

# Connections



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

May 2015 Week 2

*Declaring to each individual their eternal value in Jesus and preparing them for His soon-return!*

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## *Contact Information*

### **Pastor Murray Miller**

530-364-2041 (office)

530-776-4381 (cell)

mmiller@nccsda.com

Mon, Wed. & Thurs. office

hours: 9:30am—12pm

### **Church Office:**

530-365-3965

andsdachurch@gmail.com

Monday-Thursday 9am—12pm

### **Connect Online:**

1. [anderson.adventistfaith.org](http://anderson.adventistfaith.org)

2. [Facebook.com/andersonadventist.church](https://www.facebook.com/andersonadventist.church)

[andersonadventist.church](http://andersonadventist.church)

### **Submit a Prayer Request**

227-6829 (Andrew LiVolsi) for

9am Saturday prayer group

357-4401 (Evelyn Baxter): for

church prayer chain

### **Conference Office:**

925-685-4300

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

## Staying Connected: Seeing Christ

This week we endeavor to see Christ anew like Bartimeus did. He was led by the Spirit of God and the Bible says, “As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God” (Romans 8:14). What can we do on a regular basis to “see Jesus”? I would suggest at least three things: meditation on Scripture in the secret place (not emptying the mind but filling it), being a part of a small group that encourages each other and taking time to digest what God has revealed to us when we gather together corporately. There are other items but for the next few weeks we will focus on these. So, let’s begin with how to work on Scripture meditation. This is really a form of thinking deeply on what God has already revealed to us in the past. In a way, it is like gathering principles from a story/text and personalizing it to our situation. For example, here are some steps that we can take to personalize the story of Bartimeus:

1. Begin with **praise to God**: we enter His courts with praise. Choose an attribute and tell Him how grateful you are for that revelation of Himself. From praise, pray asking God to guide as you read.
2. **Read the text** / passage / chapter (sometimes you need the whole context to get the main meaning). For now, read **Mark 10:46-52**.
3. In a journal or on a notepad **answer these questions**:
  - a. What is the text saying to me?
  - b. How does this text intersect with my life?
  - c. What is the invitation?
4. Leave plenty of space to write, draw, etc. as you read. Other texts may come to mind or thoughts that God wants you to hear. I usually **end my time with gratitude**. Next week: more suggestions.

## Examples of Abuse—Protecting the Vulnerable Amongst Us

**Child abuse:** “verbal, physical, emotional or sexual abuse of a preschooler, child, youth, minor” (“Child Abuse Prevention/Response Handbook” online at [www.nccsda.com](http://www.nccsda.com)). What are some examples of this behavior and ways of prevention? We will begin with a brief look at physical indicators of abuse. Please note, though we are not to become pre-occupied with inspecting children, there should be some awareness when we are around them. Such an awareness really helps us serve the child better while they are with us and could, in some instances, necessitate providing help in the form of notifying authorities. Looking out for a child’s well-being should be our motive when approaching this subject. Quoting the handbook: “They type and location of an injury can help to distinguish accidental injuries from suspected physical abuse” (page 3). For example, typical locations for injuries from physical abuse are “the back surfaces of a child’s body from the neck to the knees, injuries to the face. Injuries to the shins, elbows, knees or forehead are not typical injuries from sustained abuse” (same page). Though this list is not comprehensive, here are some types of injuries that could be suspect when they present themselves: bruises, abrasions, complaints of internal injuries, burns, lacerations, fractures/pain, bite marks, head injuries. Now, these are physical indicators and some try to debate over “sparing the rod”, but it should also be clear that we are not to put out a smoldering wick or hinder a young person from coming to Jesus. Next time, we will couple these indicators with some possible behavioral factors with the goal of protecting the vulnerable amongst us.

## Anderson Connections (please see your bulletin for more announcements)

**Small Groups-** One of our 5 year goals is to start small groups in our communities. Those who are interested in an orientation to Discipleship Groups (more information on what elder Del Dunavant talked about), please contact Pastor Miller. An Orientation helps anyone host or conduct a group in their homes (and I do mean anyone!)

**Upcoming dates—Mission trip: May 10-21** at Camp MiVoden in Idaho; **May 10**—Mother’s day Brunch (11am). **May 16**—Elder Jim Pedersen (NCC president) speaks at 11am.

**Recite Bible Class**—Join this Bible memorization class led by Debbe Jefford. The start date is **Friday, May 8**. This class will meet the 2nd Friday of each month @ the Church.

**Roof/Solar**—The beginning of June is the possible start date now. Mark your tithe envelope “Roof/Solar”. Over \$14,000 has been raised so far and this leaves \$38,000 to have cash in hand!

## 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#

**Redding Church:** Pathfinders / Adventurers had their investiture May 6. There will be no more meetings until later in the year. See you in the Fall!

**Redding Academy:** Spring Concert May 14 @ 7pm. May 19 @ 6pm is constituency session