



# R

## Summer Camps

A first impression  
of God <sup>10</sup>

Catalyst graduates first  
disciple-makers <sup>5</sup>



## OUR IMPACT

Close to  
**100,000**  
children to experience  
the 'Inside Story' over 3 years.



# EMPOWERING KIDS WITH HEALTHY CHOICES



A wide-eyed student experiencing the Life Ed module.

Sanitarium's funding support of \$200,000 has played a pivotal role in bringing to life an innovative new Life Ed learning module titled 'The Inside Story'. This fun and engaging module is designed to empower children with the essential knowledge they need to make healthy choices for their body. Expected to impact over 100,000 school children in its first three years, the module was developed with essential input and expertise from the Sanitarium nutritionists. This collaboration aims to foster a holistic approach to promote an understanding of the benefits of making healthy choices.

With more than a third of parents admitting they are unable to shape their children's food choices Michelle Weisbaum, a Life Ed educator, applauds the new module, highlighting its significant impact on children.

*"The children leave the session with a much deeper understanding about why eating a whole range of different healthy foods is so important to keep all of their body systems working well and thriving," she says.*

Sanitarium has also donated an additional \$125,000 to Life Ed's Thrive Fund, which will enable 3,000 students residing in disadvantaged communities across Australia to participate in the Life Ed program.

Scan the QR code to read the full story in IMPACT Magazine.



[www.sanitarium.com](http://www.sanitarium.com)



EDITOR'S NOTE:

## Who does God say that you are?

Danelle Stothers  
Assistant Editor

“

These names are God's way of letting us know that we are known, loved and designed for a greater purpose than we could ever imagine.

I cannot even begin to describe how stressed my husband and I were when, after the birth of our daughter, we had to give her a name. As a natural planner, I had a list of future baby names long before I was even married, but not even this was enough to help once it came time to fill in the form electing the name she would use and identify herself with through life. We felt a heavy burden of responsibility! For two weeks we changed her name, testing different options to find a name we felt best represented her personality (which is not an easy thing to determine for a newborn). Eventually we landed on a name—Lacey, which felt like it was the best fit for her. More than three years later she has grown into her name and it reflects her perfectly: “kind, creative and driven, with a natural ability to connect with others”.

Recently I wrote a piece for *Record* about people in the Bible who were designated new names (if you missed it, check out *The Ten: Bible characters who received new names* on our website). It's interesting to see that each name change came at a poignant moment, with the new name marking a revolutionary moment in their lives. Naomi (meaning “pleasant”) asked to be called Mara (meaning “bitter”) on return to her homeland, after she lost her husband and sons. Joseph impressed Pharaoh so much that he went from imprisoned slave to second-in-command of all of Egypt, adopting not only a new Egyptian name (“Zaphenath-paneah”) but also a wife from a powerful Egyptian family.

There are also the stories of Abram (Abraham), Jacob (Israel) and Simon (Peter). These three men had something in common: they had questionable moments in their lives, moments that would have shaped the picture of what others, and maybe even themselves, saw as their identities. Abraham showed a flawed faith when out of fear he told Pharaoh that Sarah was his sister rather than his wife; Jacob was dishonest in how he acquired the birthright from his father; and Peter fell asleep when asked to pray in the Garden of Gethsemane and denied knowing Jesus three times, even after saying, “Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!” (Matthew 26:35 ESV).

But God looked at these three and knew that they were not what they did in their moments of fear or faithlessness, or even what others said they were. And they were also not what they may have thought of themselves. They were who God says they were: forgiven, free, called and set apart. God's designated new names captured the divine essence of who each of these men were to become: Abraham, who fathered a nation; Israel, who struggled with God but overcame and was blessed; and Peter, who was a rock for the building of the church.

Just as these people were designated new identities by God, so are we as followers of Christ. We take on this identity when we choose to accept the gift of Jesus' sacrifice for us. When we embrace this identity, some of the things we become are:

- A new creation in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17);
- a child of God (John 1:12);
- a friend of Jesus (John 15:15);
- justified and redeemed (Romans 3:24);
- an heir of God (Romans 8:17);
- a temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19);
- an ambassador for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20);
- chosen and adopted (Ephesians 1:4,5);
- a citizen of heaven (Philippians 3:20); and,
- no longer a slave, but free (Galatians 5:1).

These names are God's way of letting us know that we are known, loved and designed for a greater purpose than we could ever imagine. You are forgiven, free, called and set apart. God's identity for you is a reflection of His everlasting love.



INSIGHT:

## Being with God

Glenn Townend

South Pacific Division president

My wife gave me a t-shirt for Christmas with a slogan that reads “My favourite people call me ‘Papa’”—it also has a miniature caricature of each of my seven grandchildren. It’s my favourite shirt. At some stage during the Christmas holidays—which I was privileged to spend with them all—those who can speak all came up and wanted to be shown and reminded that they were on the shirt. I think it was a psychological affirmation they wanted to be connected.

My grandchildren are different in many ways: they have different parents, personalities and likes and are between seven months and seven years in ages. Some I have seen a lot recently—others I have rarely seen. Some immediately came up to me with a loud “Papa” and a big cuddle, while others took a day or more to warm up and wondered why this somewhat stranger seemed to matter to their parents and/or siblings. No way were they going to give me a cuddle. As a grandfather my natural inclination was to hold them anyway or show them something interesting. My desire was to deeply connect with them. However, this would be forcing myself on them and love doesn’t force (1 Corinthians 13).

I remember walking along the beach one afternoon with many of the family, when one of the more reserved grandchildren came to me, grabbed my hand and began to run with me from the incoming waves. This happened for 15 minutes and my soul rejoiced. There were other rejoicing moments with each of the grandchildren: reading stories, listening to their imaginations, just holding them, playing with their new toys, riding bikes . . . It really didn’t matter what we were doing, we were connecting.

As I valued these precious experiences I reflected on my Heavenly Father and His desires just to connect with me (Luke 11:11-13). He desires time with me. He wants to remind me that I am loved, valued, protected, provided for and part of the family. That being unique I have a special place in His heart.

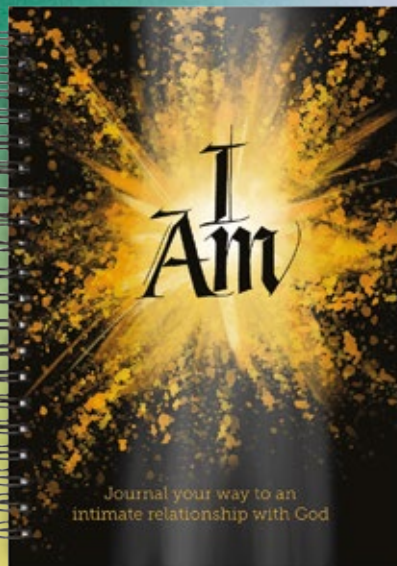
As a disciple of Jesus, I am going to try and have some special quiet times with Him this year—just resting in His presence and connecting.

# Anywhere, Anytime, Anyone

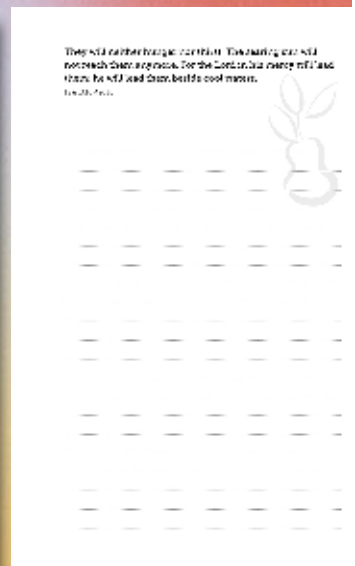
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**THE  
W<sup>ORSHIP</sup>  
PROJECT**



Journal your way to an  
intimate relationship with God



I AM Journal



Seven participants completed the inaugural course in November 2023.

## Catalyst graduates first disciple-makers

📍 Coorabong, NSW | Brenton Stacey

A new program equipping, empowering and deploying participants for mission-minded discipleship is now offering places for 2024 after graduating its first cohort this past year.

Catalyst is an initiative of the South Pacific Division (SPD) in partnership with Avondale University. Promoted as a discipleship adventure, the 12-week non-accredited short course is for those who have “a burning desire for their lives to matter for God, regardless of age and circumstance, but need the knowledge and skills to become disciple-makers”, said Dr Gilbert Cangy, SPD Institute of Discipleship director.

Seven participants completed the inaugural course in November 2023. They have now returned to their local churches where, according to Dr Cangy, they will work in their relational streams and Indigenous cultures and contexts for the long term with no short-term end date and at no ongoing cost. “The graduates felt invigorated in their spiritual walk,” he said.

Equipped to serve in a diversity of

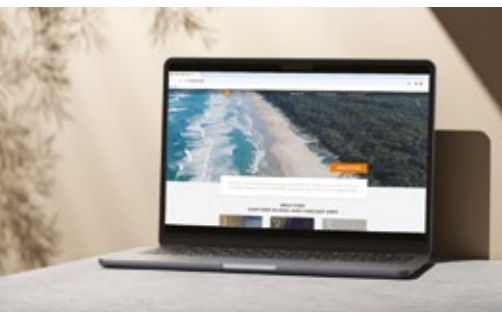
leadership positions, including as elders, small group leaders or home-based church planters, graduates of the course will work with their pastor, local church and regional conference to help grow the Church, said SPD president Pastor Glenn Townend.

Catalyst “lays a knowledge foundation that gives participants a Christ-centred confidence in the Adventist Church and in their beliefs”, said Dr Cangy. “They learn the disciple-making principles exemplified by Jesus.”

More importantly, added Dr Cangy, the participants “experience the transforming power of the Holy Spirit as they put discipleship principles into practice”.

The participants say Catalyst has helped clarify life purpose and direction. Six of the seven, for example, are interested in continuing their study at Avondale—in teaching, ministry, business, outdoor leadership and individual support.

Secure your place in Catalyst or help a young adult do the same by “Adopting a Disciple”. Visit: <[catalyst.c4d.au](http://catalyst.c4d.au)>.



The AUC website has undergone an overhaul.

## New website to further the work of the Church

📍 Ringwood, Vic | Kimberley McMurray

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia launched its new website.

Adventist.org.au is a complete overhaul of the old website, with emphasis on search engine optimisation (SEO) and visual design elements to attract members of the public to learn more about the Adventist Church.

Users can sign up to access Bible study resources, find their nearest church and keep up to date with the latest news and events.

Australian Union Conference (AUC) media and ministerial association secretary Pastor Murray Hunter said, “We are very excited about the launch of our new website. The creators have been diligently working on the site over the past months to ensure that end users have a great experience.”

Pastor Hunter listed the benefits of the new website: “to inform the general public of our Adventist mission, values

and fundamental beliefs; showcase ministry initiatives that are happening in our churches, schools, aged care facilities and allied entities across the country.”

According to Pastor Hunter, the new website will also provide access to resources and information that will help further the work of the Church in Australia and “facilitate the ease of access to sites that make up what is deemed our Australian Adventist church digital and physical network”.

“We hope our new site is a blessing to all who engage with it,” Pastor Hunter added, “and we pray that it becomes an effective and efficient tool to assist in delivering the good news about Jesus to people from all walks of life.”

The AUC extended a special thank you to Pastor Scott Heitmann, Luke Farugia and their team for the design and development of the website.



LE awards 2023. Attendees expressed thankfulness for the opportunity to attend the summit and for all the hard work put into organising it.

## Record number of new recruits at LM Summit

📍 Dakabin, Qld | Vania Chew

More than 75 people gathered at the Watson Park Convention Centre in Queensland, for the 2023 Literature Ministry Summit. Held from October 24 to 29, the event attracted 17 attendees under 30 years old, and a record 22 new literature evangelists (LEs), recruits and interests.

"The theme of this year's summit 'Messengers of Hope' really reminded us of what working in literature ministry is about," said Brenton Lowe, literature ministry coordinator for Australia and New Zealand.

Two of the key speakers were Pastor Stephen Apola, General Conference associate publishing director, and Pastor Terry Johnson, Australian Union Conference president. Other speakers included Pastor Nicu Dumbrava and authors Susheshinie Goonatilleke and Dr Sue Radd.

"LEs are serious about sharing their faith and put themselves out there daily. Ministry can be emotionally, physically and spiritually draining, yet the passion that they demonstrate is lovely to see!" said Pastor Johnson.

Three innovative initiatives were

launched at the summit: the 409 Bible Adventure Challenge, which encourages children of primary school age to read *The Bible Story* series by Arthur Maxwell; the Lift and ELIA project; and a new customer relationship management database called Salesforce.

"We're looking forward to using these innovations and tools to modernise literature ministry," said Mr Lowe. "This is the first time that LEs will have access to online courses they can retail to their customers."

An awards night was an opportunity to acknowledge the service of LEs and leaders including Tony Wall and Kevin Geelan's 50 years of service to literature ministry. Other achievements included Sue Wilson's award for the highest number of sales, the Western Australian Conference's award for Youth Rush team of the year and Joshua Fawcett's award for best new starting LE.

The 2024 summit will be held from October 2-5 in Victoria and will include a tour of Signs Publishing. Register interest at the Literature Ministry website.



Betikama class of the 1980s. The day also saw the planting of celebration trees around the campus.

## School 75th anniversary impacted by weather

📍 Honiara, Solomon Islands | Record Staff

Despite weather disruptions, Betikama Adventist College in the Solomon Islands celebrated its 75th anniversary with several events from November 9 to 12.

The celebration started under light rain with a convoy from Honiara to the college, featuring trucks decorated with balloons and filled with former students from various decades, all dressed in different coloured t-shirts.

At the college, alumni from different eras, both local and expatriate, mingled and reconnected. The event saw a symbolic torch relay led by past principals, culminating in the lighting of a main flare by current principal Bevan Tutua.

Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare—a former Betikama student—gave the opening address. Notably, four former students of Betikama have served as the country's prime minister.

With the rain intensifying on the Friday, plans had to be adapted. Betikama was flooded by Sabbath morning, moving the celebration to two different locations. "No vehicle could turn into Betikama's road as the water was waist deep," said Jennifer Steley, who was at the event.

"It was disappointing, but the organisers quickly implemented a plan B. One large group met in the main Honiara church, while those in the vicinity could attend Betikama. The organisers did a fantastic job considering the disruptive bad weather," said Ms Steley.

By mid-Sunday, conditions improved, allowing for a march past of various class groups and the unveiling of a commemorative plaque. This plaque, revealed by Ms Steley and Pastor Titus Rore, the first Solomon Islander principal, celebrated both local and international contributions to the college since its opening in 1948.



Pastor Doreen and Aunt Mary cutting the cake with North New South Wales ATSIM directors pastors Keith and Danuta Stockwell. [Photo: Henrique Felix]

## Brewarrina church plant turns 10

📍 **Brewarrina, NSW** | Juliana Muniz/Henrique Felix

Around 50 past and present members of Brewarrina church plant (NSW) gathered to celebrate the church's 10th anniversary on December 2, 2023.

The church plant started as a house church in 2013 when pastors Keith and Danuta Stockwell started giving Bible studies to Aboriginal elder Uncle Les Doole. He was baptised along with his wife, Aunt Joyce, in December 2013—the first baptism in Brewarrina.

A small leadership team was formed with community members Aunt Mary, Sid and Rongo Richards to help pick up people in the community, provide breakfasts and lunches each Sabbath and disciple all who came. Since the first church service, the church plant regularly has averaged around 40 people from the local community, predominantly children and teens.

According to Pastors Keith and Danuta Stockwell, "God has blessed and impacted the church plant and local community as arms have been linked with Adventist Aviation who have been flying to Brewarrina over the past 50 years, STORMCo teams and prior Currawah staff and students, and others."

Based in a predominantly Indigenous town (61.4 per cent), Brewarrina church is offering programs and support to meet the community's needs.

According to Aunt Mary, the influence of the church has contributed to a drop in domestic violence and drug and alcohol consumption in the community. "Those issues are there, but we don't see them as strong as before. The kids we've been picking up over the years came from homes that struggled with those issues, but through the influence of the church and getting to know Jesus and His love, they've been transformed," she said.

Doreen Waites is one of the people who have been impacted. Growing up in Brewarrina, Ms Waites studied pastoral ministry at Mamarapha College in Perth and has been pastoring at the church plant since 2020.

"I grew up in this community not seeing hope for our people, not seeing hope for my own future, but having a church, having people here that remind us of God's love showed me that there's more to life and that God is our hope. I just love giving back that hope to my people," Ms Waites said.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ministries (ATSIM) director for the Church in Australia Pastor Darren Garlett explained that Adventist churches in remote areas such as Brewarrina become "the centre of everything".

"Our churches become places where people want to be. Leaders like Doreen do all these events, creating an identity in the community, and people want to be part of it," said Pastor Garlett.

## making headlines

### Pathfinders' pilgrimage

Three young Adventists have completed a 250km walk to the Valley View University campus (Ghana), arriving on Christmas Day for the West-Central Africa Division (WAD) Dream Pathfinder Camporee. The annual tradition, a fundraising effort for orphans, was warmly welcomed by over 8000 participants with their journey paralleling Joseph's trek to Egypt, adding depth to the camporee's focus on fellowship, spiritual renewal and revival. —WAD



### Melodies of mission

The Santos Dumont Church in Brazil have created a social project to teach music to the local community. Held biweekly, participants take choir lessons, learn music theory and practise on instruments (flute and violin). —ANN

### Adventist Q&A hub

The Center for Online Evangelism, an Adventist ministry dedicated to the global online mission field, has a resource to share with seekers who have questions about Adventists and our unique beliefs. AskAnAdventist-Friend.com covers a variety of subjects such as our fundamental beliefs, what it means to be a prophet, how Jesus is our Saviour and that He is returning soon. —Center for Online Evangelism

### Crying chemistry

Human tears carry a substance that dampens down aggression. Sniffing emotional tears from women (though the scientists behind the study think all human tears would have a similar effect) reduced male aggression by more than 40 per cent in computerised tests, and prompted corresponding changes in the brain. —The Guardian



## Graduated

Twenty-eight students were eligible to march during the 2023 Mamarapha College graduation ceremony on November 18. All were awarded for their progress in obtaining their certifications, and three students graduated with Advanced Diplomas in Ministry. The students were both proud of their achievements and eager to apply what they had learned in various ways going forward. The college, located in Perth (WA), is the only one dedicated to equipping Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with the skills to keep and share their faith in Jesus. Mamarapha offers both ministry and health streams.—**Mamarapha communications**



## “Leading from the heart”

Adventist educators and school chaplains from across the Cook Islands attended the recent three-day Cook Islands Mission (CIM) Educators’ Summit 2024. Themed “leading from the heart”, the event was focused on understanding the mission of teachers in Adventist schools in an ever-changing world. Educators and chaplains collaborated to strengthen partnerships between schools, churches and communities to meet the CIM’s strategic objectives to “Know, Grow and Go” in Jesus as they educate for eternity. The summit was a collaboration between the education directors of CIM and New Zealand Pacific Union Conference.—**NZPUCommuniqé**



## Super speller

Ryan Liang from Wahroonga Adventist School (Sydney, NSW) achieved first place in the state in the ICAS Spelling Bee in 2023. Ryan, then a Year 5 student, received a gold medal for his efforts. His advice is to look out for those silent letters—they can be tricky! Each year more than 10 million students from around the world participate in ICAS Assessments, which are designed to recognise and reward academic excellence. Other assessments focus on mathematics, science and digital technologies.—**Record staff**



## Accurate records

Fiji Mission, in collaboration with the Trans Pacific Union Mission, South Pacific Division and the world Church, is undertaking a comprehensive program to update and maintain accurate membership records using the Adventist Church Management System (ACMS). With training already provided for church secretaries and elders in Nadarivatu and Vatuvonu in January, the team plans to extend their support to more remote churches.—**Fiji Mission Facebook**





## Australia Day honour

An internationally-recognised Avondale academic appears in this year's Australia Day Honours List "for significant service to nursing, particularly infection prevention and control".

Professor Brett Mitchell's appointment is as a Member of the Order of Australia General Division. Simply being considered for the award surprised Professor Mitchell. So, being approved by the Governor-General, as chancellor of the Order of Australia, is "humbling".

"I accept the award in honour of all the other nurses who contribute significantly to patient care and research and go unrecognised every day," said Professor Mitchell.

A Fellow of the Australasian College for Infection Prevention and Control and the Australian College of Nursing, Professor Mitchell is editor-in-chief of international peer-reviewed journal *Infection, Disease and Health* and a former chair of a National Health and Medical Research Council committee revising national infection control guidelines for Australian hospitals.

Professor Mitchell completed his PhD at the Australian Catholic University in 2013. He is now Professor of Health Services Research and Nursing at Avondale University, which offers the number one undergraduate nursing course in Australia as ranked by students. —**Brenton Stacey**

## have news to share?

Send info and photos to <news@record.net.au>



## Maritime Missionaries

After months of planning, the team at the Adventist Heritage Centre (AHC) were excited to unveil the new heritage room at the South Pacific Division (SPD) office in Wahroonga, Australia. The room contains a museum exhibition curated by the AHC team featuring artifacts and stories that delve into the rich history of Adventism. The current exhibit, titled "Maritime Missionaries", includes displays of prominent mission boats like *The Pitcairn* and *Malalagi* and offers a glimpse into the maritime missions that have shaped the Adventist story. AHC director David Jones indicated that this is the first of many heritage exhibitions, with the team hoping to open more spaces in other areas of the Division.—**Danelle Stothers**



## "Kingdom of God legacies"

Pathfinders from across North New Zealand Conference (NNZC) gathered at Tui Ridge Park, Rotorua, for the "Legacy" camporee from January 16 to 21. The event, featuring a dramatisation on the life of Abraham by Gobsmaeked Ministries, music, endurance activities and worship sessions, encouraged attendees to reflect on the concept of legacy within a spiritual context. Speaking at the event was Southeastern California Conference associate youth director Pastor Meshach Soli. Throughout the camporee, several participants expressed interest in deeper Bible study, while 47 individuals made the decision to be baptised. NNZC president Pastor Bob Larsen acknowledged the efforts of NNZC Pathfinder director Maranata Fidow and her team. "What a great way to create lasting memories and to build 'Kingdom of God' legacies in the lives of our youth," he said.—**NZPUCommuniqué/Record staff**



# SUMMER CAMP

A FIRST IMPRESSION OF GOD

I stood a short distance from the rotunda listening to 100 teenagers and staff members singing worship music as an acoustic guitar gently floated a melody into the warm night air. An orchestra of cicadas and crickets chirped and sang with us as the kids lifted their voices to the heavens, which were lit up and on display that night with an eternity of stars. It brought back so many feelings of gladness and joy from times when I was a camper and discovering the love of God for the first time. And here I was, back at the same rotunda, witnessing kids encountering God's love—some for the very first time.

This is summer camp. THIS is what church is all about.

As I stood there, I struck up a conversation with one of the kids who were on their own. I discovered they were not Adventist—not even Christian—and only came to camp because a friend was going. They knew no-one else at camp but their one friend and were amazed and caught off-guard by how friendly everyone was. They were especially intrigued by the fact that everyone made an effort to get to know them and include them. This kid had come from a complex life situation and had faced some difficult times for a young person, but by the end of camp, they were offering to help staff members in their various roles at camp. This experience at summer camp was their first introduction to God.

What was your first introduction to God? For many around the world, their first introduction to God is not always positive. Whether it be through media portrayals of Christians as nutcases, or horrifying news reports of corrupt church leaders, or personal experiences with churches or church members, first impressions tend to last. For many young people, the Adventist church is often seen as being a dreary place with "lame" music and uncomfortable seats, rather than an environment which is alive and on fire for Jesus.

Now, it is widely accepted in psychology research that first impressions shape the way we interpret all secondary information we receive. Professor Eileen Munro wrote that, "Research in psychology has shown that we do not easily change our mind and tend to pay most attention to information that endorses our belief while overlooking evidence that challenges it." There is a simple reason for this—it is ingrained into us from a young age to avoid pain and to seek pleasure. We quickly evaluate within seconds whether an experience will bring us pain or pleasure, and our mind thereafter renders a perspective towards that experience for all future references based on whether it has been positive or negative.

So, what first impressions are we giving of God? This is where summer camp has immense value. Not only do kids make new friends, play fun activities, eat delicious food, stay up slightly later than usual (not too late, we promise!) and enjoy incredible live music, but they experience God in a positive way.

Every experience at summer camp is designed to point back to God as the source of fun and joy. Each staff member is encouraged daily to serve God faithfully by showing His love to others. Cabin leaders often share devotionals and talk to the kids each night about God, sharing their testimonies. Dramas are performed each night to engage kids in learning about the love of God, and powerful sermons inspire kids to open their hearts up to God.

Summer camp truly is an incredible place to be. You come away feeling alive and on fire for God, whether you are brand new in the faith or an old-timer like me. It gives just a little sliver of heaven on earth in the space of six days, and despite the tiredness and bruises from activities, I find that when the time has come, I don't want camp to end. But this



feeling brings me to wonder . . . do our churches feel the same? Are our churches a little sliver of heaven on earth? And if not, why not?

I want you to be entirely honest about this next question: If that same kid, unfamiliar with Christianity, were to rock up to your local Adventist church on a Sabbath morning, would they have the same positive experience of God as they did at summer camp?

I have attended summer camps since I was 12 years old. I am now 24, and still getting involved as a staff member. And during my time at camps, I have realised the secret ingredient which makes summer camp so unique: intentionality.

Each staff member attending camp is intentional about sharing the joy of loving God with campers. Everyone has one goal and one purpose—to serve. We all serve in different ways: some in the worship band, others in drama, many as counsellors, and a bunch as activities or administration staff. But each staff member is working together to serve the kids and show them the love of Jesus. 1 Corinthians 12:12,27 says, “Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. . . . Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”

Though all parts of the human body serve different functions, they all share a common goal—to keep the body alive and working properly. It is the same in our churches. Each of us has different strengths and weaknesses, but we should all share the same common goal—to serve others and share the gospel. As 1 Peter 4:10 says, “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” Further, Ephesians 4:11,12 says, “So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.”

In these verses, we find that the purpose of ministry is to equip our congregations for works of service so they might reveal God’s love to others.

Are we, in our churches, being intentional about serving? Are we working together with the common goal of witnessing the gospel to others?

Our ministry to others should be simple and focused on service—helping others experience a positive first impression of Jesus. We need to point to Jesus through selfless service to be true reflections of Christ, the Humble Servant—who did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many.

Let your church, your home, your life, be a little sliver of heaven just like summer camp—revealing the love of Jesus through intentional service to those who may have never experienced God before.

**Olivia Fairfax**

editorial assistant, *Adventist Record*.

Summer camps ran right across Australia during the summer holidays, providing a wide range of activities for kids to enjoy, including: water skiing, horse-riding, paddle boarding, canoeing, flying fox, high ropes, leap of faith, mountain biking, master-chef, crafts, kite-building, steps (Zumba), beach activities, archery, Lego mania, bubble soccer, rock-climbing, snorkelling, surfing, waterslide, water polo, volleyball, basketball, touch footy, hockey, sailing, slip-and-slide baseball and cricket, giant swing, glow in the dark capture the flag, abseiling, remote-control car racing, and trips to the aquarium and trampoline/ninja park.

- Greater Sydney Conference held two summer camps, with 75 juniors and 76 teens in attendance.
- Northern Australian Conference held one summer camp, which combined juniors and teens for worship programs but remained separate for activities, having 50 campers attending.
- North New South Wales Conference held three summer camps, with 115 juniors, 120 teens and 115 youth.
- South Australian Conference held two summer camps with 31 juniors and 38 teens.
- South New South Wales Conference held two summer camps, with 39 juniors and 55 teens.
- South Queensland Conference held four summer camps, with 104 campers attending summer camps for Jets (10-12 years), Teens (13-15 years), Summerfest (16-18), and 48 campers attending Teen Plus (13-18 years).
- Tasmanian Conference held one summer camp and had 53 attendees.
- Victorian Conference held three summer camps, with 116 juniors, 103 teens and 53 youth.
- Western Australia Conference held two summer camps with 102 teens and 62 juniors in attendance.

Altogether, somewhere between 231 and 260 non-Adventist kids attended summer camps across Australia, some experiencing God for the first time. Roughly 602 kids expressed interest in receiving Bible studies, and around 568 kids expressed a desire to be baptised. Approximately one-in-three kids expressed a desire to be baptised or have Bible studies.



# Jacqueline's resilient melody

Almost four years ago, classical musician Jacqueline Ward's world seemed to be falling apart. After a life dedicated to music, her soprano voice, described by *The Courier-Mail* as "honey sliding down crystal", was silenced by a major car accident. The injuries she sustained were severe—spinal, chest and leg fractures—leading to months in a wheelchair and a painful process of learning to walk again.

Recovering body movements required effort and dedication, but rediscovering her voice proved to be the most challenging and crucial part of the journey back to the stage—one that required hope deeply rooted in her faith in God.

Before the accident, Jacqueline was making significant accomplishments in her career. Winning the Australian Songwriting Contest at 17, she pursued her passion, studying music at Avondale University and later on doing postgraduate studies at Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

With an album released in 2016, her talent crossed international borders, with performances in the United States, Europe and the UK.

The unexpected pause to her ascending career was a brutal hit to take. "I was halfway through my masters when the accident happened, and with a long recovery journey and caring for a trauma-affected baby, I eventually withdrew. Multiple Sydney orchestras had engaged me as a soloist, and these appointments were cancelled due to my injuries," remembered Jacqueline.

The second blow came with a second COVID-19 lockdown, further delaying her retraining and coinciding with personal tragedies, including the loss of her second child.

After enduring so many challenges, Jacqueline and her family felt a compelling need for a fresh start.

In pursuit of peace and a new perspective, they left behind the hustle of Sydney for the tranquillity of country living in Tasmania. "There was major disappointment and grief in letting all these things go. But I trust God, knowing that sometimes closed doors are His doing and that He opens doors when His timing is right, and He has grown me to be ready," she said. This faith was a key factor in Jacqueline's recovery and return to music.

The return to the stage happened in 2023 when she performed with a prestigious Tasmanian early music orchestra—Van Diemen's Band. Soon after, she hit a significant milestone: winning the Hobart Eisteddfod, a notable adjudicated performance competition across Australia. Entering six categories, Jacqueline won five, including the Sacred Music section in which she sang an aria about the beauty of Eden and the earth from *The Creation* by Franz Josef Haydn.

For the long-silenced soprano, the Eisteddfod wins were a gift from God after so many losses. "I felt so excited to return to the stage and very encouraged by my Eisteddfod wins. I know that even though something may be objectively bad, God can bring good out of it, as in Romans 8:28. Trusting God has been a huge anchor for me through this whole ordeal," she shared.

Now fully recovered, Jacqueline wants to share her talent with others: "My goal is to travel around the country as a soloist for performances of sacred classical music—such as the beloved Handel's *Messiah*—for orchestras and choirs and giving solo recitals that uplift audiences," she concluded.

To follow Jacqueline's ongoing musical journey, visit her website <[jacsoprano.com](http://jacsoprano.com)>.

**Juliana Muniz**  
news editor, *Adventist Record*.



# The 10

## Lovers of the Bible

In February, stories of lovers and romance surround us, offering a glimmer of hope that maybe the true love we all seek can be found. But what true stories of lovers do we find in the Bible?

### 1. Adam and Eve (Genesis 2)

Imagine having a man or a woman tailor made for you! While that isn't how real love works, this did happen with the first man and woman. After forming man out of the earth, God showed Adam that it was not good to be alone. God then made Eve from Adam's rib, giving her equality with Adam, that the two might be united side by side.

### 2. Ruth and Boaz (book of Ruth)

Ruth's noble character caught the attention of Boaz, a well-respected man of faith, and slowly their mutual respect blossomed into love. In a vulnerable act of humility, Ruth expressed her desire to become a member of his household, either as a servant or as his wife. In response, Boaz did not rest until he made Ruth his wife.

### 3. Isaac and Rebekah (Genesis 24)

The first time the word "love" is used in the Bible between a man and a woman, it's between Isaac and Rebekah. Isaac was a very eligible bachelor, and his father sought to arrange a marriage for him by sending his servant to find a wife. The servant prayed that God would guide him to the right woman for Isaac, and God answered his prayers.

### 4. Jacob and Rachel (Genesis 29)

Jacob was willing to work unpaid for seven years to earn the hand of Rachel in marriage. Could you imagine that—seven years without pay . . . and all for a girl! But those seven years seemed like only a few days to Jacob because of his love for her. Even after being deceived, Jacob continued to work an additional seven years without pay to finally marry Rachel.

### 5. Solomon and the Shulamite (Song of Songs)

How can you mention love without bringing up the most sensual book in the Bible . . . the Song of Songs! Solomon's poetry of the love between the Lover and his Beloved capture an all-consuming desire for intimacy, which beautifully reflects God's own desire to be close to us.

### 6. Hannah and Elkanah (1 Samuel 1)

Elkanah loved his wife, Hannah, but she was unable to bear children, so he married a second wife to start a family. Elkanah loved his first wife, Hannah—resulting in jealousy, bullying and depression. Elkanah and Hannah's love for one another tried to overcome these issues but they could not do so without God's intervention.

### 7. Hosea and Gomer (Hosea 1,3)

The prophet Hosea was instructed by God to marry and unconditionally love an adulterous woman. At one point, Gomer ended up as a sex slave, but instead of leaving her in her sinful predicament, Hosea redeemed her. He did not need to purchase her, as legally Gomer was considered his wife, but godly love drove him to pay the price for Gomer's freedom.

### 8. Samson and Delilah (Judges 16)

Manipulation, seduction, betrayal, passion—Samson and Delilah's romance was the pinnacle of toxic. While their love may have been sincere at first, Delilah's allegiance was to the highest bidder: the Philistine rulers. On four separate occasions, Delilah betrayed Samson's confidence, resulting in his torture and death and proving that, in the end, love really is blind.

### 9. Woman at the Well (John 4)

Based on what we know about the Samaritan woman, we can assume she desired true love but had only found disappointment. She places barrier after barrier between herself and Jesus in their interactions, yet Jesus continues to show her compassion and He overcomes every barrier to reach her broken and gentle heart.

### 10. Jesus and us

There is no greater love story in the bible than that of the Bridegroom and His Bride. This love story is captured between the pages of the Bible and unfolds day by day within our heart as God seeks us out and pursues us like a young man in love with the girl of his dreams. We are Jesus' Bride and the focus of His endless and relentless love.



# Remembering in writing

One of my greatest joys in writing Anzac history is reading the letters, diaries and memoirs of the soldiers. Their first-hand accounts offer a freshness and an inspiration. Whether they speak of an encounter with God at the front under shellfire, or convey personal messages to their family, or make a telling statement about a meal that they had, there is something invigorating

about hearing their voice. My family and friends have heard me excitedly read out hundreds of these striking statements. Through their words, we get to remember and participate in their experiences more than a century later.

The idea of remembering is deeply embedded in the Bible. My colleague Dr Wendy Jackson (head of the Avondale University Seminary) has written that

biblical remembering “is almost always associated with action or conduct”. She notes how “Israel was called to repeat the stories of the mighty acts of God to their children” (Deuteronomy 6:20-25), which “not only built up and reinforced a picture of a faithful and trustworthy God, [but] also developed an understanding of their identity as God’s beloved people. This provided them with a context to



the Church have decades of amazing life experiences which, if unrecorded, will be forever lost. Some have done pioneering work for the Church at home and overseas, or experienced life under governments hostile to faith, undergoing hardships difficult to imagine in this pampered age. Others have felt the impact of modern Western ways on traditional lifestyles in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. Many others have had more modest lives, feeling perhaps that their ordinary experiences aren't worthy of being recorded.

I disagree. God worked through the spectacular miracles of the prophet Elijah, but anchored that ministry in the humble faithfulness of the seven thousand in Israel who had not bowed to Baal (1 Kings 19:18). Imagine if some of those faithful witnesses had recorded their life experiences. What an inspiration they would be to us today! Writing down your life experiences will help future generations build their identity as the people of God.

Let me offer some tips to recording your life. Probably the hardest part is starting. The key is simply to start—anywhere. You don't have to create an orderly chronological account from the get-go. Instead, write down memories as they come to you. They can always be organised into a more coherent narrative later.

If that is tricky, try teaming up with family members. Children and grandchildren are often natural allies. Tell them stories from your life and let them write them down. Then work with them to edit the stories together.

Don't try to do it all in one go. Devote a few hours a week to it over months or even several years. Share the stories with family as you go. They will probably have questions which will prompt further memories. Include photos.

Try to avoid writing "hagiography"—that is narratives of faultless saints. I call this "lying for God", a tendency to whitewash our bad behaviour and exaggerate the good in the hope of making God look better. Sadly, when the truth comes along, it destroys trust, not just in us but also in God. Imitate the honesty of the Bible regarding its

flawed heroes—Abraham, Moses, David, Elijah, Peter. Tell the truth, not harshly, not destructively—phrase things in an anonymous way if it would hurt people—but don't play down human weakness. Remember, that God's strength is more evident through our weaknesses, as Paul readily acknowledged (1 Corinthians 12:9).

Include the ordinary as well as the extraordinary. Make it a full story and not just one of religious experiences. It will make the faith sections more relatable. Briefly tell what you remember of your parents and grandparents. What was life like for you before the mobile phone, computers, the microwave, the refrigerator, in an age when bicycles were more common than cars? What was entertainment like without computer games, television and widespread access to recorded music? How about family holidays? What about your childhood, education, marriage and family, work? And don't forget church life. What were the religious practices in your family and your church? Describe your own journey of faith, with its ups and downs. If you have been a church employee, tell of your accomplishments and frustrations.

Finally, consider how to share your stories. You can publish your memoirs cheaply through self-publishing platforms, getting a professional-looking book at a modest cost. Give them to your children and grandchildren as a Christmas present. And please consider lodging a copy with your church library, and with the South Pacific Heritage Centre at Avondale University.

Future generations will thank you for building their faith in a trustworthy God.

1. Wendy Jackson, "What in the Word: Remember", *Adventist Record*, April 15, 2021, <<https://record.adventistchurch.com/2021/04/15/what-in-the-word-remember/>>.

2. Ellen G White, *Selected Messages Vol 3*, p162.

#### **Daniel Reynaud**

emeritus professor at Avondale University.

He has published extensively on Anzac history, and has guided the publication of his parents' memoirs for the benefit of the wider family and church.

both understand and interpret their present circumstances." Remembering was not just concerned with action "but also with relationship and identity".<sup>1</sup>

In a much-quoted statement, Ellen White triumphantly declared, "We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history."<sup>2</sup>

I am making an appeal for each of us, especially those of us who are older, to remember, especially through the action of writing down our life experiences to preserve them for the generations to come. If you are younger, encourage the older ones in your family to pass on their heritage. So many in

# ABOUT authority



## Can peer-reviewed science vindicate Adventist health?

**W**e often see claims that science provides vindication of the Adventist health message. This warms my heart.

But what do we do when peer-reviewed science contradicts Adventist beliefs? This happens frequently across many fields, including health, origins, gender and sexuality.

We tend to be selective when it comes to which peer-reviewed science we allow to be the judge and jury for our beliefs. When published science supports our beliefs we give it high status. This is commonplace in health sciences. But when it contradicts our beliefs we take a dimmer view. This happens frequently in the areas of origins, earth sciences and evolutionary biology. The challenges can be overwhelming.

This selective approach to the authority of science is clearly inconsistent. Should we take a more consistent view of the credibility of peer-reviewed science? Should we elevate peer-reviewed science more generally, or should we disregard it entirely? Is it OK to be selective?

How we answer these important questions has profound implications across how we think, talk and act.

According to peer-reviewed science, human life came about through

random chance, evolution and survival of the fittest. In our often hostile, post-Christian world, Christian education institutions struggle to maintain any faith-based approach to origins. Many of our brightest students and academics have followed "the science" of origins; to varying extents abandoning faith in biblical authority.

Peer-reviewed science tells us gender is a social construct and there are many genders. This is an emerging battleground not just for behaviour and policy but also for the mental health, care and protection of our children.

According to peer-reviewed science, a variety of sexual orientations can be part of a person's identity. Notwithstanding the cognitive dissonance of emerging arguments that gender identification is fluid, there are persuasive academic arguments that sexual preference is fixed from birth. Again, this has profound implications for Adventist individuals, families and institutions.

Peer-reviewed science says diets may include: meat for optimal protein; wine for antioxidants; and coffee for energy. While scientific Adventist Health Studies have generally vindicated the Adventist health message and lifestyle, this is simultaneously being undermined by more selective studies which seem to

justify aberrant diets and lifestyles.

All of the above examples, of course, have plenty of counter arguments with abundant supporting evidence, including in the body of peer-reviewed scientific literature.

Further, "the science" frequently changes. An oft-repeated instruction to first year medical students is half of what they are taught will turn out to be wrong. This has been quantitatively documented in a seminal 2005 paper by Stanford epidemiologist John Ioannidis: "Why most published research findings are false".

A 2022 paper in the *British Medical Journal* on "The illusion of evidence based medicine" helps to explain why. Evidence based medicine has three unarguably good foundational principles: 1/ best available evidence, prioritising randomised controlled clinical trials, 2/ expert opinion, and 3/ patient preferences and values. But the paper explains this has been corrupted by corporate interests, failed regulation and commercialisation of academia.

In 2004 Richard Horton, editor-in-chief of the *Lancet*, famously said, "journals have devolved into information laundering operations for the pharmaceutical industry".

These are not fringe people in fringe





publications. Marcia Angell, former editor-in-chief of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, wrote a book titled *The truth about drug companies: how they deceive us and what to do about it*. Peter Gøtzsche, cofounder of the Cochrane collaboration, published how prescription drugs are the third leading cause of death after heart disease and cancer.

Curiously, Adventists increasingly treat peer-reviewed science as an authority when it comes to health. But this is a dangerous path. We have a distinctive health message that is likely always going to be at least somewhat different to popular opinion. Even if the body of science ever universally supports plant-based natural diets and total abstinence from alcohol and caffeine, it's vanishingly unlikely that it would go on to include trust in God as foundational to good health.

There's actually a key paradoxical challenge here. The closer published science aligns to Adventist health principles, the easier it is for Adventists to let go of our distinctive belief in God as the Life-giver and great Healer, and to become confused as to what our health message actually is. It is tempting to see our health message as only those things that are supported by peer-reviewed

scientific literature.

But "the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God" (1 Corinthians 3:19).

If we insert Hebrews 11:1 into "evidence based medicine" we can derive an enhanced version: faith-based medicine. Faith in the authority of the Great Physician and Inspiration is the foundation of the Adventist health message. Not peer-reviewed science.

The other extreme would be to reject all the wisdom of man as documented in peer-reviewed science. But this would also not be wise. Science is usually really helpful. But it is still in the same category of authority as the "wisdom of this world": foolishness. Even human foolishness can be helpful. Often. By analogy, we trust the usefulness of modern technology even though it occasionally breaks down.

God is all-powerful and all-knowing, but He doesn't intervene immediately to solve all our problems, especially where there are things we can humanly do. The "foolishness" of modern science and medicine fits into that category. Still useful; and often reliably so.

As a part-time scientist and academic, I have published things in peer-reviewed literature that I have subsequently changed my mind on. An evidently confused peer-reviewer once

left a comment on a publication of mine that was in response to another publication entirely. The process is definitely not perfect. Mistakes are frequent. The process can be gamed and inevitably suffers the unconscious bias of group-think and financial incentives.

Science is not something special. It is just the process of observing and understanding the predictable laws of the physical universe that God has created. There is value in the use of science to replicate divinely inspired knowledge. But it is done by fault-prone humans with limited wisdom and insight.

Ultimately all useful methods of arriving at truth necessarily converge—in Jesus, the Way, Truth and Life.

Thankfully God starts with us where we are at. He appeals to human knowledge and wisdom when He says "come now, let us reason together" (Isaiah 1:18). Like doubting Thomas, for many of us seeing is believing. But Jesus encourages us to go beyond human wisdom and live by faith (John 20:29).

So, in my opinion, it is OK for us to selectively appeal to science to meet people where they're at. But let's keep our thinking clear that it's just to establish a common starting point. Human knowledge, logic and reason are where God starts with all of us. Thank God He encourages us to be scientific, curious and to use our brains—for His glory! As we grow in faith we trust man's wisdom less and less in comparison with God's.

Let's also be careful with our choice of words. We can appeal to science to support Adventist beliefs; but I don't think it's safe to ever claim that science "vindicates" or "proves" any part of our message to be true. No, science does not stand in the place of judge and jury. It does not have the power or authority to vindicate our beliefs. If it did, it could also be used to condemn our beliefs. Science is still useful, but it is in another category entirely. Compared to the authority of Inspiration, it has nothing privileged to offer.

#### **Daniel Livingston**

PhD, leads a science and research team at a large utility in the Hunter region of NSW. He attends Newcastle University Adventist Church with his family.

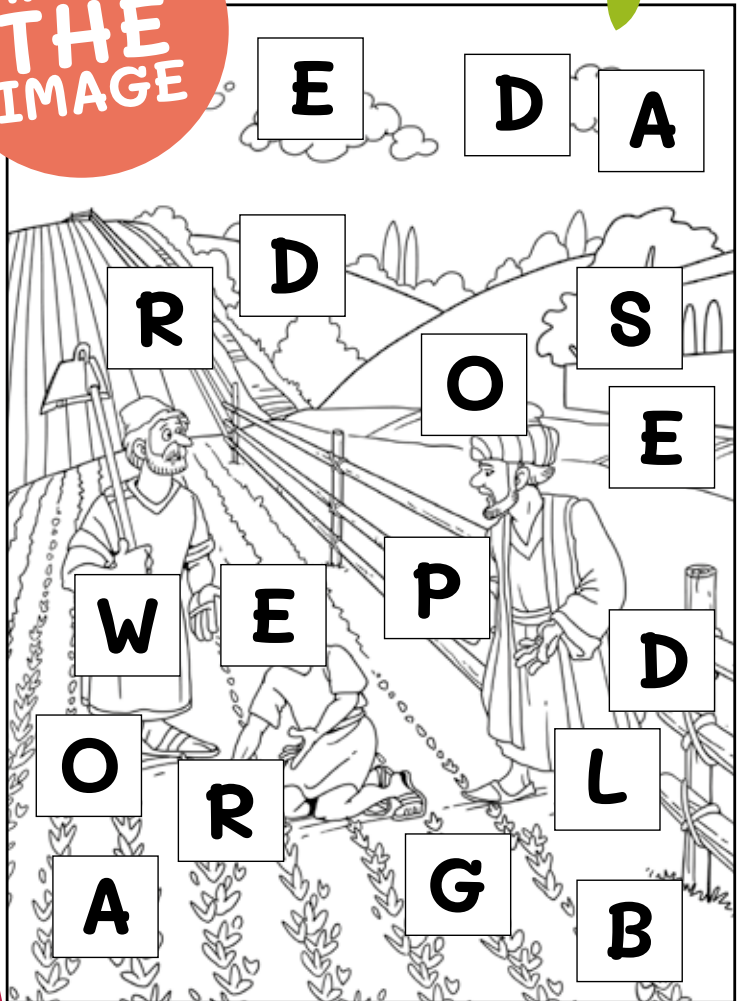
# Hello Kids!



## Growing Season

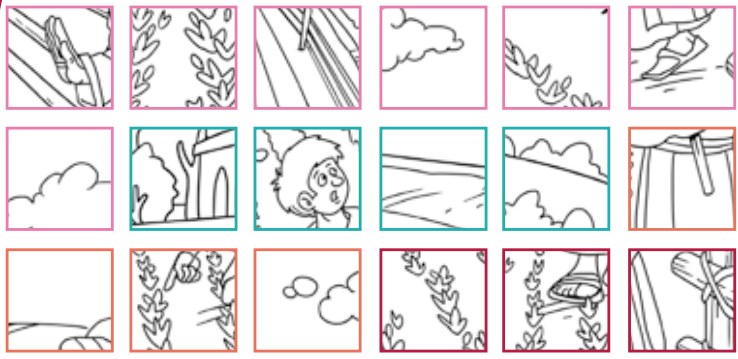
**MATCH THE IMAGE**

A farmer and his son planting their field discuss the \_\_\_\_\_ of the farmer as told by Jesus in Galilee. The parable tells about a farmer who plants seeds in his field, which has different types of soil. The farmer scatters the seed everywhere, even on soil that is unpromising. The \_\_\_\_\_ represents the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, which is scattered everywhere, whether or not there is promise of its taking root. This is a lesson about grace. God is extravagant. He scatters His word in abundance everywhere. Like the seed that has within itself the principles of physical growth, the Word of God has within it the principles of spiritual growth.



Cut out the squares and place them on the letters. Then put the letters in the blanks.

**MEMORY VERSE**  
"The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life"  
(John 6:63).





# Conversations

## Like the Most High

I was interested to read in *Conversations* on December 2 and 23 about the identity of the “man of lawlessness” mentioned in my article “Israel, Palestine and Armageddon” (November 4). The Adventist Church has long held that the “man of lawlessness” is Satan. In addition to 2 Thessalonians 2, Revelation 12 and 13, and Isaiah 14, the *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, Volume 7*, page 271 states:

“In a larger sense the power here described may be identified with Satan, who has long striven to be ‘like the most High’ (Isaiah 14:14). ‘Satan is working to the utmost to make himself as God and to destroy all who oppose his power. And today the world is bowing before him. His power is received as the power of God’ (6T, 14). ‘The determination of antichrist to carry out the rebellion he began in heaven will continue to work in the children of disobedience’ (9T, 230). ‘In this age antichrist will appear as the true Christ, and then the law of God will be fully made void . . . But the true leader of all this rebellion is Satan clothed as an angel of light.

Men will be decided and will exalt him to the place of God, and deify him’ (TM, 62). ‘The last great delusion is soon to open before us. Antichrist is to perform his marvellous works in our sight’ (GC, 593).”

**Jared Martin, Qld**

## Feasts and trumpets

I was absolutely charmed by the “Jingle All the Way” article in your December 23 issue. There’s something so magical about coming together to celebrate, to share stories and songs, and to spread joy during the holiday season. I also cherished this time of year, using it as an opportunity to teach my children about Jesus, despite the disapproval of my staunch Adventist friends who reminded me annually of the day’s pagan origins.

However, it wasn’t until I stumbled upon a historically sound and biblically acceptable celebration calendar that I could wholeheartedly share with my children. I’ve come to believe that if we are to stand firm in the last days, we must heed the call to “come out of Babylon”. But just like the Children

of Israel, we need to be leaving our pagan land for a reason: to “hold a feast”, to worship our Creator.

At first glance, this may not seem appealing to change your traditions, but imagine the power and glory available to those who “listen and obey”. Our Creator, who instilled in us the instinct to “gather and feast”, has provided us with plentiful celebrations. These not only bring us together and unite us, but they also refresh us and prepare us for the battle ahead.

Unlike the infamous post-pagan festival blues—where the initial excitement quickly fizzles out, leaving us feeling burnt out—these celebrations are built on a foundation of truth. Let’s be honest, even when we discuss the “True meaning” of the “reason for the season”, we all know it wasn’t the birth of our Messiah.

What we need is not the jingling of bells, but the sound of a trumpet—a call to repentance, a call to battle, a call to re-dedicate ourselves to true worship. It’s about equipping our children for the battles to come with feasts that fortify their identity, helping them respond to life’s deepest trials.

**Catherine, Qld**

# How to pack a healthy *lunchbox*

Whether you're a first-time school parent or a seasoned school veteran, the lunchbox battle can get the best of anyone.

Nailing that winning formula of tasty, healthy and being enough to fill them up is tough. Here's some top tips for lunchboxes that are filled with goodness and big on YUM!

## 1. Embrace the bento

The bento box has a lot more going for it than looking great. It can actually be your secret weapon to increasing the variety of foods your kids are eating, by popping something different in each section. Five compartments are perfect for ticking the five food groups and the kids won't even realise. For them it's all about the fun and choosing what section to eat first. It's particularly good for little fuss-pots who don't like their foods touching.

## 2. Fill them up with fibre

A good old sandwich or wholegrain roll should never be underrated. Packed with fibre, it is a great way to help fill kids up at lunch and keep them going through afternoon classes. Extra fibre will also help to keep them regular and help maintain their gut health.

## 3. Cut the chopping

An Australian study showed kids are likely to eat more veggies, when they are given to them whole. For the lunchbox think mini cucumbers, cherry tomatoes or whole carrots. However, for young kids who may not be able to manage whole veggies, halved cherry tomatoes and spiralised cucumber and carrots can still be a good option, that are easier for them to chew and swallow.

## 4. Be water wise

Every lunchbox needs some liquid and you don't need to look any further than fresh water. Juices, sports drinks and cordials



can often be havens for hidden sugar. Why not try freezing their bottle with fresh fruit pieces for a cool flavour burst on a hot day? If you are going to include a flavoured drink, aim for something that has a low glycaemic index (GI). This means that the combination of nutrients enables energy that lasts for longer.

## 5. Say cheese

Take every opportunity to increase their calcium intakes. Calcium is essential for growing bodies, strong bones and teeth, but only around half (45%) of 9 to 11-year-old boys are getting enough, and even less when it comes to teens. Wholegrain cereal and milk (or fortified plant-based milk) for brekkie is a great start. Keep this going by making sure there's yoghurt or cheese in the lunchbox.

## 6. Focus on fresh

Try and find in season fruit and veg. Not only will it save you money, you'll be getting the produce at its best. Think sweet summer stonefruit or crisp winter apples. The kids will love the taste and the environment wins too—fresh fruit means minimal transport and packaging.

## 7. Easy freezy

Frittatas, savoury muffins and mini quiches are great lunches to make in bulk and freeze in individual serves. You'll be grateful for the prepping, especially when you've got a super quick and easy option to pop in the lunchbox on those busy school mornings.

Check out the Sanitarium website or subscribe to Recipe of the Week e-newsletter for deliciously nutritious recipe ideas.



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## Anniversary



**STRAHAN,** Tom and Barbara (nee Sleight) were married in the Warburton church, Vic, by Pastor R Brown on 13.1.1954. They have five children, Martin, Bradley, Phillip, Roderick and Janette; 13 grandchildren; and 31 great-grandchildren. Their 70th wedding anniversary was celebrated in their home in Bundaberg, Qld. Tom attended Carmel College (WA) and later Avondale College, graduating as a teacher. He subsequently taught at Mumble Peg (NSW) and Rockhampton (Qld) Adventist schools. Barbara worked as an accounts clerk at Sign Publishing company (Vic) before her marriage. Tom and Barbara were founding members of Mitchelton church in Brisbane (Qld) and later moved to St Andrews church in Bundaberg following retirement.

## Obituaries



**BAJUSZ,** Helen Ilona, born 9.5.1925 in Hungary; died 2.12.23 in Elizabeth Lodge, Sydney, NSW.

She was predeceased by her husband, John. Helen and John ran a garage and petrol station in the eastern suburbs of Sydney until they joined the Woollahra church in the 1980s. They both loved media evangelism and looked forward to Jesus' soon return.

Gary Kent, Daniel Przybylko



**POWER,** Marie Joyce, born 20.10.1940 at Bellingen, NSW; died 8.1.24 at the Masonic

Village in Raleigh/Urunga. On 2.1.1966 she married John in the Stanmore church. She was predeceased by her husband. Joyce is survived by her much-loved adopted son Nathan

and Bec; and siblings, Nance Ferrari (Taree), Rose Hamilton and Dot Connor (Urunga). Joyce was the 13th of 14 children born to Gladys and Pryce Trow of Tarkeeth. Soon after her father died in 1944, the family moved to Urunga. After receiving an education, Joyce moved for work to Sydney, where she met her husband. Her many friends and relatives now await the call of the Master Life-giver.

Bob Manners

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**Consulting editor**  
Glenn Townend

**Editor**  
Jarrod Stackelroth

**News editor**  
Juliana Muniz

**Assistant editor**  
Danelle Stothers

**Editorial assistant**  
Olivia Fairfax

**Copyeditor**  
Tracey Bridcutt

**Graphic designer**  
Theodora Pau'u

**Noticeboard**  
Julie Laws

**Letters**  
editor@record.net.au

**News & photos**  
news@record.net.au

**Noticeboard**  
ads@record.net.au

**Subscriptions**  
subscriptions@record.net.au  
+ 61 (03) 5965 6300  
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New Zealand  
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**Website**  
record.adventistchurch.com

**Mailing address**  
Adventist Media  
Locked Bag 1115  
Wahroonga NSW 2076  
Australia  
+ 61 (02) 9847 2222

**Cover credit**  
Charmaine Patel

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IN 1925, A SMALL  
**CITROËN MADE  
HISTORY** BY BEING  
THE FIRST CAR TO  
TRAVEL **RIGHT  
AROUND AUSTRALIA!**



Visit our website for more details:  
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**RETRACING  
THIS INCREDIBLE  
JOURNEY IN  
2025**

Scan the QR  
code to visit  
our website



**The Incredible  
Journey**

What makes this little car, and this event, of **special interest to Seventh-day Adventists**, is that its owner and driver was Nevill Westwood, a 22-year-old Seventh-day Adventist missionary/evangelist from Carmel College, Western Australia.

And just as the Apostle Paul's missionary journeys captured the imagination of Nevill Westwood, so Nevill's missionary journey has captured the imagination of the 'The Incredible Journey' team. And so, after 2 years of planning, in partnership with the Australian Union Conference, local SDA Conferences and congregations, 'The Incredible Journey' has big plans to **celebrate the 100th anniversary of this pioneering event in 2025** by retracing this incredible journey.

#### **OUR PLANS INCLUDE...**

- **Retracing the route of Nevill Westwood** on his missionary trip around Australia in a similar 1923 Citroën 5CV.
- **Re-enact a number of scenes** from the original expedition.
- Produce **television programs** about the event.
- In the true spirit of Nevill's journey, we'll **share the Everlasting Gospel as we go**. This will include conducting **outreach programs** and **other forms of evangelism** in major cities and in smaller regional centres across rural Australia.

The planned RAA route is displayed on the website [rightaroundaustralia.tij.tv](http://rightaroundaustralia.tij.tv) and should your congregation be included in this itinerary, kindly work with your pastor and church board to ensure the planning of a successful event to celebrate the arrival of Bubsie and welcome community interest. Email us at [info@tij.tv](mailto:info@tij.tv) for more information.

**JOIN THIS  
INCREDIBLE  
JOURNEY  
RIGHT  
AROUND  
AUSTRALIA**



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9 March 2024

# Digital Discipleship Conference

Streams live on YouTube,  
Facebook and Instagram



8:30am – 5:00pm AEDT (+11)

Helping you and your  
church become more  
effective online in 2024

- Social Media Mastery for churches
- Transforming Discipleship Through Artificial Intelligence
- Don't Get Left Behind – Unravelling Social Media Trends
- How to Craft Impactful Videos and Reels
- Is My Social Media working?
- Designing Compelling Church Ads
- Navigating the Challenges of Social Media
- Strategies for Building Vibrant Online Communities
- Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality for Discipleship

## Speakers



Daryl Gungadoo  
Adventist Review  
Media Lab Director



Omar Eltakrori  
Think Media /  
Pastor



Danielle Davis  
Churchfluence



Benjamin Lundquist  
Executive coach /  
Rise & Lead podcast



Fernando Marro  
Multilingual  
Digital Evangelist



Justin Khoe  
Digital Missionary  
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Jessica Partridge  
JES Solution Marketing



Derek Ortiz  
Graphic Designer



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Psychologist / Adventist  
Counselling Services



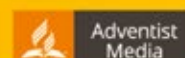
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