



Volume I, Number 20

Connections

A newsletter for the Anderson Seventh-day Adventist Church
anderson.adventistfaith.org

August 2014 Week 2

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Connect Online:
1. anderson.adventistfaith.org
2. [Facebook.com/
andersonadventist.church](https://www.facebook.com/andersonadventist.church)

Submit a Prayer Request
227-6829 (Andrew LiVolsi) for
9am prayer group

357-4401 (Evelyn Baxter): for
church prayer chain

Conference Office:
925-685-4300
www.nccsda.com

Pastor's Greeting: Assurance in Witnessing

Dear Anderson Church Family,

We are getting pretty close to the end of the "content" part of the Assurance in Witnessing book and will soon be looking at practical ways of sharing Christ with those around us. Colon and Walter continue by pointing out Satan's opposition to assurance:

"Satan is ready to steal away the blessed assurances of God" (Steps to Christ, 53).

"Satan is exultant when he can lead the children of God into unbelief and despondency. He delights to see us mistrusting God, doubting His willingness and power to save us... Satan ever seeks to make the religious life one of gloom. He desires it to appear toilsome and difficult; and when the Christian presents in his own life this view of religion, he is, through his unbelief, seconding the falsehood of Satan. Many, walking along the path of life, dwell upon their mistakes and failures and disappointments, and their hearts are filled with grief and discouragement... In this they bear false witness against our Heavenly Father." SC116, 115

The reason we have spent so much time discussing the assurance of salvation is because it is essential for us to have ourselves if we are to be effective witnesses for God.

"When we have an assurance which is bright and clear of our own salvation, we shall exhibit cheerfulness, and joyfulness, which becomes every follower of Jesus Christ. The softening, subduing influence of the love of God, brought into practical life, will make impressions upon minds that will be a savor of life unto life. But a harsh denunciatory life spirit, if manifested, will turn many souls away from the truth into the ranks of the enemy. Solemn thought! To deal patiently with the tempted, requires us to battle with self." Letter 1a 1894.

Our inability to accept new Christians as equally accepted by God as we are will hinder our ability to witness. . . (Continued)

Assurance in Witnessing (continued)

. . . The workers in the vineyard and the prodigal son's brother both illustrate the attitude one has towards repentant sinners, when they themselves are not sure of their own salvation. This attitude will make new believers feel unwanted and rejected and will greatly limit our ability to win souls for God's kingdom.

Doctrinal truth is important. The great warnings of prophecies are important, but the lost are more interested in how to be saved. "There are many who want to know what they must do to be saved. They want a plain and clear explanation of the steps requisite in conversion... to especially make plain the way that sinners may come to Christ and be saved. They should point them to Christ, as did John, and with touching simplicity, their hearts aglow with the love of Christ, say, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world." (RH 02-22-1887). You may feel that you are not capable of giving a gospel presentation, take heart;

"The minister's work should be the work of a teacher... Let them blunder and make mistakes, and then kindly show them how they can do it better, ...be educating, until you have men and women who have experience in the things of God and can carry responsibility, and that is what we have been suffering for." EGW 1888 Materials, 150. ———Next week: Presenting a Winning Testimony.

Anderson Connections (please see your bulletin for more announcements)

Social at Whiskeytown Lake: August 17, join us for a day of fun and fellowship!

Community of Oneness: We will begin a new series on the book of Acts on August 23.

Church Health Assessment: We will have ipads available in the Sanctuary on Sabbath, August 30. For those who have internet, or if you want more info: see the bulletin.

Vision Quest 2014: We begin with 10 days of prayer September 9-19. See the insert 8/23.

Roof/Solar: Continue your support by marking your tithe envelope "Roof and Solar".

Area & NCC Happenings

Northern California Conference call to prayer: each Thursday at 7:00am. Dial 424-203-8400 then put in the access code: 669648#

10+10 Local: If each one of us gave \$10/month we could easily reach our Church's goal of \$14,400 for Christian education in our area. Mark your envelope "Redding Adventist Academy".

Cooking & Nutrition Seminar: August 24 @ 3pm at the Redding Church (reservations can be made by calling 365-3965).