipleship will cost you your life" (Dietrich Bonhoeffer). It was at this point that we all understood what The Real Word was meant for. It's so much more than just praise and worship service. God meant to use US as His emissaries of peace and love. WE are His heavenly ambassadors, meant to go into the world to ignite the words written in The Word.

Although we are quite small in operation, our hunger to do more continues to grow. Within our outreach ministry, we aim to cultivate a culture of developing meaningful relationships with those we encounter. In the community of Takoma Park, we have established upwards of 10 relationships wherein we visit and worship with these particular households. We have given Bible studies to a handful of people, two of which now attend the Takoma Park Seventh-day Adventist Church, and one was baptized there.

In addition, we go out into the areas of Silver Spring, Wheaton, Langley Park, and even Washington, D.C., to feed the homeless and the jobless. At the end of every month, we visit a retirement home in Washington, D.C., to spend some time with the elderly.

Recently, we as a group have noted the drastic way things have changed for us. We never would have thought that we would ever be handed such a responsibility, and yet, here we are. For some unknown reason, God chose us to be His arms and legs, His hands and feet. We have been entrusted, albeit in a small way, with the responsibility of bringing His love to a world where the darkness of sin continues to envelop us. It is no matter, because it is when life is darkest that our light shines the brightest.

To know more about The Real Word – check out their exciting web site – [www.TheRealWord.org](http://www.TheRealWord.org).

*Jared Kannanaikkel writes from Silver Spring, Maryland*

## **ROLE MODELING: Pass It On- Part I of 2**

*Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.*

**1 Corinthians 11:1 NKJV**

**If you're a leader, you're a role model. That's a fact you cannot change. What you can change is the kind of role model you are, and for instruction on how to do that, there's no better manual than your Bible. Jesus, the greatest role model who ever lived, not only left His advice on how to live an exemplary life but also modeled an exemplary life during His brief time on earth.**

**Leaders in particular can learn a lot from Jesus. Following His style of leadership will ensure that you maintain the right attitude, balance the many demands on you and on your time, and create a lasting impression on those who choose you as their earthly role model. His leadership style was characterized by an unwavering commitment to the Father who sent Him and the people He was sent to serve.**

***Jesus Loved.* That's the essence of Jesus' effectiveness as a leader. He loved the Father. He loved the people He ministered to, and He treated His followers with compassion and tenderness. His death on the cross was the ultimate act of love on their behalf.**

***Jesus Taught.* He took advantage of every teaching opportunity that arose. At those times when He had to rebuke a disciple or two, He did so as a teacher. He wanted them to learn from Him and to learn well, because He knew His time with them was short.**

***Jesus Delegated.* He chose twelve men to travel with Him and gave them authority to act in His name. He trained them to be able to pick up the work when He was no longer there to do it for them. He created a fellowship of believers, which in turn served as a role model for the early church.**

***Jesus Befriended.* Apart from the twelve disciples, Jesus also had friends, most notably Lazarus, Mary, and Martha, at whose home in Bethany He appears to have been a fairly regular guest. He attended dinner parties and other events at which He was able to relax from the pressures of ministry.**

***Jesus Accepted.* He accepted everyone. He reached out to the untouchables, the lepers, just as readily as He reached out to people in very other stratum of society—including any Pharisee, like Nicodemus, who was willing to humble himself and seek Jesus' help.**

***Jesus Withdrew.* He understood the stresses and demands of leadership and spent time away from the crowds so He could rest and be refreshed. He knew that rest was essential to living a balanced life.**

***Jesus Prayed.* Not only did He teach others how to pray, He modeled prayer for them. The hours He spent apart from His disciples, often in the middle of the night, were hours spent in prayer. His desire to spend time with the Father continues to serve as an example to His followers today.**

***Checklist for Life for Leaders, Nelson Books***

Director: J. Alfred Johnson II

[Jalfred.johnson@nad.adventist.org](mailto:Jalfred.johnson@nad.adventist.org)

Editor: Carol Barron

[Carol.barron@nad.adventist.org](mailto:Carol.barron@nad.adventist.org)

Consultant: Cleveland Houser

[cleve.houser@comcast.net](mailto:cleve.houser@comcast.net)

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**North American Division  
Adult Ministries Adult  
Ministries Network**

12501 Old Columbia Pike,  
Silver Spring MD 20904

**Phone**  
301.680.6430

**Fax**  
301.680.6464

**E-mail**  
[Carol.barron@nad.adventist.org](mailto:Carol.barron@nad.adventist.org)

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.nadadultministries.org](http://www.nadadultministries.org)

## **DISABILITIES MINISTRIES**

***Working with the disabled is a challenging form of personal ministry that takes people out of their "comfort zone."***

**There are many types of disabilities, and since no two people with the same general disability are the same, generalizations are difficult. One thing that is certain is that most people do not feel comfortable initially with a person who has a disability. Not knowing just how to act and what to say is a common experience.**

**Nonetheless, working with the disabled can be very rewarding. Often one finds hurting people, searching people whose depth of experience has come from personal suffering. Bringing such people to Christ is a wonderful experience.**

**What are the hidden barriers to effective witnessing? Ignorance certain is one. If we are not familiar with the disability in general, or with how it affects a particular person, planning a personal ministry program for them can be frustrating and a bit unnerving. So, self-education is important.**

**A caring attitude is an important asset, when determining if one has a gift for working with the disabled. Coupled with patience and love, a well-planned witnessing program will succeed. The program should be developed for both inside and outside the church walls.**

**One could think of the various fish that Jesus admonished us to catch, and the types of nets we might use. Inside the church are faithful members who may not be able to fully participate in the service or to contribute their talents to the work of God, because of a disability. Outside the church are others with disabilities who may never enter the church door because they lack proper transportation, can't get up the steps, or use the restrooms, or hear or see.**

**Too often the church draws those people we perceive to be most like us—and repel those who don't seem to fit our particular mold.**

**The church has an obligation to reach out to those who are hurting because their needs set them apart as different.**

**Reaching those both inside and outside the church is a real mission challenge. Disabled people, like anyone else, want to feel that their ideas and views are welcomed, so start your ministry with church members who have disabilities. Focus them on reaching those outside the church and ask them to help identify the obstacles that prevent that witness from being as effective as it might.**

**The North American Division has scheduled a Disabilities Awareness Sabbath each year to help raise member awareness to issues faced by those with disabilities.**

## **"INMATE SPIRITUAL COUNSELING" CURRICULUM SEGMENTS**

***"Inmate Spiritual Counseling" with an emphasis on Volunteer Prison Chaplaincy, is the new training curriculum for those who are very serious about updating their Prison Ministry skills. The 46-hour course is offered by the North American Division Academy of Continuing Education, and will be conducted in association with the International Institute of Christian Ministry of the General Conference Sabbath School/Personal Ministries Department, which has a direct relationship with Griggs University. Continuing Education Credit is a possibility for college credit in the future.***

***Curriculum Segment Highlights: Qualifications and Selection Criteria for Chaplaincy VCHP.101***

***The Chaplain provides a vital part of the whole process within the law enforcement community. The primary goal of the prison Chaplain is to provide Pastoral care to the inmate. The Chaplain becomes pastor to the inmates as well as their teacher in spiritual matters. This important aspect incorporates areas of spiritual, moral and emotional development for the incarcerated. Achievement in these areas will help to insure the future success of an offender as a productive member of the community at large.***

*Internet; Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia*

### **Description**

***This module introduces fundamental concepts and expectations of Chaplains from Wardens and local managers of Department of Correction facilities. This exposes the student to the ministry of Chaplains to incarcerated individuals, as well as the staff. It established parameters of service to a culturally diverse community.***

### **Overview**

***This module is a general overview of various selection criteria used by Department of Correction facilities. This includes both State and Federal facilities. The student will be introduced to the minimum standards of correctional hiring that institutions require of Chaplain applicants. Each student will understand the essential preparatory requirements to engage in Correctional Chaplaincy Ministries.***

### **Learning Outcomes**

- 1. To expose the student to the work and the expectations of chaplaincy.***
- 2. To gain a knowledge of religious policy and the criteria for chaplaincy.***
- 3. To gain insight into a culturally diverse community.***
- 4. To be exposed to preparatory standards for pursuing chaplaincy.***

***Each issue of Network News will feature a segment from this 17 Module Curriculum. We, at the North American Division Adult Ministries Academy of Continuing Education, encourage our readers to enroll. Call Carol at 301.680.6430 or log on [www.adventsource.org](http://www.adventsource.org) for registration information.***



## **PRISON MINISTRY HAPPENINGS**

### **SIX PLUS THREE**

February 19, 2011 was an exciting, never to be forgotten day for six men. At the Maryland Correctional Institute, in Jessup, these six men were baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. They became the newest members of the True Gospel Ministries Church, bringing the total membership to forty-three. "There is good attendance at both the weekly Sabbath Worship Service and the weekly Bible Study class", says Michael Stango, one of the dedicated prison ministers who goes in regularly to MCI and studies with the men.

*Michael Stango writes from Silver Spring, Maryland*

### **Videoconferencing Saves Courtrooms Money**

USA Today reported that courts across the country are embracing videoconferencing as a way for defendants to appear before a judge without leaving prison or jail, according to a recent survey by the National Center for State Courts. Kannan Sreedhar, managing director of Verizon Connected Healthcare Solutions, said that as state and local governments continue to see their budgets squeezed, they are increasingly looking for ways to save money through technology. The newer technology is based on Internet protocols offering higher resolution than previous generations, which is easier to operate, according to Sreedhar. The newest wave of technology comes in the form of mobile video units.

This summer, the Eastpoint Police Department outside of Detroit used a federal grant to buy a \$15,000 mobile unit. "We had a situation where we thought a prisoner had a communicable disease," said Sgt. Jason Gibson. "We were able to arraign her from our lockup and didn't have to expose everyone in the court to that."

According to the study results published by the National Center for State Courts, 100 of the 162 court systems surveyed in September were already using videoconferencing for some criminal matters. The Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services began using videoconferencing earlier this year for inmates who appeal grievance hearings to a circuit court.

*December 2010 Corrections Today*

### **EDITOR'S P.S**

#### **Partnerships Won't Work With Just . . .**

**A jawbone – people who merely want to talk about it getting done,**

**A wishbone – people who merely wish that someone would do it, or**

**A funnybone – people who never get serious about getting it done.**

**Partnerships must have a backbone – people who work together to get the job done.**

*The Power of Partnership in the Church, by John C. Maxwell*

**I'm outta here!**

**CB**

