



Connections

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

August 2014 Week 4

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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: The Power of Testimony

Dear Anderson Church Family,

This week we continue considering how to actively share the Good News that Jesus has saved us. We begin noting the Power of Love:

"The love of Jesus will melt and win hearts when mere reiteration of doctrines will accomplish nothing." DA826

In fact, no matter how right we may be if we do not communicate the truth in love, we can actually drive people away from God.

"Whenever the power of intellect, of authority or of force is employed and love is not manifestly present, the affection and will of those whom we seek to reach assumes a defensive and repelling position and their strength of resistance is increased." 2T135

The early Christians turned the world upside down because of the force of their personal testimony.

"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched--this we proclaim concerning the Word of life." 1John 1:1

A whole city was turned around by the testimony of one man to whom Jesus said, "Go home to your friends and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you." Mark 5:19 And the Scripture says, "He went throughout the whole city telling how much God had done for him." That city had begged Jesus to get out of town! It says they begged him to depart from them. Jesus left the city, but he left a man there with a testimony; and a few weeks later when he returned a whole city was waiting for Him and they welcomed Him. So amazing had been the transformation that now they not only were ready to listen to Him, but the whole city believed that He was the miracle-working Son of God. Next to the word of God, a soul winner's testimony is the most powerful tool he has. . . (Continued)

The Power of Testimony (continued)

. . . On another occasion, the woman of Samaria led a city to Christ and the Scripture relates that many believed on Him "*because of her testimony*". John 4:39 There are many other examples like these in the Bible.

Peter said the reason God has called us is to testify for Him. "That you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." 1 Peter 2:9

The word "testimony" has boring connotations for many. We have all attended testimony meetings where repetitious, meaningless stories seemed to never end. The testimony seems to be a springboard for individuals to dump their aches and pains, trials and tribulations on the congregation. We are not talking about that kind of testimony. We are talking about a humble, yet forceful and exciting report of one's personal experience with Jesus Christ. This personal report of what Christ has done in the life, becomes a powerful evangelistic tool. This is the method Christ chose to communicate the gospel. He wants a testimony from person to person through the warm hearts and joyous lips of loving Christians.

———Next Week: Three Parts to a Winning Testimony.

Anderson Connections (please see your bulletin for more announcements)

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.

10 Days of Prayer: September 9-19. Devotional guides will be provided and a prayer line.

Vision Quest 2014: Four Sabbath afternoon sessions Sept. 20 & 27 and October 4 & 11. All at 2pm. See the bulletin insert for this week for more information.

Roof / Solar: Continue your support by marking your tithe envelope "Roof and Solar". So far we have over \$3,000 raised towards this project.

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".

Camp meeting 2015: July 23 to August 1 with Doug Batchelor, Ron Clouzet, etc! Visit www.nccsda.com/redwood for more info. The gazette from this year: nccsda.com/gazette