



Network News

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION ADULT MINISTRIES NETWORK

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"Putting confidence in an unreliable man is like chewing with a sore tooth, or trying to run on a broken foot." – Proverbs 25:19—LB

- *"To succeed, jump as quickly at opportunities as you do at conclusions."— Benjamin Franklin*
- *"Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes." – Oscar Wilde*

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FROM ELDER JOHNSON

Maximizing Your "Mike Time"

Hello, Ministry Partners,

Anyone who is given an opportunity to speak before people wants to be as efficient and effective as possible. Whether your primary ministry is Sabbath School, Personal Ministry or Prison Ministry, here are a few tips that will add to your already developed "pool" of methods that is designed to keep your promotional time sharp and positively memorable.

- Determine to use less time than you have been allotted – realizing that the least you say, the more they are likely to remember.
- Use your "mike time" to briefly cast the vision regarding the ministry proposals, "choosing to do deep persuasion" during one-on-one conversations by the members of your leadership team.
- Be positive! Thank the people for what they "are doing" rather than choosing to chide, berate, or preach at them with bombarding Spirit of Prophecy evidence that condemns them for "not doing" what they "should be doing."
- Occasionally, use personal testimonies, only allowing those persons to speak who know how to "joyfully" come to the point in a very, very short time.

The major aim of this writing is my desire to create presentation pattern that will encourage people to want to "hear more, which will allow opportunity to "reach more" who may want to "do more." This is really why we're here. Let's Maximize Our "Mike Time."

See you at The Festival Of The Laity— www.festivalofthelaity.com.

J. Alfred Johnson II, Director of Adult Ministries

North American Division

IT'S ALL ABOUT SABBATH SCHOOL

WORLD MISSIONS OF THE CHURCH IDEAS FOR THE WORLD MISSION REPORT

- **Have a missions quiz.** Use brief quizzes to spotlight the history of the featured Division or to share general information about mission lands.
- **Plan a skit.** Use the skits in Mission or ask the youth or children's divisions to make their own skits using the stories found in Children's Mission.
- **Try a dialogue.** Try having two people give the mission report.
- **Conduct an interview.** If the story is about one person's experience, make up questions and interview someone as if they were that person. The person gives answers from the mission story.
- **Report on trips overseas.** Many Adventists take overseas trips. Tell them you would like to have a report when they return about their contacts with Adventist people and institutions.
- **Correspond with missionaries from your country who are working in another country.** Write to them and let them know you are praying for them. Ask them to write a quarterly report of their work and activities that you can use as a mission report.
- **Get an overseas phone connection.** Talk to them about specific projects advertised in Children's Mission.
- **Liven the story with costumes.** Ask people to dress in costumes for special mission programs.
- **Use maps.** Use maps in connection with the mission report. Show exactly where the story took place.
- **Plan a jigsaw mission story.** Cut the mission report into several different parts. Paste each part on a separate card. Let people draw cards and read their part in turn.
- **Use a hidden mike.** Have the narrator of the story stand at the pulpit. Whenever the direct words of the speaker are used, have that part spoken over a hidden microphone or from another part of the building.
- **Illustrate with graphs.** Use circle graphs or bar graphs to illustrate mission statistics. Consult an almanac for information about population, literacy, religions and average income. Compare with other countries.
- **Plan thirteenth Sabbath program.** Get the children's divisions involved in promoting missions. Excellent programs are provided in Children's Mission magazine.
- **Use a panel discussion.** Follow a mission report with a panel discussion about getting involved in world missions.

The Sabbath School handbook. AdventSource.



WHAT'S HOT!

THE FESTIVAL OF THE LAITY is ALMOST HERE!

The Festival will give you TRAINING!

The Festival will get you MOTIVATED!

The Festival will help you NETWORK!

**BE EMPOWERED! EMPOWER YOUR MINISTRY BY ATTENDING THE
FESTIVAL OF THE LAITY!**

57 days until September 26, 2007 (As of August 1). With 57 days left until the FESTIVAL, you should be registered. Don't miss out on this grand event. REGISTER NOW! Our hotel room block is almost sold out.

Take advantage of the \$149.00 EARLY BIRD SPECIAL BEFORE August 16,

2007. AFTER August 16, 2007 – the price will be \$225.00 per person. The \$149.00 Convention Fee - good until August 16, 2007, will still include six meals, eight General Sessions and 45 Seminars. So good people REGISTER! REGISTER! REGISTER NOW! THE PRICE IS RIGHT!

Register at www.festivalofthelaity.com, or call PlusLine 800.732.7587 – the folk there are ready, able, and willing to help you.

EXHIBITORS: BOOTHS – SOLD OUT! SOLD OUT! SOLD OUT!

FESTIVAL SITE: The Florida Hotel & Conference Center, 1500 Sand Lake Road, Orlando, Florida -800.588.4656 – is the beautiful site for the Festival Of The Laity.

See what the hotel and the rooms look like for yourself - visit www.TheFloridaHotelOrlando.com – take the online tour of this fabulous hotel and quickly make your reservation. Our hotel room block is continually filling up.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: When you reserve your room/s at the hotel, use the code "Festival Of The Laity" to get the \$99 per night rate. If you want help with the expenses, by all means, invite three other friends to share the room with you. You can have up to four (4) people in your room. Reserve by calling 800.588.4656.

Count Down Time To the Festival Of The Laity has officially begun!!!
September 26, 2007 is **57** days away – Please don't miss out on this grand occasion. We want YOU there!

There will be Specialized Training in Sabbath School, Personal and Prison Ministry!

The Delicious Meals – all 6 of them – will scrumptiously start your day!

The General Sessions - all 8 of them - will spiritually boost your day!

The Cutting Edge Seminars – all 45 of them – will empower your day!

The Fine Shopping – in all the stores - will end your day!

REGISTER! REGISTER! REGISTER!
TODAY!

REGISTER! REGISTER! REGISTER!

\$149.00 until August 16, 2007 Includes:

6 Delicious Meals

8 Dynamic General Sessions

45 Cutting Edge Seminars

See you in ORLANDO!

**At The FESTIVAL
OF THE LAITY!**

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Q & A

Our Church is interested in Missions. How can we get involved?

There are exciting ways your church can become involved in Missions. Look at the list below and see what would best fit your church.

- Invite international students. Most colleges and universities have international students. Invite them to your Sabbath School for an interview about life in their country. Invite them home for a meal.
- Organize a prayer vigil. Ask different people to pray around the clock for specific needs and unreached people groups.
- Sing in another language. Children's Mission often includes a song in another language. Teach it to the whole Sabbath School.
- Have a mission progressive party. Plan various mission-centered activities in different homes or parts of the church. Groups spend 15-20 minutes in each place. Some things to do are: films, quizzes on missions, singing in a foreign language, eating food from the featured countries, listening to stories of mission heroes, or writing to someone in a mission land.
- Get a pen pal from mission lands. *Guide* and *Mission* often have names and addresses of pen pals.
- Do a research report on missions. Assign individuals or groups to research topics on particular countries or cultures and ask them to report their findings to the group.
- Hold a mission conference. Invite special speakers, show films, have skits and quizzes. Plan an all-day mission emphasis, including a mission potluck.

Source: *The Sabbath School Handbook*. AdventSource.

PERSONAL MINISTRIES – YOUR NEIGHBOR IN SABBATH SCHOOL

REVELATION SEMINAR – How It All Began The Harry Robinson Story

A pastor in Texas, who wanted to win souls, but had proved to himself that he was not gifted as a crusade evangelist, trusted the Holy Spirit to guide him as he experimented with the Revelation Seminar concept. From his faith and innovation has come one of the most powerful evangelistic tools available to the Church today.

Harry Robinson is that pastor, and today he is still holding seminars. He has been blessed with hundreds of baptisms over the past years, and has successfully shared his tools with thousands of pastors and church members.

The Revelation Seminar is simple and direct. It utilizes a teaching approach with no music, movies or door prizes. The audience sits at tables and each one is given a Bible and study notebook. There are no "opening ceremonies." The instructor simply opens with prayer and leads the group through a review of the study materials.

"The people who attend a Revelation Seminar are not expecting to be entertained, but come to study the Bible", says Harry. Ample opportunity is given for questions to be asked, and at the close of each session, there is a time for prayer requests and sharing. A quiz is used to help people review the key

ideas in each study and to get some indication of their attitudes toward important truths.

Because the group at a Revelation Seminar is usually only 20 to 40 people, there is plenty of opportunity to get to know one another. Bonding happens in a warm fellowship, and the spiritual needs of men and women come to the surface in the serious Bible study.

You can hold a Revelation Seminar. Every day in our communities there are scores of men and women who, perhaps for the first time, begin to think about the Bible and spiritual things. For many it is because of heartache in their lives. For others it is the result of the consistent witness of a Bible-believing friend or acquaintance.

The Gallop Poll reports that one in five express some interest in learning more about the prophecies in Revelation concerning war in that region.

Have you wanted to hold a Revelation Seminar? But didn't know how? Next month, we'll give you some pointers.

Practical Guide to Personal Ministries. AdventSource.

"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: Spiritual Gifts: Keys to Ministry CR.101

The Lord calls every Christian to a ministry of ministries. God has equipped every one of us with one or more gifts which will be an intricate part of our being. This module seeks to assist Christians to discover and utilize those inherent gifts that God has instilled within us. Once God reveals to us our spiritual gifts, He expects us to use these gifts to advance His Kingdom. Knowledge of our gifts developed and guided by the Holy Spirit, will lead us to a proper use of these gifts in the church and cause us to promote unity in the church.

Learning Outcomes.

1. The student will gain knowledge of the theology of spiritual gifts.
2. The student will understand how to identify his/her spiritual gifts.
3. The student will understand how to use his/her gifts in the ministry of the church.
4. The student will learn how to use his/her gifts to help others.
5. The student will learn how to use his/her gifts to advance the work for the Kingdom of God.

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 for registration information.



PRISON MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

Get Into Jail -- FREE!

A federal court ruling has pried open the doors of California jails to Bible study materials.

Following his 1997 release from a seven-year stint behind bars, Ronald John has spent the last decade struggling to get his message back inside. As founder and director of Jesus Christ Prison Ministry (JCPM) in Lucerne Valley, California, the self-made minister ships his self-published workbook, *Change Your Life Biblically*, to inmates seeking biblical teaching.

Many of those shipments never reached their intended audience, bouncing back to JCPM off an overly protective wall between church and state. "Ever since we've been doing this, getting books into prisons has been a real pain," John said. "The heartache of wanting to help an inmate and being refused by the institution is extremely disappointing."

A federal court helped ease such heartache last fall when it ruled that the California State Prison in Corcoran could not bar religious materials from reaching prisoners. Last month, the Pacific Justice Institute (PJI), a non-profit legal defense organization, parlayed that decision into a broader settlement with the California prison system. PJI negotiated the adoption of a pilot program for screening religious literature and CDs. If proved sufficiently secure, the program will become standard policy in prisons statewide.

JCPM (Ronald John's ministry) has no statistics documenting its success, but receives thousands of letters from prisoners helped by its materials. John calls his daily trip to the ministry's post office box, "one of the highlights of my life." Now, that highlight is no longer soured with bundles of Bible study workbooks marked "return to sender."

Source: World, June 9, 2007

EDITOR'S P.S.

Got a great tip on how to invite guests to your church, with the guarantee they will come. Introducing "**Kindness 2 Go Bags!**"

One Sabbath a month, after services, line up in front of the pulpit many **Kindness 2 Go Bags**. The bags are stuffed with goodies along with literature about the church. Pray over the bags, the conversations and questions the bags will generate. Invite everyone to come up front, take a bag with the promise to "**give it away.**" Next Sabbath have people tell their experience of "giving" and "receiving." A college student took a bag, gave it to a friend. The student said, "This is a **Kindness 2 Go Bag**. My church is giving these away for some reason. So take it for Christ's sake." We smile. But the friend took it and a couple of weeks later, he was in church. Easy! Fun! Exciting! Try it and watch your friends follow you to church all because of "Christ's Sake" and a **Kindness 2 Go Bag**.

Source: Best Practices, is an e-publication of Vervent, NAD Church Resource Center, editor Loren Seibold. If you have some best practices to share, e-mail BestPractices@ameritech.net.

I'm outta here!

CB



