



2007 Year of Renewal

Wake up! Being refreshed and renewed involves more than sleep or rest it involves action. Worship is love in action and it takes many different forms and expressions. Praise, thankfulness, petitions, acts of faith and trust are all part of worship that can happen anytime and anywhere.

This year, we will be “waking up” our youth with a refreshed and renewed sense of responsibility. Being a Christian means more than attending church or paying an honest tithe. It’s all about turning the love God has placed in our hearts into acts of kindness. It’s about living life in a constant, soul-stirring attitude of worship.

Praise, thankfulness, prayer, acts of faith, and trust in divine power are all aspects of worship that can energize us anytime and anyplace. There’s no limit to God’s power. There should be no limit to our worship.

During the next twelve months, dig for ways to make worship the enjoyable, rejuvenating, and mind-expanding experience it was designed to be. Lead your youth into the fertile fields of worship-inspired service to God. Your church and your community will benefit greatly from each and every effort you put forth.

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel once said: “Our concern is not how to worship in the catacombs, but rather how to remain human in the skyscrapers.” This year, guide your youth from the catacombs of ineffective traditions to the heights of real-world worship that will change their relationship with their Creator forever. This Starter Kit is designed to prime the pump.

There is no limit to God’s power, and there shouldn’t be limits on our worship.

- ***If your car starts once out of every three tries, is it reliable?***
- ***If you don’t go to work once or twice a month, are you a loyal employee?***
- ***If your refrigerator stops working for a day or two every now and then, do you say, “That’s alright. It works most of the time”?***
- ***If you miss a couple of loan payments every year, does your bank say, “Ten out of twelve isn’t bad”?***
- ***If you fail to worship God one or two Sabbaths a month, would you expect to be called a faithful Christian?***



Link2Uth

Is the official newsletter of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Youth Ministries Department

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Teammate ² Teammate

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Youth and Renewal: Some do's and don'ts



In our last issue I promised you that I would conclude this article. Continue to read this outstanding help for all of us who work with young people especially during this year of Renewal. Remember to adapt these ideas to meet the needs of the youth you minister to:

✔ From time to time you will hear that truth is relative. That is why for all of us who work with young people in this generation must be prepared to hear tough questions asked by them. If you are not careful you may mistake them to be radicals, liberals or conservatives when in the actual sense they are trying to find their way out.

✔ Today's youth embrace diversity. They love differences. They do not like youth leaders who try to make them look or behave the same. For them they want to live in a society which allows them to do their own thing for the common good. That is why you see young people with all kinds of fashions—long hair, short hair, no hair – young men and young women. Everything goes and everything does. As Seventh day Adventist Youth Leaders, we have some work to do, because during this year of renewal and when we talk of discipleship- you will hear our own youth ask questions such as, why we have so many different denominations, and it does not make any sense why all these denominations cannot live alongside one another. Always give the youth the options, and leave it open-ended for them to decide. Form groups of diverse interests, activities, and perspectives.

✔ Youth filling our pews every Sabbath, have a lot of pain in their lives. Some of them come from broken relationships, broken homes and have no bright future for their tomorrows. They may participate in music or group activities but down deep inside their hearts they are hurting and bleeding. Jesus is the only answer to

these young people. Present Him as the Healer and their Friend. He is the only satisfying model for them in this cruel world. Show the youth that you are a caring youth leader, to many you are the parent (mother or father) they never had. Is it now wondered the Seventh day Adventist Youth Ministry focuses on Salvation and Service. Every activity we do must be centered in the man called Jesus.

✔ Change the world! I am amazed to what I see among these young people today. They believe that they can change the world and they want to participate in building the world. I read some time ago that our young people today love to serve because they believe that they can make some changes in the world they live. Our ministries with the young people must change to meet this desire seen among them. Create opportunities for the youth to get involved in community based service projects. Let them work in hospitals, HIV/AIDS orphanage homes etc. At the end of this year we are taking hundreds of youth to the Taiwan to impact that country through service projects. Challenge your youth to attend this 2nd World Conference on Youth and Community Service. For more information on this Conference, visit our website: youth.gc.adventist.org or wcycs.org.

Now go ahead and add some more ideas to these points that I have shared with you, make this article helpful to your ministry. Remember the year of Renewal is a year of making our youth enjoy worshipping God in all aspects of church life.

by Baraka G. Muganda

World Youth Director
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Check out our new Website @ youth.gc.adventist.org

leader's quote

Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality.

- Warren G. Bennis)

bad manners
A matter of faith...

I would like to share with you my story about being faithful to God. The relationship between my former boss and I was not in good shape. She told me I had “bad manners”. Bad manners! I thought, what do you mean by that? She explained to me that since I refused to work on Sabbath I had “bad manners.”

I grew up in a Christian family. My parents were Protestants before they heard about the Seventh-day Adventist Church through Adventist World Radio (AWR). Soon after, we were all baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church and I became involved in several church activities, including Pathfinders. At age 16, I found my self in the army joining as a Kado-go (child soldier). Ten years later, since I had joined the army earlier, I was working with a government official as an ADC (Aide de Camp) and that’s when I met her, my former boss. I explained to her that I didn’t work on Saturday, because it is the Lord’s Sabbath. At first, she laughed but then she realized that I was serious and decided to be tough. When Saturday came, I was nowhere to be found. When I came to work on Sunday, she warned me not to leave my duty station under any circumstances or I would have to suffer some consequences. During that week, I worked harder than never and on Friday she told me she would pay me double allowance if I work on Saturday. I politely rejected. The following week, she knew I was determined to do the same thing: work hard during the week and not come to work on Sabbath. She then decided to leave me alone. Time came when other people started to ask my boss why she allowed me to be off on Saturday, being Saturday the busiest day. Her answer was “Henry is dependable, reliable and trustworthy. He is of great value me and my family.” By then I had already taught her two daughters some Bible stories and how to pray. So for that reason I could go on and do “Bad manners”.

I thank God for giving me the opportunity to be a witness for His cause. Trust God. He will carry you through. May His name be praised for ever!

by **Henry Namazina**
Uganda

Travel Plans for March



Baraka Muganda:	1 - 4: Just Claim It: Dallas, TX 6 - 9: NSD Youth Advisory
Hiskia Missah:	1 - 4: Just Claim It: Dallas, TX 6 - 9: NSD Youth Advisory 11 - 16: Taiwan 23 - 25: Ocean City, Impact 07
Jonatán Tejel:	1 - 4: Just Claim It: Dallas, TX 8 - 16: Taiwan

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Concerns of the junior youth

As Pathfinder leaders one of the most important things we have today is know the children in our groups. We must become acquainted with them; know their background, their hobbies, their fears, and what makes them tick. We must be willing to become a part of their lives, and them a part of ours. While it might be difficult to specify the concerns of every child, we can try to share with you five of their general needs.

5 Important concerns of the junior youth

Recognition and acceptance within the group.

Everybody in the group should feel that they are important to the group. We cannot permit discrimination in the group. If one of your members feel that they are being singled out negatively, they will leave the program and may never return. Everyone has to feel they are being treated equally.

Affection.

This is one of the most important needs of our children. Some of them don’t have affection in their homes, they come from broken families; parents that work all day long and are sometimes so tired they don’t have time for quality relationships with them. The children need our affection. They MUST know that we enjoy being with them. If they feel that we have true affection for them, they will grow up close to us and understand the love of God better.

Skills.

As leaders we have to help our kids discover their strongest skills, we have to motivate them to improve their skills to make them feel satisfied with themselves, useful.

New experiences.

They are looking to discover something new. Don’t do the same activities all the time. Be original. If you surprise them with new things, you will have success in your programs and your kids will be eager to participate.

Confidence, trust.

A balanced personality cannot develop in a fearful environment. You need to help instill confidence in the members of your group.

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**2ND WORLD CONFERENCE
ON YOUTH AND
COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Where? Taipei, Taiwan
When? December 24, 2007
to January 5, 2008

Registration fee
US\$150.00
(for Conference only)

Registration Deadline
October 2, 2007

Contact Information
**Your local Conference,
Union or Division
Youth Ministries**

You can also check

www.wcycs.org

Call
301-680-6140 (USA)
Email

impact@gc.adventist.org

Project Tracks

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Teaching Sports
and a lot ++

Share God's love through meaningful community service
Build strong relationship with other Adventist youth
Strengthen your relationship with God

**GUIDELINES FOR COMPOSING SONGS FOR
THE SDA YOUTH SONG BOOK:**

1. The song should glorify GOD. 1 Cor. 10:31.
2. The song should employ lyrics that positively stimulate intellectual abilities as well as the emotions and the will power.
3. Good lyrics are creative, rich in content, and of good composition. They focus on the positive and reflect moral values; they educate and uplift; and they correspond with sound Biblical theology.
4. The song should foster our spiritual, psychological, and social sensitivity, and our intellectual growth. It is characterized by quality, balance, appropriateness, and authenticity.
5. The music should be holistic, appealing to both the intellect and the emotions and affecting the body in a positive way.
6. The music should reveal creativity rather than monotony and repetitiveness.
7. The song should be drawn from quality melodies, harmonies used in an interesting and artistic way, and rhythm that complements them.
8. We recognize and acknowledge the contribution of different cultures in worshipping God. Musical forms and instruments vary greatly in the world-wide Seventh-day Adventist family, and music drawn from one culture may sound strange to someone from a different culture. As members of a world family, we respect the music of our brothers and sisters in every land who worship God sincerely through music.

Adapted from: GC Music Guidelines

Thank you for your support in being a big part to make this SDA Youth Song Book a reality.

Your Teammate,

hiskia

Dear Teammates,
This year, 2007, the General Conference Youth Department has reached its 100th year of services and ministries to the World in general and to all the Seventh-day Adventist young people all over the world in particular.

As we commemorating this great milestone, we want you to help us making this year a memorable one by creating a Seventh-day Adventist Youth Songbook.

The following are the INSTRUCTIONS TO THE WORLD DIVISION YOUTH DIRECTORS and THE GUIDELINES FOR COMPOSING SONGS FOR THE SDA YOUTH SONG BOOK:

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE WORLD DIVISION YOUTH DIRECTORS:

1. The General Conference Youth Department Ministries is producing a Special Seventh-day Adventist Youth Song Book to be used by all the Youth world-wide.
2. The songs should be composed and written by the Seventh-day Adventist members.
3. Each Division Youth Department should prepare 12 songs or more (The more songs, the more songwriters, the better for the song book).
4. Each song, the music and the lyric should be sent to the General Conference Youth Department accompanied by the copyrights from the composers.
5. To include any THEME SONGS used during the Youth Congresses or any other Youth Activities in each Union/Division.
6. Each Division Youth Department should send one name as the Music Representative to be the member of the GC Youth Song Book Committee.
7. The DEADLINE to submit the songs and the copyrights is SEPTEMBER 30, 2007.

