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## Breaking up with the church

"It's not me, it's  
you. . ." <sup>12</sup>

Teen conference forms  
future church leaders <sup>5</sup>

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

## The gift that gives itself away

Jesse Herford  
Associate editor, *Signs of the Times*

“

Doug's generosity reminded me that the best thing we can do with the gifts God has given us is to give them away.

A few years ago, I was a poor university student studying to be a pastor. I was living pay-cheque to pay-cheque, relying on my cleaning job and government allowance. At the end of a particular semester, I had completely run out of money. I was too ashamed to tell anyone, not even my parents. One Sabbath I went to the church I grew up in and ran into an older church member. He was a retired minister and had seen me grow up (we'll call him Doug). He asked me how my studies were going and I faked a smile, telling him "things were going well". Doug saw through my lie and eventually I cracked. I told him I had run out of money and didn't have enough to pay for the next semester. To this day I don't know why I told him and no-one else. Doug asked me, "How much do you need to pay for your next semester?" I told him the figure—several hundred dollars (though to me it may as well have been a million). What he said next shocked me.

When we're desperate, our first instinct is to go into self-preservation mode. We hoard what we have, guarding it jealously. The last thing on our mind usually is generosity. If anyone understood this, it would have been Jesus. He grew up in a militarised zone. Jews living in Israel in His era were taxed up to their eyeballs and continually maligned by their Roman oppressors. So, when Jesus says things like "do not worry about your life, as to what you will eat; nor for your body, as to what you will put on" (Luke 12:22) and "sell your possessions and give to charity . . ." (v33), it must have come as a shock to His audience. It's one thing to tell a rich person to give up a portion of their wealth but to tell a poor person to sell their possessions and not worry about what they will eat or wear? It sounds insulting. This message of radical generosity likewise didn't prevent Jesus from being abused, persecuted and later murdered like a common criminal.

But there's good news—this was all part of the plan. Through allowing Himself to be mistreated, Jesus gave us the most profound gift: His life and eternal presence (the Holy Spirit). As Paul worked through this profound mystery, he penned the words, "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9).

Going back to that Sabbath with Doug; after thinking for a moment, he replied with a twinkle in his eye: "Well then, it's a good thing I deposited that sum of money into your account yesterday." I was stunned. Apparently, he'd asked my parents for my bank details and without telling me, had given me the exact amount I needed. Here I was stressing out when what I needed had already been provided for! I was incredibly grateful and thanks to his generosity I was able to finish the semester and later graduate.

This unexpected gift has stuck with me all these years later and has informed the way I think about the greatest gift we can all receive: the life-giving presence of Jesus. Doug's generosity reminded me that the best thing we can do with the gifts God has given us is to give them away. Whether it's a piece of literature like a *Signs of the Times* magazine, monetary blessing or a skill or gifting, God is calling us all to live like there is enough within His generous world and follow the example of the One who gave Himself away.

If you're not sure where to start, you're in luck. August is *Signs of the Times* month. Every year we celebrate one of the easiest ways to share Jesus—by subscribing or donating to *Signs of the Times*. It's a magazine that is designed to communicate the life-changing message of Jesus in an approachable and understandable form. Whether large or small, your contribution can help someone you may never meet this side of eternity discover the amazing love Jesus has for them. If you ask me, that's something worth supporting.

Visit [signsofthetimes.org.au](http://signsofthetimes.org.au) today and find a way to share Jesus simply.



INSIGHT:

## Champion at sharing Jesus

Brad Kemp  
Adventist Media CEO

During my first years in ministry I had the benefit of learning from Pastor Merv Tonkin who had been appointed as my internship supervisor. We would often meet under a tree in a park, have lunch together and talk about what I was doing in ministry. And I gained some great insights.

Now not everything he told me I necessarily did. For example, when Pastor Merv was pastoring in Port Hedland, he preached the same sermon three times in a row. Strange but true. He told me that when he got up to preach he was so strongly impressed that he would put aside the sermon he had prepared and preach the sermon from the previous week. It was only after the third time that it found its audience and brought a significant change in the life of one of the listeners.

But one of the things I did admire was the way Pastor Merv worked in his community. You see he was a champion at sharing Jesus. And the way he would do this was to start a *Signs* round. He would work his block, dropping off a *Signs* magazine and then after the third time he would go to the door, meet the people and ask if they were enjoying the magazine. If they did not want it he would move on and start the process again with someone else. Simple!

Pastor Merv met a lot of people, made a lot of friends and led a lot of people to Christ. All through a simple magazine called *Signs*. *Signs of the Times* magazine is the Church's front-line missionary tool that anyone can use to share Jesus. It can be put in a letterbox, left on the bus, put on a shop counter or given to a friend. Or if you don't feel you can do this there are many front-line ministries that need your support to provide literature (*Signs*) to people they are ministering to.

Pastor Merv taught me many things. But the one that stands out above the others was how easy it was to meet your neighbours and share Jesus through *Signs*. This month is *Signs* month and I invite you to subscribe to your mission magazine and start your own community ministry or support a ministry by donating to a *Signs* project. Why not make a difference and give it a try? It is easy as going to <[signsofthetimes.org.au](http://signsofthetimes.org.au)> and clicking on subscribe.



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More than 60 teens representing the nine local Australian conferences attended the event. [Credit: Charmaine Patel].



[Credit: Charmaine Patel].



[Credit: Charmaine Patel].

## Teen conference forms future church leaders

📍 Brisbane, Qld | Lorraine Atchia

More than 60 teens aged between 14 and 16, representing the nine local Australian conferences, attended the seventh CHOSEN, a national teen leaders conference held in Brisbane from July 4 to 8.

The team was grateful that most attendees were able to make it, as many flights were disrupted due to the floods in Sydney. Flight cancellations caused two teens to return home.

CHOSEN encourages local pastors and church leaders to nominate teenagers with potential leadership qualities to attend the program, where they are mentored, inspired and trained to become future leaders of the Church.

"CHOSEN is such a powerful week for everyone involved," said Pastor Jeff Parker, Youth Ministries director at the Australian Union Conference. "There is no doubt in my mind that the Church will benefit with these teens leading it, both now in their local setting, and in the future across the broader Church.

"Watching the Holy Spirit work in the teens' lives was very humbling. We all left with a sense of WOW. That was such a powerful week," added Pastor Parker.

Some of the topics that were presented at this year's event included connecting deeper with God, resilience, mental health, understanding your uniqueness and leadership development. The program also included powerful morning worships and inspiring sermons at night, which incorporated the North-pine Adventist School Chapel Band.

The program focuses on team building, networking, mentoring and having fun.

"It was so good. Words can't describe how good it was," stated one of the attendees, Danika Arrutchz from Aitkenvale church in the Northern Australian Conference. "I liked how it was focused on young people to bring out our leadership characteristics.

"When my pastor first approached me about CHOSEN, I was worried because I thought I wasn't a good candidate. But I am grateful he chose me because CHOSEN is a good way for teenagers to find their leadership poten-

tial, to work on it and build up these qualities," she added.

CHOSEN was first held in 2008 and has seen many teenagers from the earlier conferences become leaders in the Church. Two of these leaders returned to this year's program as mentors, one of whom was Eden Ashcroft, young adult coordinator in youth ministries at the Greater Sydney Conference. Ms Ashcroft attended the conference in 2012 when she was 14 years old.

When asked to go to CHOSEN as a teenager, Ms Ashcroft had only recently started attending the Seventh-day Adventist Church and was the only person in her family to attend. She didn't have many Adventist friends and didn't know much about the Church.

"CHOSEN was an awesome experience—it was the first time I was exposed to the wider Adventist Church, and I made lots of friends," she explained. "It was life-changing, making connections and meeting leaders in the Church.

"The conference was where I first felt the call to ministry and knew I wanted to be a pastor. I had never been to big camps or summer camps before CHOSEN, so it opened the door to what was out there and that there were other people my age who wanted to serve God too," added Ms Ashcroft.

She said going back to the conference in 2022 as a mentor was an amazing experience where she was able to watch the next group of young leaders.

"A lot of the teens ask themselves what they are doing at the conference, but there was a reason each of them was chosen. It's great to see the change over the week as the teens start to understand that they are able to be leaders. They might think they cannot do it, but they are encouraged that even though they are young, they still have a lot to offer God," Ms Ashcroft added.

CHOSEN will be held again in 2023, and then every two years after that.

The Australian Union Conference would like to encourage pastors to nominate teenagers in their church to be part of this life-changing experience.



Dr Daryl Murdoch.

## Long-time serving Australian Adventist education leader announces retirement

📍 Ringwood, Vic | Lorraine Atchia

Adventist Schools Australia (ASA) national director Dr Daryl Murdoch has announced his retirement at the end of the year, after 13 years in the role and 47 years of denominational employment—46 of those in Adventist education.

"It has been a privilege serving the Church as the leader of Adventist education in Australia. It is an honour I have never taken for granted," he said.

Under Dr Murdoch's leadership, there has been a strong partnership between ASA, school companies and schools, increased professionalism, and substantial enrolment growth in Adventist schools across Australia.

"Daryl has been an incredible leader. It has been my honour to stand beside him for the past four years," said Jacques Calais, ASA associate national director (identity and culture). "Beyond the professional advancements under Daryl's leadership, I think his legacy will

be his heart for people. He truly cares for his people."

ASA associate national director (quality assurance) Dr Jean Carter also spoke highly of Dr Murdoch, saying, "Daryl is a visionary and very driven to achieve the goals and strategic direction that, as a collective, we all agreed on. He has improved and professionalised the system."

"We are sad to see Daryl retire and leave Adventist Schools Australia," stated Australian Union Conference president Pastor Terry Johnson.

"He has transformed this vital ministry of the Church and made Adventist schools in Australia world leaders in curriculum and in how they operate to continually improve on what they are doing."

*If you'd like to send words of affirmation to Daryl, please forward your letter or 30-second video to <bronwynrowe@adventist.org.au> by Friday, August 12.*



Co-editors Beverly Christian and Peter Kilgour gift a copy of their new book *Revealing Jesus in the Learning Environment: Evidence and Impact* to Alicia Starr from Avondale Libraries. [Credit: Brenton Stacey].

## A "must read" for Christian educators

📍 Cooranbong, NSW | Brenton Stacey

The latest in a series of books about how educators reveal Jesus to students can help safeguard Christian education in a changing society, say its editors.

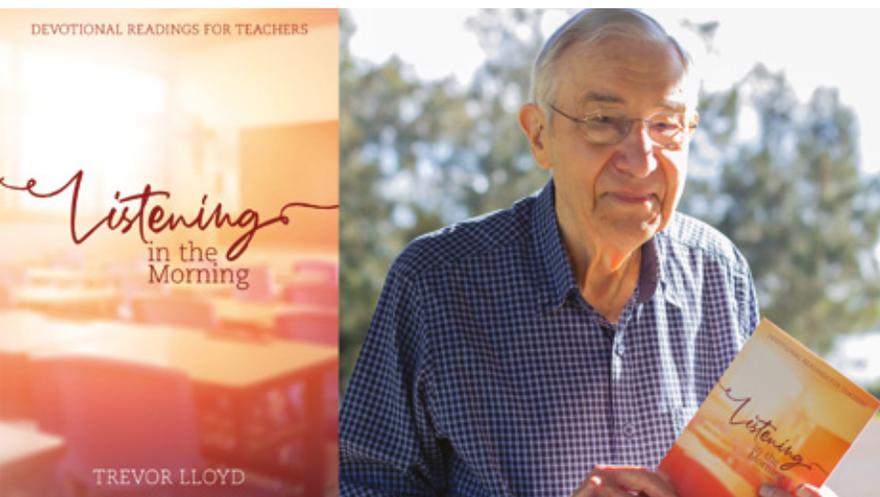
Christian education is "a light on a hill" but, if unexamined, "risks becoming irrelevant in a world where concepts of authority, knowledge and relationships are open to interpretation and where technology is restructuring the educational landscape", said Beverly Christian, co-editor of *Revealing Jesus in the Learning Environment: Evidence and Impact*. With an increasing focus on self, sidelining of biblical truth and reliance on online delivery of classes, "the calling of Christian educators to reveal Jesus is more crucial than ever".

Ms Christian and associate professor Peter Kilgour encourage readers to heed this call by compiling chapters that explore ideas and practices from historical, philosophical and practical perspectives. The context spans Christian

learning environments across primary and high schools and colleges and universities. The content, in the form of academic literature reviews, position and research papers, is in three parts.

Part one offers evidence and impact of the role teachers play in revealing Jesus. Part two presents the journey of the Pacific Group of Christian Schools as it reimagined teaching practice to reveal Jesus. Part three discusses the role of community in schools.

In her speech at the launch Ms Christian described editing the book as not only "excellent professional development" but also "a spiritual experience". Now retired, the former head of the School of Education and Science has revealed Jesus to students "her whole career", said Associate Professor Kilgour. *Revealing Jesus in the Learning Environment: Evidence and Impact* is available on Amazon.



Dr Trevor Lloyd with his new book, *Listening in the Morning*. [Credit: Brenton Stacey].

## Book inspires teachers to “reveal Jesus”

Warburton, Vic | Nathan Brown

Almost 5000 teachers in more than 400 Adventist schools across the South Pacific are receiving copies of a new devotional book intended to “invigorate and enthuse each teacher to better reveal Jesus”, according to Dr David McClintock, director of Adventist Education for the South Pacific Division (SPD). Written by experienced Adventist educator Dr Trevor Lloyd, *Listening in the Morning* features 80 devotional readings for teachers and its launch coincides with the 150th anniversary of the opening of the first Adventist school.

“The readings are simple, relevant and provide excellent reflective questions to facilitate great discussion for school staff worships anywhere in the South Pacific,” explained Dr McClintock. Copies of this new book will also be provided to teaching staff and some education students at Pacific Adventist University, Fulton College and Avondale University.

Dr Lloyd said the prompt for the book project came some years ago from then SPD Education director Dr Carol Tasker, but that the ideas, stories and reflections have been drawn from his more than 50 years “of thinking through the issues that face us as Christian parents and teachers.

The title—*Listening in the Morning*—is taken from Isaiah 50:4, which Dr Lloyd describes as a “scintillating passage directly dedicated to spiritually-motivated teachers. There we read that the Lord Himself is waiting each morning to waken the ears of those who are called to teach and to make their ministry effective.”

For Dr Lloyd, his book has a personal message for every Adventist teacher: “You matter. Your work counts,” he said. “Your tuning in to God’s Spirit each morning is a qualification of utmost importance for this heaven-ordained ministry.”

Coming from a project in the SPD and published by Signs Publishing, work is underway to share this book with education leaders and teachers around the Adventist world. According to Dr McClintock, *Listening in the Morning* fits well with this milestone year in Adventist education. “Our purpose in Adventist Education is to ‘Reveal Jesus’. This book serves as a strong reminder to our teachers how we best do that—with our own personal connection to God strong first.”

As well as being distributed in Adventist schools, *Listening in the Morning* is available now from Adventist bookshops in Australia and New Zealand, or online at <[bit.ly/Listeninginthemorning](http://bit.ly/Listeninginthemorning)>.

## making headlines

### App-controlled freight farm

AdventHealth Celebration is prioritising nutrition and sustainability through an innovative program called “Freight Farm”: a hydroponic farm inside a shipping container controlled through an app that can monitor and regulate the climate, watering, lights and more with the tap of a finger. The technology allows for a wide range of crops to grow in a small space, with minimal physical input. The harvest is available at the hospital’s cafe for hospital staff and guests.—**Southern Tidings**



### 100 per cent solar power

Dominican Adventist University (UNAD) has become the first higher education institution in the country to install a solar-power plant able to supply 100 per cent of its electricity, including the main campus and extension campus. “As an institution we are committed to caring for natural resources as part of our Adventist educational philosophy, as stewards of God,” said Dr José David Gómez, president of UNAD.—**IAD**

### Student crochet ministry

Students at Adventist College of Joinville in Brazil are crocheting blankets to help needy families and homeless people during winter. The activity also seeks to improve students’ attention to study, develop motor skills, and alleviate anxiety and depression.—**ANN**

### Vitamin D and dementia

A world-first study from the University of South Australia shows a direct link between dementia and a lack of vitamin D. Researchers found low levels of vitamin D were associated with lower brain volumes and an increased risk of dementia and stroke.—**UniSA**



## Fundraiser honoured

A simple ceremony at Nunawading church (Melbourne, Vic), recognised Erick van Schoonhoven for his outstanding dedication to raising funds for the new church building. In more than two decades Mr van Schoonhoven, now in his 90s, raised more than \$A250,000 for the project. His most successful-raising initiative was his now famous book sales at the church hall. "Every few months, the church hall was used to display and sell thousands of books that came from church members, deceased estates, excess stock from school libraries and other sources," said Nunawading church member Tony Campbell. To affirm and honour Mr van Schoonhoven for his contribution, the church named its library after him, attaching a plaque in honour of his work.—**Juliana Muniz**



## Sweet sound of generosity

The music program at Wairoonga Adventist School (Sydney, NSW) has received a significant boost following a donation of quality orchestral musical instruments. The generous donation was made by retired businessman Paul Stewart who was treated free of charge 37 years ago at Sydney Adventist Hospital. He remembers, "They never sent me a bill. All I was asked was, 'Who is your pastor?' It was Pastor Arthur Duffy, perhaps the most serene man I was ever fortunate to meet." Because of that generosity many years ago, Mr Stewart has likewise been generous to others as his own business flourished. Many more students at Wairoonga Adventist School will now have access to a range of instruments, enabling them to be involved in a flourishing music program with the establishment of a symphonic orchestra.—**Record staff**



## Healthy feeds

Developing an active ministry for students through the Adventists Students on Campus (ASOC) club, the Newcastle University Adventist Church, NSW, met the needs of hungry students during their exam period. Knowing students tend to neglect their health during that period, in order to study more for the upcoming exams, ASOC prepared and delivered free healthy homemade vegan lunches to students on June 8 and 15—the two most exam-heavy days.—**Lawson Walters**



## Hindi church

The Nadi Hindi church in Fiji was officially opened on July 3. Fiji Mission president Pastor Nasoni Lutunaliwa and secretary Pastor Epeli Saukuru attended the special occasion, officiating at the new church's dedication ceremony. The Mission representatives thanked the commitment of church ministers, the faithfulness of the Nadi Indian church members and the support of Nadi district church members.—**Fiji Mission Facebook**



## Women conquerors

Around 70 women aged between 15 and 80 gathered at Stuarts Point Convention Centre (NSW) for the Avondale Memorial Church women's retreat from June 3 to 5. The weekend-long program featured special messages, worship and a variety of activities.

Based on Romans 8:37, guest speaker Lea-Anne Smith's presentation, themed "More than Conquerors", highlighted the need for faith, hope and love in the current times. Psychologist Jessica Bishop's presentation, "Conquering with Balance", enabled a self-assessment of attendees' thinking styles.

Attendees also enjoyed worship led by Marcha Williams and a humorous play directed by Jessica Trevithick about Bible characters Deborah and Jael in Judges 4.

On Saturday night, participants, including Better Books and Foods and Women's Christian Temperance Union, promoted and sold their products, gifts and talents during a bazaar, after which the women conquerors' fashion parade provided attendees with many more laughs.

As a result of the retreat, three women requested Bible studies and others recommitted their lives to Jesus—\$A2000 in offerings was also collected during the program and sent to former women's ministries regional leader Barbara Parkins' African Kini Project. — **Alison Buckley**

## have news to share?

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



## Students' ministry

Morobe Adventist Students Association held a retreat program for all Adventist students around Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea, from July 6 to 10. Themed "Restoration through genuine forgiveness", the event gathered students from Huon Gulf, Fisika, Bulolo, Menyamy, Markham and Lae. Guest speakers for the retreat were Morobe Mission youth director Pastor William Uwa and school chaplain Pastor Micah Akui who urged the students to place soul-winning initiatives at the centre of students' ministry in public schools. Attendees were motivated and encouraged to become disciples for Jesus in non-Adventist schools. — **Doulos Ken**



## Children in focus

The central region of the South New Zealand Conference—formed by the Ashburton, Timaru and Oamaru churches—dedicated the months of June and July to starting their children's ministry focus. According to central region pastor Siao Si Kei, they made good progress with three churches managing to establish a regular children's Sabbath school. "In addition, there is now a small handful of youth regularly attending each of the churches, and we hope that this will continue to increase over time," said Pastor Kei. On June 10, the three churches gathered for a regional Sabbath to support their dreams for children and youth ministries. South Pacific Division secretary Pastor Mike Sikuri attended the occasion along with a group of supporters from Christchurch. "We have big dreams for our region, and can't wait to see what else God has in store for us as we continue to follow His leading," said Pastor Kei. — **Juliana Muniz**

REVELATION  
TODAY

RE

## Harvest Victoria and beyond

Harvest Victoria is a five-year initiative run by the Victorian Conference in partnership with the Australian Union Conference, the South Pacific Division, It is Written International and church members throughout our state to share their faith with others. This strategy included prayer and revival, training of church members to use their gifts in outreach activities and events, a state-wide evangelistic series, church planting and digital discipleship. With the end of Harvest Victoria in sight, Andrew Jasper, director of Health, Stewardship and Personal Ministries took a moment to reflect on the past four-and-a-half years and talk about his new plans for outreach.

### What are three things you are grateful for as the initiative wraps up at the end of the year?

I'm grateful that God is changing lives. More than 1000 people came to the series of meetings held by John Bradshaw and Eric Flickinger from *It Is Written*. As a result, 362 people pledged their faith to Jesus and joined the Adventist Church throughout 2019.

Christ is answering our prayers for more labourers. We had more than 200 people trained and sent out in preparation for those meetings. After the series, members reported an increase in confidence and ability to share their faith. We now have a Bible Worker Trainer in our Conference who continues the work of preparing members. The Lord of the Harvest is faithful.

I'm thankful that this strategy is really a movement to normalise the gains of the past four-and-a-half years. For instance, Pastor Roy Kim, who was appointed as our church plant coordinator, recently became director of the newly formed Church Planting department. This gives church planting a more sustainable future.

### What else are you looking forward to?

I am passionate about one of the remaining components of Harvest Victoria—the development of a Missionary Training

Centre. We are currently raising funds for this in cooperation with Cedarvale Health and Lifestyle Retreat. The Abide Health Estate is a property in the beautiful alpine forests northeast of Melbourne that was built as a residential health retreat and health and ministry training centre.

### What is the potential of this health and ministry training centre?

Our vision is for members to be equipped in practical lines of missionary work. There will be courses in health, welfare, literature and personal ministries. Being trained at an integrated wellness retreat will teach the blended nature of health and gospel missionary work. From basic remedies to Bible workers, we envision launching a network of active labourers throughout our churches and communities.

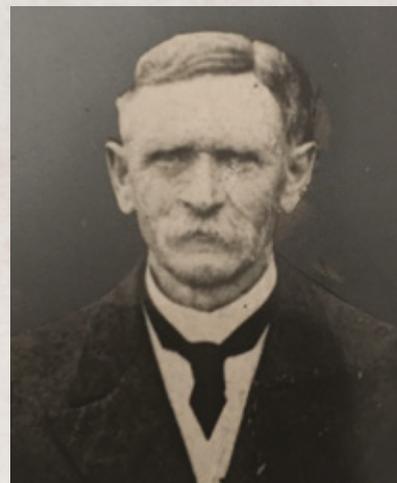
A heartfelt thanks to each one who has prayed, worked and funded the Harvest Victoria initiative. This couldn't have been done without countless people and various church entities contributing their time, talent and treasure. One of my favourite quotes that speaks of the entire project is from *Christ's Object Lessons*, p120. Speaking of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit:

"The church beheld converts flocking to her from all directions. Believers were reconverted. Sinners reunited with Christians in seeking the pearl of great price . . . One interest prevailed. One object swallowed up all others. All hearts beat in harmony. The only ambition of believers was to reveal the likeness of Christ's character, and to labour for the enlargement of His kingdom."

You can learn more about Revive Abide at <https://reviveabide.com.au>.

**Kymerley McMurray**

Communications coordinator, Victoria Conference.



# Early South Pacific Missionary

John Martin Cole (1862–1937) was an early missionary to the South Pacific, a conference president in Australia, New Zealand, and the West Indies, and a minister in the United States, mainly in the north-west. John was born in Ballybay, Ireland, on April 3, 1862. In the spring of 1873, he emigrated to America with his family and was naturalised in Albion, Nebraska, in 1879.

Immediately prior to his naturalisation John, together with his parents and sister, had accepted the Seventh-day Adventist faith. He began his ministry in Oregon when he was 20. As a young man he had learned the carpentry trade and became well known as a minister who built houses of worship.

On November 30, 1890, John married Fanny Stanger Clark in Battle Creek, Michigan. Fanny was born in Worthington, Iowa, in 1868. Her family later moved to Nebraska where, like John's family, they accepted the Adventist faith.

The Coles' overseas mission service began in 1893 when they embarked for the South Pacific on the mission schooner *Pitcairn*, sailing from San Francisco on January 17, arriving at Pitcairn Island a month later without incident. During the stop-over John accompanied a few others to nearby Mangareva Island and sold Bibles to the few inhabitants whose Scriptures were earlier burned by a priest. Leaving Pitcairn Island, the vessel sailed on to Tahiti, Rurutu Island, Rarotonga, Nuie Island, Tonga, Fiji and Norfolk Island. On September 9, 1893, John and Fanny disembarked at Norfolk Island to strengthen an interest that had developed among the relatives of the Pitcairners.

On Norfolk Island John visited all the families and, with some assistance, reconstructed the stone chapel that had fallen into disrepair in one corner of the former convict jail. On May 22, 1895, he formally organised the small group of believers into the Norfolk Island church and they continued to meet in the chapel John had rebuilt. A few weeks later John and Fanny transferred to Fiji with their infant daughter Ruita who had been born on Norfolk Island. The name Ruita was the islander equivalent of Ruth.

In Fiji John struggled to grow the mission. He initially established himself at Levuka on Ovalau Island but the site proved to be unsatisfactory because it was too remote from the principal centres of population. After 12 months at Levuka he hired a small boat to transport his family and goods to the

capital, Suva. It was a slow and gruelling trip. They slept at night under tarpaulins while it rained heavily. The captain was such a poor navigator that several times the vessel became stuck on coastal mud banks and had to be poled off to safety while John manned the helm. Soon after settling in Suva he reported with renewed optimism that his new home was almost completed and his family was in "usual health".

On May 5, 1897, Fanny gave birth to a baby boy in Suva. They named him Tavita, the Fijian form of David. Within weeks John and Fanny made the decision to return to America with their young children.

John took his family back to familiar Oregon. He served as an ordained minister and executive committee member in the Western Oregon Conference until 1909 when he returned to the South Pacific.

John served as president of the South Australian Conference from 1909–1911, then New Zealand Conference, 1911–1915. Ten years were then spent as president of the New South Wales Conference with offices located in Sydney. His son, Tavita, was part of his team as a licensed minister during the final four years of John's term before the entire family returned to America in 1925. John and Fanny did not, however, return to anything like a permanent home. Almost every year after John returned to the United States he transferred to a different locality, going wherever a congregation needed his ministry and including two more years overseas as president of the Leeward Islands Conference, with head offices at St John's, Antigua.

On his birthday, April 3, 1937, John officially retired at the age of 75. However, he did not stop preaching. On May 22 he conducted the Sabbath service at the Meadow Glade church, north of Vancouver, and in the evening gave a slide projector lecture. The following day he felt unwell and passed away that same evening. Four months later, on September 27, 1937, Fanny passed away in the Portland Sanitarium, Oregon. Both John and Fanny were laid to rest in a cemetery near Vancouver. At the time of their deaths Ruita was supervising nurse at the Paradise Valley Sanitarium and Tavita and his family were in ministry at Eugene, Oregon.

**Milton Hook/ESDA**

Senior Research Fellow, Avondale University.

# I'm sorry! We have to break up . . .

**A**t the moment, I feel like I am breaking up with the church. The good old line "it's not you, it's me" does not quite work in this situation, as I do feel there is an issue with the church. All my life God has been working on me, just like everyone else. I have been growing, maturing in my walk with Jesus and my understanding of what He wants from me, and what I want from Him as well. It's been a massive step to realise that, while I have matured, changed and grown, the church has not. My needs have changed and the church simply does not meet them anymore. That's why we're breaking up.

To me it seems the church has forgotten it's core business, which naturally enough is Jesus Christ. In a church that is obsessed with knowledge we promote the knowledge, but at the expense of our core business. Let me explain. If Jesus is the core business then 80-90 per cent of the sermons should be on Jesus. But in the past 18 months or so, I have heard maybe 5-10 per cent of sermons on Jesus. The majority of sermons I hear today in the church, especially in more conservative ones, are on added extras. These extras are important, but they cannot save you by themselves. These extras include prophecy, the Ten Commandments, Ellen White, the Sabbath, state of the dead and so on. These topics by themselves cannot save you—but they are important to give you a greater understanding of Jesus. But only when these sermons tie the topic back to Him in a major way. Too many times I've heard sermons on the extras with virtually no connection back to Jesus, the core of our church. Too many times have I been assaulted by knowledge but not blessed by Jesus.

There needs to be a balance in everything we do, including church. There needs to be a balance between knowledge and love. But at the moment, I am definitely not feeling the love in our church. It is the same with evangelism. When we say that word, Adventists immediately think of prophecy seminars. Back in the day when most people were Christians and knew

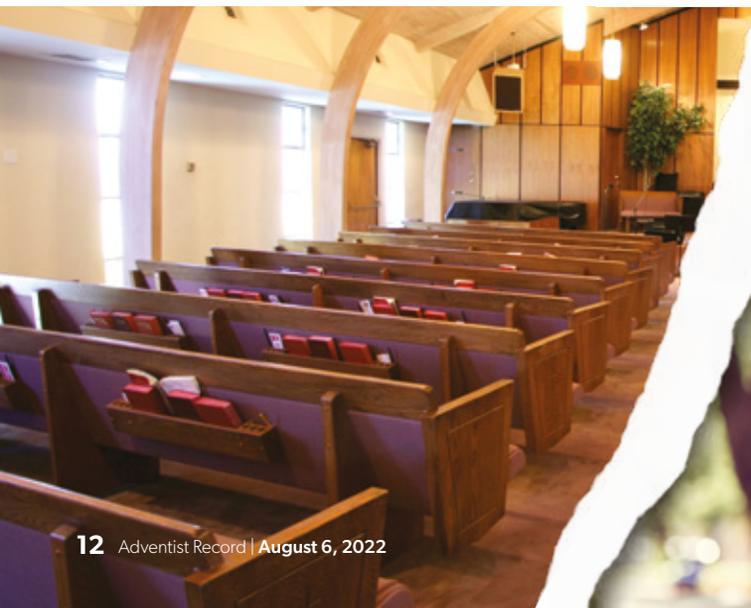
their Bibles, prophecy was a very effective way of bringing people into the church. These days we are dealing with people who have no idea of the Bible, no basic understanding of who Jesus is. All they know is there is something missing from their lives. They aren't looking for a prophecy seminar, they want and need a Jesus seminar. They live empty, purposeless lives, surrounded by guilt and shame over the many mistakes they have made in their lives. They don't need prophecy, Ellen White or the health message; they urgently need Jesus in their lives. The others can come afterwards, but Jesus always needs to come first. But not only the Gentiles need to hear this message, but also those of us still in the church. We desperately need to hear more about His love, His saving grace, our real home in heaven, rather than just the extras.

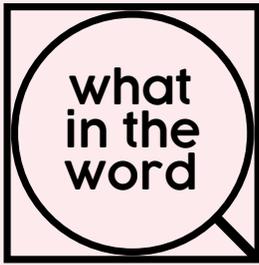
While it may seem I just enjoy bashing Adventism, I want to see us succeed and fulfil Christ's mission for us to spread the gospel to all the world. So we need to know where we have problems before we can fix them. More importantly we need to acknowledge these problems and work as a church to bring back balance into our services. We need to re-examine what is important in the church, promote our core business and supplement that with our extras, not the other way around. We urgently need a love transfusion back into our church; otherwise we will become more and more irrelevant to our members and the wider world around us. As stated in John 3:16, only believing in Jesus allows us to not perish but have everlasting life. Let's take this verse to heart and bring it back to the core of our churches.

So maybe you can change, maybe there is a future in this relationship after all . . .

**Simon Morton**

lives in Tasmania with his wife, kids and two cat overlords. His ongoing journey with God has been dramatic, traumatic and frequently hilarious. God has an amazing sense of humour.





presented by  
Avondale University



## Save/Heal

**verb:** σώζω | sōzō [sode'-zo] Greek

A Greek word can sometimes have several meanings that are translated by different English words. Take, for example, the Greek word *sōzō*. This word means “heal” but it also means rescue or “save”. Translators, of course, have to choose only one option when they translate, but First Century readers of works that make up the Greek New Testament would have been alive to all the different possible meanings of words that they were reading, including the different possible meanings of *sōzō*.

Take, for example, the saying of Jesus that grew out of the incident when the woman with a flow of blood touched Him (Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:43-48). The woman had been suffering from a continuous flow of blood for 12 years (Luke 8:43). She thought that Jesus might have the power to heal her, and sure enough, when she touched Him, the flow of blood ceased and she was healed. Jesus stops in the crowd and asks, “who touched me?” and the woman confesses. He then says these important words to the woman: “your faith has healed you”, and in doing so, uses the perfect tense of the verb *sōzō*, which is translated into English as “has saved.” But the Greek-speaking reader also knows that the word *sōzō* means “to save” as well as meaning “to heal”. Thus, the Greek-speaking reader would read, “your faith has healed/saved you”.

There are several important things to note here. The first is that Jesus is at pains to make sure that His followers know the basis of His miracles: they are based on “faith”, on belief in God and His goodness, not on some magic that comes from touching Jesus and His clothing. Second, according to the rules of purity, Jesus should have become unclean when the woman touched Him (Leviticus 15:25-27). Instead, in being healed of her affliction, the woman became clean. In this and other stories in the New Testament (eg Mark 5:1-43), Jesus makes the unclean clean! Finally, every miracle of healing in the New Testament is also a testament of Jesus’ ability to save. He can save those who are ill from their sickness. He can save those who are lost in sin. As Paul says, “if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9, RSV; “will be saved” is a translation of the future passive tense of *sōzō*).

**Robert McIver, PhD**

Professor, Avondale Seminary  
Director Scripture Spirituality and Society Research Centre  
Editor, Avondale Academic Press.





# IS GOD PLAYING DIVINE HIDE-AND-SEEK WITH YOU?

What is God playing at? (part 2)

**T**he kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field" (Matthew 13:44).

In Part 1 we discovered that at perhaps the darkest time of his life Jacob encounters God at Bethel. And like the man who stumbles on the hidden treasure in Jesus' parable, Jacob is now full of hope that this treasure of a personal God can become his own special possession. Of course, we cannot "own" God, yet we can "have" a friend. To have a friend is to have a real relationship with that person. So, in Jesus' parable, buying the field to possess the treasure of the kingdom of God is a metaphor for moving beyond knowing that God is wonderful—a treasure—to relating with God, in the same way, we would speak of having a friend.

Jacob keeps "playing the game" of divine hide-and-peek for the next 20 years—now with hopefulness and expectancy in God because he has his Bethel story. He has seen the treasure. He has hidden the treasure in his heart. Could it be that this treasure can truly become his? What does he discover is the

true purpose of this game of divine hide-and-peek?

We pick up the story where Jacob has left Bethel to live with his uncle Laban. Jacob works hard. He is motivated. Jacob deals in love and marries twice. He makes deals with Laban to grow his flocks and herds so that he can realize what his God has promised, and he complains to Laban about the 10 times Laban has changed his pay arrangements. Finally, Jacob learns what it feels like to be tricked rather than be the trickster. I am sure that every challenging situation Jacob encountered in these 20 years brought to mind the deal he made with God. Was God's promise of the treasure he found in Bethel a sure thing? Or was God a trickster like his uncle Laban and like what he had once been? How Jacob longed for the promised treasure to be his own.

Then in another dream, God calls out to Jacob, saying, "I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar and where you made a vow to me. Now leave this land at once and go back to your native land" (Genesis 31:13). Just as in the parable of the hidden treasure in Matthew 13, it is time for Jacob to make the hidden treasure his own. It is time for Jacob to "purchase the

field with all he has". Remember that the cultural understanding at this time was that the boundaries of a country marked the jurisdiction of the god of that country. "Thus, the location of temples of the god of the land often designated the boundaries of the national territory. For example, as recorded in I Kings 12:29, King Jeroboam built temples at Dan, the northern border of Israel, and at Bethel, the southern border of Israel. And it was evidently believed, before the ascendancy of monotheism, that to leave the native land of one's nation and dwell in another was to worship the god of the land of one's new residence, as seems to be implied by I Samuel 26:17-20."<sup>1</sup>

So, for Jacob to truly make the relationship with his God real, he needs to go back to the land his god had promised to him—to the land of his God!

Right here is a beautiful part of the story I do not want you to miss. It is an insight I missed for years! Jacob knows that he needs his wages from Laban to have the means to return to the land God has promised to him and his descendants. So he makes a deal for his wages. He says to Laban, "Let me go through all your flocks today and remove from them every speckled or spotted sheep, every dark-coloured lamb and every spotted or speckled goat. They will be my wages" (Genesis 30:32).

How did this deal work out? It worked out very well indeed, but not in the way we might think. Laban was a trickster, a characteristic that evidently ran in the family. Laban agreed to the deal, then "that same day he removed all the male goats that were streaked or spotted, and all the speckled or spotted female goats (all that had white on them) and all the dark-coloured lambs, and he placed them in the care of his sons. Then he put a three-day journey between himself and Jacob, while Jacob continued to tend the rest of Laban's flocks" (Genesis 30:35,36).

Things do not look good for Jacob. How deflated Jacob must have felt. But, to everyone's surprise, Laban's flocks nevertheless "bore young that were streaked or speckled or spotted" (Genesis 30:39).

So the angel of God first reminds Jacob that it's time to claim the promise and head back to the promised land. And here's the insight I had missed for years—the angel then reminds Jacob that the surprising results of the livestock breeding program that thwarted Laban's actions were God's actions and not Jacob's. So, the hiding God sets up an opportunity for Jacob to find the treasure at Bethel, then acts to provide the purchase price Jacob needs to make the promised land his own—the land of his God. How awesome is that!

There remains one last obstacle: Jacob's brother, Esau. Jacob must pass through his brother's land but remembers the situation that caused him to flee his home in the first place. Jacob divides his herds and people and gives them instructions about what to say when they encounter Esau. "When Esau asks: 'Whom do you belong to, and where are you going, and who owns all these animals in front of you?' you are to say, 'They belong to your servant Jacob. They are a gift sent to my lord Esau, and he is coming behind us'" (Genesis 32:17).

Then the story comes to a surprising climax:

*That night, Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two*

*female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. Then the man said, 'Let me go, for it is daybreak.' But Jacob replied, 'I will not let you go unless you bless me.' The man asked him, 'What is your name?'*

*'Jacob', he answered.*

*Then the man said, 'Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome.'*

*Jacob said, 'Please tell me your name.'*

*But he replied, 'Why do you ask my name?' Then he blessed him there (Genesis 32:22-29).*

For 20 years, the memory of Bethel had encouraged Jacob to make the treasure of relationship with his God his own. Now Jacob was ready. The kingdom of heaven had always been ready. God's call acted like falling dominos that triggered a beautiful pattern of blessing that was to ripple outwards through humanity for eternity. Twenty years was long enough. Jacob now knew what he wanted. Jacob had sent all he had ahead of him to "buy the field that contained the treasure". Once again Jacob was alone. At Bethel, Jacob marvelled and wondered. This time Jacob wrestled. He wrestled with God until he received the blessing. His name was changed from Jacob to Israel. Why? Because Israel means "Wrestles with God", or "Triumphant with God". Why? Because Jacob now has experiential knowledge of how to deepen relationships.

Like Jacob, have you run from the consequences of stupid things you have done that have caused you and your family great pain? I have. There is good news! God is not hiding from you or me. God is eager to play a divine game of hide-and-seek with you so that you indeed find the treasure, first to inspire hope, and then the adventure continues until you wrestle to make the treasure of relationship with the creator God yours to keep—forever.

Such a treasure will bless you in ways you never thought possible and will overflow to bless the lives of all those with whom you come into contact.

Are you courageous enough to play this game of Divine Hide-and-Seek? Then why not shout out, "Yes, God I am willing! Let the game begin!"

Read Part 1: "Look who is hiding" in the July 30 issue of *Adventist Record* or online at <[record.adventistchurch.com/](http://record.adventistchurch.com/)>.

1. Grosby SE. Once Again, Nationality and Religion. *Genealogy*. 2019; 3(3):48. <<https://doi.org/10.3390/genealogy3030048>>, cited 21/03/2022.

**Craig Mattner**

teacher of mathematics and photography,  
Prescott College Southern,  
Adelaide, SA.



# Three reasons why we should stop shouting at our kids

I'm sorry I shouted at you yesterday. I lost it when you started banging the sharp tips of your new coloured pencils on the hard tabletop. I'd told you numerous times to be gentle with your things and that pencils are for paper and not anywhere else—not that that's a good reason to shout at you.

I know the real reason for your behaviour: You wanted me to pay attention to you, to play with you. But instead, both Mummy and Daddy were trying to work from home, looking at their computer screens and not at you.

I forget you're only three and still learning about independent play. And that it's particularly hard when Mummy and Daddy are in the same room as you. Why would we be interested in anything else but you?

And so when the nice asking, the pleading and the whinging didn't work, you thought banging the pencils might.

It caught my attention, but I'm sure it wasn't in the way you had expected. I took your pencils away and I shouted at you. Towering over you, as tears streamed down your face, I shouted at you.

I'm sorry you have the sad "privilege" of having a shouty mum. It's never what I wanted to be, never what I thought I would be. I'm not a shouty person. Even when your dad and I disagree, we may speak animatedly, but we've never shouted at each other. I'm not even the type of person who would assertively tell someone to go to the back if they jumped in front of me in a queue.

Yet, I shout at you. My precious, precious child. My love, my light.

And I see myself in you. I see that you've learned to shout when you're angry because your friend has snatched your toy, when you're frustrated because your blocks aren't stacking up the way you want them to, when you're upset because Mummy and Daddy aren't listening to you.

You shout. Because you've seen me shout.

I try to teach you to handle your anger, but I know I'm a hypocrite. I am your first teacher and I've taught you how to shout.

I'm sorry I'm a shouty mum. I certainly don't deserve the flowers you picked for me while you were on a walk

with Daddy later that afternoon. It's why I burst into tears when you handed them to me, and why I cried even more when you tried to hold me in your tiny arms—the way I do when you're sad. When I apologised for shouting, you accepted it and forgave me wholeheartedly. You have so much love and good in you.

I'm sorry I shouted at you yesterday. Today is a new day and I will try better.

## The effects of yelling at your kids

Yelling at children—especially younger kids—appears to be effective. They stop whatever they're (not meant to be) doing and start obeying you.

As Collett Smart, Mums At The Table's resident psychologist, observes, "[Parents] are human and there will be days we will find ourselves exhausted or overwhelmed and our emotions can be a little frayed. Then, when little people don't follow an instruction or a request, we can snap at them in the hope that it jolts them into action."

Even then, why are experts recommending we reserve yelling only for when we need to protect them from



impending harm or threat (such as when they're about to run into oncoming traffic)?

1. It's a short-term solution

While yelling may indeed produce an immediate result, it doesn't actually address the behavioural problem. In fact, a study on 13-year-olds discovered that the yelling resulted in increased levels of bad behaviour the following year.

2. They stop listening

Imagine someone twice your size, face contorted in anger and speaking to you in a loud voice. Surely the only thing you want to do is run away and hide. Even worse, it simply teaches the child to fear you.

3. They yell back

Dr Laura Markham is a clinical psychologist and author of *Peaceful Parent, Happy Kids: How to Stop Yelling and Start Connecting*. "Yelling scares kids. It makes them harden their hearts to us. And when we yell, kids go into fight, flight or freeze, so they stop learning whatever we're trying to teach. What's more, when we yell, it trains kids not to listen to us until we raise our voice. And it trains them to yell back," she writes on her website.

### The silver lining

In my desperation to assure myself I haven't done my son irreparable damage, I came across an interview with Dr Kyle Pruet, a child psychiatrist. One thing he said gave me hope:

"[Thinking you may have done long-lasting damage by yelling at your kid is] a somewhat narcissistic view of parenting. Because there are tons of other forces at work including their own neural-developmental progress."

Ms Smart agrees, pointing out that "kids don't need a perfect mother. Trying to be perfect can cause our children to believe that making mistakes means you are a failure. Rather, making mistakes means an opportunity to learn and grow and change—even for adults."

While we really shouldn't be yelling at our kids, it's what we do after we do (because let's face it, we probably will at one point or another) that matters.

"If we can model apologising when we have done the wrong thing and tell our children the steps we will take to improve and change our behaviour the

next time, they learn about growth," says Ms Smart.

It would seem like the saving grace with shouting at him is the fact I have always apologised to him after, explaining to him my reasons for doing so. Armed with my own determination to stop being a shouty mum and Ms Smart's suggestions below, however, I hope I won't have to ask for forgiveness again any time soon.

## 8 ways to stop yelling at your kids

L R Knost, award-winning author of many gentle parenting books, says, "When little people are overwhelmed by big emotions, it's our job to share our calm, not join their chaos." This isn't always simple, easy or something we might always do, but it could be something we work toward.

Ms Smart's strategies include:

### 1. Know your triggers

This can come in the form of being late, feeling tired, or a noisy or messy environment. Recognising what triggers you to shout can often help you plan how you could do something different the next time.

### 2. Remember they are only being children

Keep reminding yourself that your children are not purposely trying to annoy you. Check appropriate developmental behaviours to be sure that you are not expecting more than a child is capable of doing. They are being children and still learning to control themselves and their emotions. Remember that children can become quite afraid and shaken by their own outbursts.

### 3. Find a better time

Trying to talk to a child who is having a meltdown can cause stress to rise in mums too. So waiting until your child has settled can be a better time to talk, make a request or give an instruction.

### 4. Take a break

If you need some space and need to go into a bathroom, your bedroom or the garden to breathe and give yourself a few minutes before responding, that's okay too.

### 5. Ignore the judgements

If your child melts down in public, remind yourself that many mothers are standing in silent solidarity with you,

thinking, *It's OK mum, I've been there*. Ignore the thoughts and judgements in your own head about being a bad parent, because those can cause your own stress levels to escalate.

### 6. Do more good than bad

For every tricky moment with your child, try to do two loving and caring gestures or activities. Remind yourself that you are doing a good job by writing these times down somewhere, to remember them.

### 7. Make a note

Write down the times you do well in handling something that triggered frustration in you and how you did that. Then keep trying to replicate more of that.

### 8. Talk to someone

Find a friend you can call or vent to or bounce parenting strategies off of. Sometimes hearing ourselves think out loud can help us work out what our child needs from us.

## How to get your kid to listen to you

Often, we yell because we find that our child isn't listening to us. Ms Smart has some suggestions on how we can get a child to really listen:

- Getting down to your child's level
- Touching them quietly on the arm
- Looking at them in the eyes
- Asking them to look at you
- Speaking in a low calm voice
- Switching off any device that is an added distraction
- Sitting near your child (so they know they are safe) but not intervening until they have begun to settle
- Giving your child some space. If you know they are safe but they (and you) settle better on their own, you could walk out of the room and say, "I'll be just here next door when you're ready."
- Always hug and make things right as soon as your child is ready.

Son, I'm sorry I shouted at you yesterday, but I'm trying to do better. I now have strategies to do better and you'll know just how much I love you.

And, I'm sorry I shouted at you yesterday.

**Melody Tan**

project manager of Mums At The Table.  
She lives in Sydney, NSW.



# Quinoa and pear breakfast bowl

 Serves 4  Prep 10  Cook 20

The goodness of quinoa and seasonal pears make this one-pot breakfast perfect for cold mornings.

## Ingredients

1 cup quinoa, rinsed  
2 cups So Good™ Almond Milk Unsweetened or milk of choice  
2 ½ cups water  
Pinch of cinnamon  
Zest from 1 lemon  
8 prunes, pitted and chopped  
4 pears, cored and diced  
4 Weet-Bix™, crushed  
¼ cup pistachios, roughly chopped

## Method

1. Place quinoa, almond milk, water, cinnamon, lemon zest and prunes into a large pot and stir to combine. Add pears but do not stir again.
2. Bring mixture to the boil, cover and immediately reduce heat to very low. Cook for 20 minutes.
3. Remove pan from heat and stir to combine all ingredients. Mix through Weet-Bix and pistachios.
4. Divide quinoa porridge into bowls and serve hot.

## Tips

- Porridge can be served with a drizzle of honey and a dollop of unsweetened yoghurt.
- We kept the skin on our pears, but you can peel before cooking if preferred.

## Nutritional Information (per serving)

ENERGY	CALORIES	PROTEIN	FAT	SATURATES	CARBOHYDRATE
1540kJ	367	11g	9g	1.1g	59g
SUGARS	FIBRE	CALCIUM	SODIUM	IRON	POTASSIUM
23g	9.1g	155mg	93mg	4.7	735mg



## Food in Focus

*Lemons*

While you may not find yourself eating lemons in large quantities due to their sour taste, lemons are a good source of vitamin C, so get squeezing!

### What are the benefits of vitamin C?

The vitamin C content of lemons helps support immunity and can help our bodies absorb iron from plant foods like green veggies, legumes and whole grains.

You can't store vitamin C in your body, so you need to make sure you are getting a good daily dose. A squeeze of lemon over your meal also helps to bring out the flavours and is a good substitute for salt when you need to cut back.

### What's the best way to store them?

When choosing lemons, look for ones that are bright yellow and feel heavy for their size. If your lemon has soft or brown spots on the skin, best to avoid them. Once home, keep them at room temperature. They will last for a week this way. You can also pop them in the fridge and they will stay fresh for several weeks.



## Recipe of the Week

Subscribe to receive delicious plant-based recipes straight to your inbox:  
[sanitarium.com.au/subscribe](http://sanitarium.com.au/subscribe) or [sanitarium.co.nz/subscribe](http://sanitarium.co.nz/subscribe)

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# Conversations

## Colloquial or formal?

Thanks once again for the *Adventist Record*. I was interested to note the increasing shift towards colloquialism in the "Have Your Say" column, in your choice to use "alright" rather than "all right". Both are accepted, of course, but as a former English teacher I prefer to see the more formal version in print! Just having my say!

**Shirley Tarburton, Vic**

## Read *Record* abroad

Hi guys. This is Jim Zyderveld now living a good part of the year in Mongolia. Just wanna say thanks for *Adventist Record* online [weekly newsletter]. Love keeping up with happenings in South Pacific Division etc.

Bless you all in your parts to make it happen.

**Jim Zyderveld, Mongolia**

## Nothing has changed

About 40 years ago I can remember writing a letter to the editor almost identical to the recent one by Ethel Sayers ("Acknowledgement", Have your say, July 2)

commenting on how no recognition is given to the ministers' wives in *Adventist Record* articles. Sadly NOTHING has changed!!!

**Elle Gray, via email**

*Editor's note:* We've heard your concerns and we are committed to chasing up those details, even when they are not included in the source material we receive. We agree that a pastor's family are an important support and help in their ministry.

## Signs feedback

I am very pleased with the [July] issue of the *Signs of the Times* magazine. I have often wished there were more stories that Indigenous people could relate to. There are many Indigenous Australians in my town and I like to establish contact with them in as many ways as I can.

So this month, my usual *Signs* recipients have missed out! Instead, I visited Indigenous people and the magazines were received very well.

**Julia Chapman, via email**

## Record Live

### Chat with the SPD president Pastor Glenn Townend (July 6 livestream)

#### Very topical subject

The [I Will Go Ride] cycling journey and reason for the event [in the lead up to the General Conference session] was very topical.

The Signs Publishing Company staff and former staff would be proud of that event.

When [I was] part of that business, every morning the one who was listed to pray, prayed for the literature evangelist whose name appeared on the board.

Glenn's story makes all the above so worthwhile.

**Terry Atkins, SA**

#### God moments

Powerful testimony of how God places His people for opportunities to share of His love.

Loving these "God Moments"—random but appointed. Thank you *Talatala* [Pastor] for sharing

**Marika Yalimawai Jnr, Fiji**

# HELLO KIDS!



## BROTHER FOR SALE

One day, all of Joseph's older brothers were out in the countryside taking care of the family's sheep. Jacob told Joseph to go check on his brothers, and come back and tell him how they were doing. While Joseph was still a long way off, his brothers saw him coming, wearing his fancy coat, a gift from their father. The brothers felt angry at Joseph. One of the brothers, named Judah, came up with an idea: they could sell Joseph as a slave. That way, the brothers could get rid of Joseph and make some money at the same time.

### MEMORY VERSE MATHS CHALLENGE

Solve the sums below, then use this key: 2=S, 3=A, 4=T, 9=L, 10=F, 11=O, 12=E, 14=H, 15=N, to find the corresponding letters.

Maths challenge grid with 11 boxes, each containing a number in a circle and arrows pointing to other circles with mathematical operations:

- Box 1: 13 in circle, arrow to empty circle with  $-7$ , arrow to pink circle with  $+1$ , arrow from pink circle to empty circle with  $-8$ .
- Box 2: 2 in circle, arrow to red circle with  $+ \dots$ , arrow to 11 in circle with  $+ \dots$ , arrow from 11 in circle to empty circle with  $+0$ .
- Box 3: 10 in circle, arrow to yellow circle with  $+5$ , arrow to 5 in circle with  $- \dots$ , arrow from 5 in circle to empty circle with  $+ \dots$ .
- Box 4: 8 in circle, arrow to pink circle with  $+4$ , arrow to empty circle with  $+7$ , arrow from empty circle to pink circle with  $-3$ .
- Box 5: 5 in circle, arrow to empty circle with  $+4$ , arrow to red circle with  $-3$ , arrow from red circle to empty circle with  $+7$ .
- Box 6: 1 in circle, arrow to yellow circle with  $+ \dots$ , arrow to 11 in circle with  $+ \dots$ , arrow from 11 in circle to empty circle with  $-7$ .
- Box 7: 4 in circle, arrow to empty circle with  $-4$ , arrow to yellow circle with  $+6$ , arrow from yellow circle to empty circle with  $- \dots$ .
- Box 8: empty circle, arrow to 8 in circle with  $-7$ , arrow to 11 in circle with  $- \dots$ , arrow from 11 in circle to empty circle with  $-$ .
- Box 9: empty circle, arrow to 7 in circle with  $+ \dots$ , arrow to pink circle with  $+6$ , arrow from pink circle to empty circle with  $-2$ .
- Box 10: 4 in circle, arrow to yellow circle with  $-2$ , arrow to 8 in circle with  $+ \dots$ , arrow from 8 in circle to empty circle with  $- \dots$ .
- Box 11: pink circle, arrow to 17 in circle with  $-5$ , arrow to empty circle with  $- \dots$ , arrow from empty circle to 17 in circle with  $+11$ .

Place the letters in the circles above into the lines below and solve the Memory Verse.

"An \_\_\_\_\_ witness tells the truth, but a \_\_\_\_\_ witness tells lies" (Proverbs 12:17).



## Weddings

### WINCHESTER—TAKEDA.

Geoffrey James Winchester, son of Ian and Margaret Winchester, (Brisbane, Qld), and Yu Takeda, daughter of Hiroshi and Junko Takeda (Japan), were married on 27.6.22 at the Springwood church (Brisbane, Qld). They were introduced by a mutual friend. They will live in Brisbane.

Bob Possingham



**HUDSON—JONES.** Kevin Hudson and Dafne Jones (nee Rivera) were married on 9.7.22 in the garden at 636 Morayfield Rd, Burpengary, Qld. Friends and family travelled from interstate, including north NSW, north Qld and Melbourne for the happy occasion. Dafne and Kevin will divide their time between Kingaroy and Caboolture.

Humberto Rivera

## Obituaries

**BAMBURY,** Gordon Roger, born 22.4.1948 in Zambia (formerly Northern Rhodesia); died 20.6.22 at Burpengary, Qld. He was married to Joan. Gordon is survived by his wife; children, Wayne and Catherine; and grandchildren, Jaydha, Treyton and Azalia. Gordon passed away peacefully at the Opal Burpengary Garden Care Community surrounded by his wife and children. He is waiting for that great resurrection day.

Humberto Rivera

**WOOLFE,** Russell Brenton, born 1.3.1940; died 16.5.22 in Adelaide, SA. He is survived by his wife, Trish; sons, Adam (SA), Matthew (SA) and Arran (WA); and daughter, Joanne (Qld). Passed away peacefully. Resting until Jesus comes to take him home.

Kojo Akomeah

## Advertising

### SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON ON AUDIO CD

Christian Services for the Blind produces an audio CD of the Sabbath School lesson quarterly for those with vision impairment. If you or someone you know could benefit from this free service please contact us. Ph: +61 (0)2 9847 2296. Email <csfbhi@adventistmedia.org.au>. Post to Christian Services

for the Blind, Locked Bag 1115, Wahroonga NSW 2076.

### ABSOLUTE CARE FUNERALS

The Adventist family owned and operated business, caring for you from Sydney to Newcastle and Wollongong. Contact Arne Neirinckx, who understands our Adventist philosophy. Contact us on 1300 982 803 or 0408 458 452 or <arne@absolutecarefunerals.com.au>, even if you have already paid for your funeral.

## Positions Vacant

### HEALTH COURSE COORDINATOR (FULL-TIME) MAMARAPHA COLLEGE, KARRAGULLEN, WA

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australia has a unique opportunity for a passionate health educator to join the small, yet dynamic Mamarapha team. Mamarapha is a mission-focused Adventist First Nations Bible college that trains faith leaders of tomorrow in health and ministry, while serving a student community from diverse Indigenous cultures. We invite expressions of interest from persons with health-related qualifications, preferencing experience in VET teaching and assessment, and excellent communication skills appropriately sensitive to Aboriginal cultures. The successful candidate will positively impact Indigenous health in Australia through building strategic partnerships and deliver high quality teaching and learning opportunities. For further details contact <AUCHR@adventist.org.au>. NB: The appointing body reserves the right to fill this position at its discretion and close applications early. Only those who have a legal right to work in Australia will be considered. **Applications close August 31, 2022.**

### ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT—SUSTENTATION WAHROONGA, NSW

The South Pacific Division (SPD) is seeking a qualified and experienced accounting professional to care for the sustentation support function within treasury in this full-time role. Previous denominational experience and understanding of policy will be highly regarded. Only those who have unrestricted work rights in Australia will be considered. For full details please visit <adventistemployment.org.au> or email <hr@adventist.org.au>. To apply, please email a cover letter addressing the selection criteria, your CV, three work-related referees and the contact details of your Adventist church pastor to <hr@adventist.org.au>. **Applications close August 28, 2022** or once an appointment is made.

### SPD LEGAL COUNSEL—CORPORATE SERVICES WAHROONGA, NSW

The South Pacific Division (SPD) is seeking expressions of interest from qualified and experienced legal professionals to support the work of the Church in this full-time internal legal counsel role. For full details please visit <adventistemployment.org.au> or email <hr@adventist.org.au>. To apply, please email a cover letter addressing the selection criteria, your CV, three work-related referees and the contact details of your Adventist church pastor, to <hr@adventist.org.au>. **Applications close August 31, 2022** or once an appointment is made.



abn 59 093 117 689  
vol 127 no 16

**Consulting editor**  
Glenn Townsend

**Editor**  
Jarrod Stackelroth

**Assistant editors**  
Juliana Muniz  
Danelle Stothers

**Copyeditor**  
Tracey Bridcutt

**Graphic designer**  
Garth Tudor

**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  
Mailed within Australia and  
New Zealand  
\$A60.00; \$NZ90.00  
Other prices on application

**Website**  
record.adventistchurch.com

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

**Cover credit**  
pastorscott, Martin Dimitrov  
— Getty Images

**Next issue**  
Adventist World, August 13

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# OUR CHURCH: MEMBER PERSPECTIVES

How has COVID impacted your **LOCAL CHURCH**?  
Did COVID change your **CONNECTION** to your church family?  
Do you believe both men and women are called to serve in pastoral **MINISTRY**?  
How has COVID impacted **FAMILY WORSHIP** in your home?  
Did you **GROW SPIRITUALLY** and **CLOSER TO GOD** during the lockdown?

## WE WANT TO KNOW!

The Australian Union Conference will be conducting a survey in August 2022 and we would like **YOUR** perspectives to gauge the climate of our church in Australia and how we can help.

## BRING THE VISION TO LIFE

as the Victorian Conference and  
Cedarvale Health & Lifestyle Retreat  
appeal for prayer and financial support to

## Revive Abide

[reviveabide.com.au](http://reviveabide.com.au)



Seventh-day  
Adventist Church™

Victoria



### Health and Ministry Training Centre



### Residential Health Retreat



REVIVE  
ABIDE

JOIN US ON-SITE OR ONLINE\*

**20 August 2022**

# San Homecoming

2012, 2002, 1997, 1992, 1982, 1972, 1962, 1952

For all current and former staff, nursing graduates, doctors, volunteers, friends and family of the San

[www.sah.org.au/homecoming](http://www.sah.org.au/homecoming)

09.30am Sabbath School & Church  
 12.30pm Lunch  
 1.00pm Museum Tour  
 3.00pm Reunion & Afternoon Tea

\*Church services will be streamed online

SYDNEY ADVENTIST HOSPITAL

**Broadcast Schedules**

**The Incredible Journey | [tij.tv](http://tij.tv)**

9GEM	Sun 7 Aug, 8:30am	The Secrets of Fraser Island
3ABN	Fri 12 Aug, 8pm* AEDT	The Man Who Named Australia: Matthew Flinders
TVNZ 1	Sat 13 Aug, 5:30am	
9GEM	Sun 14 Aug, 8:30am	Florence Nightingale: The Lady With The Lamp
3ABN	Fri 19 Aug, 8pm* AEDT	Daniel 5: The Writing on the Wall
TVNZ 1	Sat 20 Aug, 5:30am	
9GEM	Sun 21 Aug, 8:30am	Mr Eternity - Arthur Stace
3ABN	Fri 26 Aug, 8pm* AEDT	Blessed are the Persecuted: Eleanor Roosevelt
TVNZ 1	Sat 27 Aug, 5:30am	
9GEM	Sun 28 Aug, 8:30am	The Hunt for the Tiger
3ABN	Fri 2 Sep, 8pm* AEDT	Fatal Shore
TVNZ 1	Sat 3 Sep, 5:30am	
9GEM	Sun 4 Sep, 8:30am	Devoted: A Father's Love
3ABN	Fri 9 Sep, 8pm* AEDT	Australia's 10 Deadliest
TVNZ 1	Sat 10 Sep, 5:30am	

\*3ABN also airs on Sun, 2:30pm and Wed, 4:30pm AEST

# enditnow<sup>®</sup>

Adventists Say **NO** to Violence

## National Online Summit

26 August 2022, 7:30pm AEST

Seventh-day Adventist Church  
Australia  
WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Theme: Abuse of Power  
 Live **panel discussion** and **guest speaker**.

Prof. Ingrid Weiss Slikkers  
 Clinical Trauma Professional

2012 | 2002 | 1992 | 1982 | 1972 | 1962 | 1952

# HOME COMING 2022

Avondale UNIVERSITY

Your friends are coming from these places

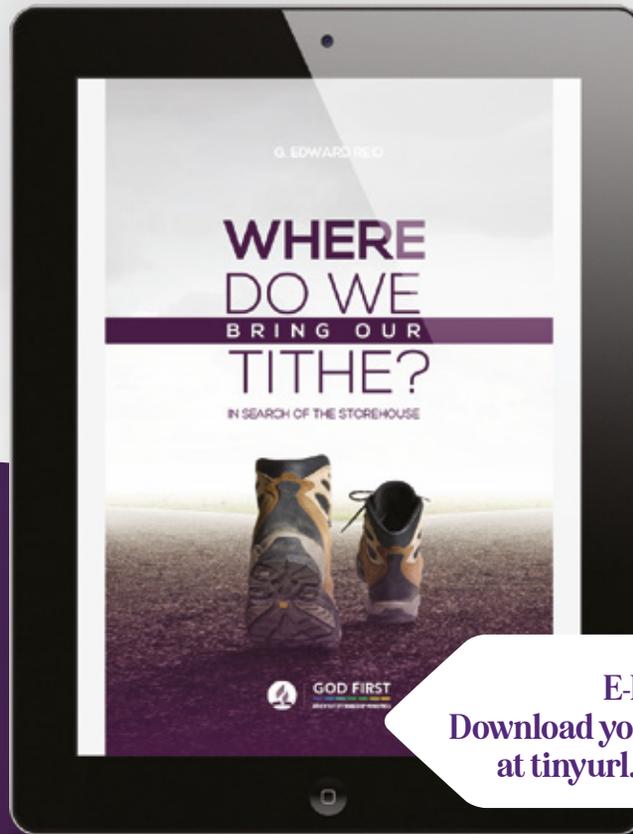
Register to join them

[www.avondale.edu.au/homecoming](http://www.avondale.edu.au/homecoming)

August 26-27

# “Test me in this” says the Lord Almighty.

(Malachi 3:10)



E-Book Out Now!  
Download your **FREE COPY**  
at [tinyurl.com/jw4cccj6](https://tinyurl.com/jw4cccj6)



“A Biblical, easy-to-read overview of God’s will for His tithe.”

Reid’s new e-book covers the tithe basics—percentage, place and purpose—and also looks at touchier issues such as: Tithe & Other Ministries, Problems in the Ministry or Conference, and Ellen White’s Use of the Storehouse. At just over 50 pages, Reid has really packed a lot into this excellent resource. It’s a great read for anyone who is genuinely seeking to follow God’s will in the calculating, returning and use of tithe.

~Julian Archer, Stewardship Director, South Pacific Division



**GOD FIRST**  
ADVENTIST STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES



Seventh-day  
Adventist Church

*South Pacific*