

# THE LOGOS



Connected: Scatter to Gather

“Lord Transform Me”

A Weekly Publication of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Editor: Joan M. Scavella Sunsets: 6:01 p.m. |Volume 21, Number 7 | February 13, 2016

## CHARACTERISTICS OF AN EFFECTIVE WITNESS



**T**he church in its prime position as the caveat of the imminent return of our Lord and Saviour

proffers the importance of a voice to pronounce the character of the God who will one day come as He promised. What is the authenticity of the witness of this truth? The witness must be recognizable and properly armed to bear the message that must be pronounced to the world. This article will discuss six characteristics of the effective witness.

### **Empathy**

The witness of Christ should show empathy. He/she builds a successful counseling alliance and is able to enter into the other person's experience. The witness or counselor establishes a positive and lasting impact on the prospect. He is able to put the prospect at ease while eliciting information. For we have not a heavenly physician (or a great high priest) who is unable to appreciate our weakness, suffering and struggles, but we have one who in his humanity was tempted in every way—exactly as we are—yet without sin, without giving in to selfish temptation (Hebrews 4: 15).

### **Acceptance**

Acceptance suggests that regardless of what the prospect says, within the context of the Bible counseling relationship, the prospect will feel accepted. In order to win a person to Christ we should:

- Accept the person for whom he/she is (Matthew 11: 28-30).
- Show no bias with respect to age, nationality, or religion.
- Foster a reciprocal approach between empathy and acceptance. If the Bible instructor displays acceptance, the prospect is more likely to love and respect him/her.

*Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good.... Then He bade them, "Follow Me" (The Ministry of Healing p. 143).*

- Move prospects from a place of unbelief to belief through the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **Genuineness**

This characteristic refers to the Bible instructor's ability to be authentic, open, and in touch with his/her feelings and thoughts within the context of and parameters of the Bible counseling relationship. Genuineness is a core value in witnessing. It is related to emotional

intelligence, which is the ability to monitor one's emotions.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure... (Philippians 4: 8).

### **Embracing a Wellness Perspective**

Stress, burnout, compassion, fatigue, and other ills prominently reduce the effectiveness of the Bible instructor. To be completely effective, a Bible Instructor must attend to his/her own wellness.

Have another Bible worker, a pastor or a church member whom he/she can depend, offer sound spiritual advice, prayers, and guidance.

Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent (John 17: 3).

### **Cultural Competence**

The effective Bible instructor has to be culturally competent in order to effectively connect with prospects. This means accepting all people, regardless of age, gender, social status, nationality, family background as special in the sight of God

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things.... (Matthew 28:19-20).

### **The "It" Factor**

This is your own style, being yourself, your own mode. While there are some basic principles in doing Bible work, each worker should have his/her identity.

All effective Bible instructors have their own "it factor," or special ways of working with and ultimately building alliances with their prospects. Some might use their winsome personality, others their ability to memorize Bible verses, and others their *knack* to pack ten persons in a small car while making all passengers happy. So, identify your *it factor* and improve on it.

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them (1 Corinthians 12).

The Holy Spirit is well able to equip us for the mighty work of scattering His gospel to the far ends of the earth, so that we can gather around Him on that great day. -Pastor Asha-Dane Duncan, Assistant Personal Ministries Director

### **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CIVIL SERVANTS' SERVICE**

The annual Law Enforcement and Civil Servants' Service will be held at the Maranatha Seventh-day Adventist Church on Prince Charles Drive on Saturday, February 20, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. A special invitation is extended to personnel from the following organizations: Royal Bahamas Police Force, Retired Police Officers, Immigration Department Officers, Road Traffic Department Officers, The

Bahamas Department of Corrections, Customs Department Officers, Royal Bahamas Defence Force, Retired Civil Servants & Public Officers, Civil Servants & Public Officers, Cabinet Office, Office of the Attorney General, The Judiciary, Ministry of Education, Public Hospital Authority, Ministry of Health, Financial Services, Department of Social Services, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Public Treasury Department, The College of The Bahamas, The National Insurance Board, Department of Physical Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Youth Sports & Culture, Eugene Dupuch Law School, The Bahamas Bureau of Standards, The House of Assembly, Bahamas Agricultural & Industrial Corporation, Ministry of Works and Urban Renewal, Ministry of Public Service, Department of Lands & Survey, General Post Office, National Training Centre, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Tourism, Williamae Pratt Centre for Girls, and Ministry of Housing.

Special accommodations are made for personnel from these Ministries and organizations. -Elder. Teddy McDonald, Coordinator

### **LAY WORKERS' GRADUATION**

After an intensive course, our lay workers' are ready for their graduation. This closing exercise will be held at the Centreville Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sabbath, February 13, 2016 at 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. The entire family is invited to attend this important service in the life of our church. -Pastor Asha-Dane Duncan, Assistant Personal Ministries Director

### **CHAM STATISTICAL REPORTS DUE**

Children and Adolescent Ministries (CHAM) Leaders who have not submitted their quarterly reports for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters of 2015 are asked to do so by Monday, February 15, 2016 to Mrs. Joan Scavella or Mrs. Bridgette Bastian at the South Bahamas Conference Office. We appreciate your immediate attention to this request. -Mrs. Joan Scavella, CHAM Director

### **CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT MINISTRIES Child Preacher's Workshop**

The Children and Adolescent Ministries (CHAM) Department will host their Preacher's Workshop in preparation for the grand CHAM Campaign in the Easter. The workshop will be held at the New Providence Seventh-day Adventist Church on Saturday, February 27 at 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday, February 28 at 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Our facilitator/coach will be Pastor Leonardo Rahming, of the Johnson Park and Gambier Seventh-day Adventist Churches and the Sabbath School and ADRA Director of the Atlantic Caribbean Union. -Mrs. Joan Scavella, CHAM Director

## CHAM CAMPAIGN IN EASTER!

**MARCH 27 - APRIL 2**

The big Children and Adolescent Ministries (CHAM) campaign of 2016 is on its way! Mark your calendar for the weeklong preaching of the Word by our children, adolescents and coach, Pastor Leonardo Rahming. It will be a time of old-fashioned gospel singing and preaching. Watch the Logos for more information. -Mrs. Joan Scavella, CHAM Director

## ATCU PRAYER INITIATIVE

**-Cayman Islands Conference-**

The prayer focus of our union, the Atlantic Caribbean Union (ATCU) for February 14 - 20, 2016 is: *The Creek and Little Cayman Churches in The Cayman Islands Conference*. Let us join the entire union in prayer. -Pastor Peter Joseph, Prayer Coordinator

## AGAPE FEAST

A banquet in honour of Albon Gibson will be held at the Montaque Gardens on February 13, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. A meet and greet will commence at 7:00 p.m. The theme for the banquet is, *Agape Feast: In the Garden of Love*. You are encouraged to get your tickets early. Call 544 4159 for more information. -Elder Torri Knowles, Burning Flames Ministry

## BAHAMAS ACADEMY PTA

The Parent Teacher Association of Bahamas Academy will host a cookout on the grounds of the Breath of Life Seventh-day Adventist Church on Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. To place your meal order and to get additional details on the menu, kindly call the school at 676 - 0500.

We solicit the support of our members and the wider public. We also encourage our members to advertise the event at their respective churches and job sites. -Mrs. Victoria Forbes, PTA President

## MEN'S MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

**-A Clarion Call to ALL Men-  
CONSECRATION SERVICE**

The Men's Ministries Department of the South Bahamas Conference will hold a consecration service under the theme, *Men Answering The Call* at the Redemption Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sabbath, February 20, 2016 at 9:15 a.m. Pastor Paul Scavella will be the speaker. Refreshments will follow the service.

## MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

On Sunday, February 21, a prayer breakfast will be held at the Berea Seventh-day Adventist Church at 4:45 - 8:00 a.m. with emphasis on the spiritual health, and financial needs of our men. Key presenters at the prayer breakfast will be Pastor Peter Joseph, Dr. Joseph Evans, and Elder Dave Williams. We anticipate a great outpouring as our men come together for empowerment by the Holy Spirit. -Pastor Nikita Thompson, Men's Ministries Coordinator

## MEN'S RETREAT

If you are interested in attending the Men's Retreat at Camp Kulaqua in Gainesville, Florida on March 18 - 20, 2016, contact Elder Patrick Wilson at 326-8683 or text him at 423-9348 for details. -Elder Patrick Wilson Men's Ministries Secretary

## ASI WITH NEW PLAN

The Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) will meet at the Hillview Church on February 21, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. with the view of laying plans for the formation of a credit union. Contact Elder Dave Williams at 357 9410 or email him at [davewilliams65@hotmail.com](mailto:davewilliams65@hotmail.com) -Elder Dave Williams, Interim President; ASI

## WINNING YOUR MARRIAGE CRUISE

Thanks for the overwhelming support of winning your marriage club night. The SBC Family Ministries Department will host a winning your marriage cruise on the Carnival Cruise line on November 12-17, 2016. As a first step, a deposit must be paid by February 28, 2016 to secure your cabin. Kindly call and inquire then remit the needed downpayment to Mr. Dwight Brown at the SBC office. For registration and additional information go to our website, [www.winningyourmarriage.com](http://www.winningyourmarriage.com)

## SINGLE AND GIFTED

The annual Single and Gifted Experience will convene on May 18-21, 2016. All singles are asked to put this in your calendar and plan for this event. It will be a blessing and a blast! To that end, a meeting of all Single Ministries Leaders will be held on Monday, February 15, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the conference office. See you there! -Pastor Peter Joseph, Family Ministries Director

## 8 WEEKS TO WELLNESS 2016

The 8 Weeks to Wellness Program begins on Monday, February 29, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the GMCI, Wulff Road. Learn how to prevent and manage hypertension, diabetes, cholesterol, cancer, weight gain, stress and much more. A small donation is required. Contact the South Bahamas Conference at 341-4121 or the Health Director at 323-0610 or [lifestylecounsellor64@gmail.com](mailto:lifestylecounsellor64@gmail.com). Screening and registration will be on Thursday, February 18; Sunday, February 21; Thursday, February 25; and Sunday, February 28 at the GMCI. Thursday screenings at 4:00-7:00 p.m. and Sunday screenings at 3:00-5:00 p.m.

## -Coaches Needed-

There will be training for coaches at the Berea Church on Monday, February 15 at 6:00 p.m. All interested persons are invited to attend.

## -Monthly Joint SBC Run/Walk-

Join us on February 14, 2016 at 6:00 a.m. for overall rejuvenation, starting from Goodman's Bay to Sandypoint and back. If you cannot walk the entire route, come and do what you can. Your body will thank you for it! We are encouraging participation from all the churches. At the end of the year, the church with the largest participation will be recognized. -Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix, Director

## NEW PROVIDENCE

### WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

The Women's Ministries Department of the New Providence Seventh-day Adventist Church will be having a prayer breakfast at their church on February 21, 2016 at 7:00 a.m. under the theme, "Preparing for His Transformation". All women are invited. -Mrs. Daphnie Patterson, WM Leader, New Providence SDA Church

## WORKSHOP FOR ELDERS

A Certification and Growth Workshop will be held for all elders at the Johnson Park Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sunday, February 28, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. -Pastor Paul Scavella, Ministerial Department

## GEMS PRESENTS

GEMS presents: "A Pure Heart": an afternoon of "girl chat" on LOVE!

Venue: Message of Hope Fellowship Hall

When: Sunday, February 21, 2016

Time: 4:00 pm

All young ladies ages 15-26 are invited to attend and bring a female friend. You don't want to miss it! -GEMS Team



## YOUTH TIDBITS

### YOUTH DAY AT PHILADELPHIA

The Philadelphia Seventh-day Adventist Church will be celebrating Youth Day on Sabbath, February 13, 2016 at the church in Elizabeth Estates. Pastor E. Danny Clarke will speak on the Theme: Chosen, equipped and ready for Service. All Youth throughout the Conference are invited to attend. -Mrs. Annette L. Dorsett, Church Clerk

**February 14** - Adventurer & Pathfinder Directors' Workshop (Hillview at 6:00 a.m.)

**IMPORTANT:** Youth, do you have a testimony that you would like to share, better yet would you like to be a contributing writer for a devotional project spear-headed by the Inter-American Division? I sense that you interested. The South Bahamas Conference Youth Department is in need of 5 youth who are willing to share their testimony in writing.

Listed are the criteria for the submission:

(1) The testimonies should be inspirational; real-life situations which have impacted spiritually the author's life and potentially impact the persons who will be reading the devotional.

(2) Each testimony must include an initial bible verse, which is related to the testimony.

(3) The font size #12, Times New Roman.

(4) The testimony should not exceed 380 words: including initial Bible verse, title and bio-reference (writer's name, job/position/country).

(5) The deadline for these testimonies should be submitted to the South Bahamas Conference Youth Department by February 29, 2016.

Please use either one of these email addresses:

[kensukis@gmail.com](mailto:kensukis@gmail.com) or [sbcyouthministries@yahoo.com](mailto:sbcyouthministries@yahoo.com) -Pastor Larry Green, Youth Ministries Director

**SUN SETS NEXT SABBATH  
FEBRUARY 20, 2016 AT 6:06 P.M.**

**Website:**

<http://southbahamasconference.org>

**Email:**

[jscavella@sbcadventist.com](mailto:jscavella@sbcadventist.com)

Have a Blessed Sabbath!

