



DISCOVERING
REVELATION

Coordinator Handbook

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DISCOVERING
REVELATION

Discovering Revelation

Coordinator Training Schedule

March 31—April 2 at Camp Au Sable

*Coordinator meetings will be held in the lower level of the Eagle Lodge
(beside the camp store) unless otherwise indicated*

FRIDAY

4:00 p.m.		Registration
5:30 p.m.		Supper
6:00 p.m.		Clean-up
7:00 p.m.		Session 1
9:00 p.m.		Dismissal

SABBATH

8:00 a.m.		Breakfast
8:30 a.m.		Clean-up
9:15 a.m.	<i>Main Auditorium (Joint Session)</i>	Song Service
9:30 a.m.	<i>Main Auditorium (Joint Session)</i>	Sabbath School
11:00 a.m.	<i>Main Auditorium (Joint Session)</i>	Worship Service
12:30 p.m.		Lunch
1:00 p.m.		Clean-up
2:00 p.m.		Session 2
5:30 p.m.		Supper
7:00 p.m.		Session 3
9:00 p.m.		Popcorn & Fellowship

SUNDAY

8:00 a.m.		Breakfast
8:30 a.m.		Clean-up
9:00 a.m.		Check out of Rooms
9:15 a.m.	<i>Main Auditorium (Joint Session)</i>	Song Service
9:30 a.m.	<i>Main Auditorium (Joint Session)</i>	Session 4
11:00 a.m.		Camp Clean-up
11:30 a.m.		Dismissal



DISCOVERING REVELATION

Discovering Revelation Leadership 101

1. **Cast Vision**

- Take time for prayer, careful thought, and study, and ask for wisdom from God
- Form ideas into a detailed action plan by organizing your thoughts and plans on paper
- Don't be locked in; expect the vision to expand as time goes on
- When communicating the vision, be clear about its importance and benefits, provide enough detail to inspire confidence and support, and speak with enthusiasm and conviction

2. **Bear Responsibility**

- Take ultimate responsibility for carrying out the plan and finding success
- Be willing to do whatever it takes, within reason
- Be personally conscientious, but full of grace toward others

3. **Delegate**

- When recruiting, always reiterate the overall vision and give clear and specific direction
- Be practical and detail out the steps needed to do the job
- Make it easy to be successful
- Investing in people is necessary for sustainable success
- Regularly affirm and show appreciation to those helping to carry the load

4. **Think Ahead**

- Periodically take time to think through what will be needed in the future
- Set timing expectations and lay out the steps needed to meet them
- As soon as you think of a task or responsibility not yet completed, write it down immediately
- Maintain task lists and review them regularly

5. **Think Big**

- Don't be satisfied with what it takes to "get by"; the enemy of great is good
- Regularly look for ways to increase the likelihood of success
- Take time for creative thinking or "brainstorming"

6. **Seek Counsel**

- Know your limitations and enlist help wherever it is needed to get the job done well
- You will never be as good as a team can make you, even in your strongest areas
- Act independently only when time demands it or when the risk is low
- Seek consensus, but don't be afraid to move before everyone catches the vision

7. Make It Happen

- Ideas and intentions are worth nothing without action – drive jobs to completion
- Read chapter 42 of Ministry of Healing, especially the section “Force of Character”
- Many “lack push,” the “positive traits of character that give power to do something”

8. Respond Promptly

- Keep the “wheels spinning,” the team working
- If people are waiting on you, nothing is happening
- Act now or get swallowed up by future responsibilities

9. Be Organized

- Organization gives clarity, inspires confidence, and increases efficiency
- A definition of organize is to make something functional or coherent – you may have all the right pieces, but if they are not organized no one will catch your vision
- The most common misconception about organization is that it is wasted time; organizing does cost time up front but it saves time in the end

10. Communicate Regularly

- Consistently communicate important news and developments
- Send reminder communications to team members, but use discretion about frequency
- Communicate plans and visions regularly or else “out of sight” will be “out of mind”

11. Details Matter

- “A job worth doing, is worth doing right”
- The difference between success and mediocrity, or even failure, is in the little things
- Time taken to do a “great” job instead of an “acceptable” job will come back to bless you

12. Stay Positive

- Be hopeful, always believing that the Lord will bless your efforts in the end; there is no real failure for the hopeful, only steps to success
- Encourage “dispirited workers” by counting your blessings (Psalm 103) and speaking faith
- Being positive doesn’t mean blindly assuming things will get better and doing nothing; be painfully honest when evaluating success, then search for solutions and ways to improve

13. Seek God, Not Praise

- Spend time daily in prayer, meditation, and God’s Word; aim to please God
- When pressures mount, remember that God ultimately carries the burden: “When my heart is overwhelmed; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I” (Ps. 61:2)
- Be humble and open to criticism, realizing that most people who comment will be critical
- Don’t require appreciation and you will appreciate it more when you receive it
- Remember often that God loves you, and is pleased with your honest efforts to serve Him



2023 Discovering Revelation Planning Calendar

1. Submit your **Discipleship Plan** to your District Superintendent by **Dec. 1, 2022**.
 - a. Access form at michigansspm.org/resources, or click [here](#).
 - b. Email completed form to your District Superintendent.
2. Begin 2023 with an **evangelism-themed week of prayer**.
 - a. We recommend that you do this sometime in January when you schedule at least 5 consecutive days.
 - b. You may choose to use dates corresponding to the General Conference 10 Days of Prayer, **Jan. 8-14**, or the Michigan Conference Office week of prayer, **Jan. 29-Feb. 4**.
3. Designate your speaker(s) and coordinator(s) **by Feb. 28**.
4. Sign up for your free Discovery Centers account by **Mar. 1**.
 - a. Click [here](#) to access the Discovery Center
 - b. Watch this instructional video (<http://bit.ly/3YOY9Q3>) for details.
5. Pastors and lay speakers need to register for **Speaker Training** by **Mar. 15**.
 - a. Dates: **Wednesday, Mar. 29** at 5:30 p.m. to **Sunday, Apr. 2** at 12:00 p.m.
 - b. Register online at MichiganSSPM.org or call Stephane Howard at 517-316-1511.
6. Coordinators need to register for **Coordinator Training** by **Mar. 15**.
 - a. Dates: **Friday, Mar. 31** at 5:30 p.m. to **Sunday, Apr. 2** at 12:00 p.m.
 - b. Register online at MichiganSSPM.org or call Stephane Howard at 517-316-1511.
7. Plan a **literature distribution blitz** in **the month of April**.
 - a. Emphasize personal distribution and mass distribution by churches and schools.
 - b. Cooperate with Michigan Conference Publishing Dept. initiatives (still in development).

8. **Register** your **Discovering Revelation** meeting site by **May 1**.
 - a. Click [here](#) to go to the Discovering Revelation host site, click “Register Now” and choose the \$299 registration option.
 - b. Be prepared to enter your site location, contact details, speaker name(s) and bio(s), First three meeting dates and times, and a square 1200x1200 pixel picture of the speaker(s).
 - c. Complete the process by paying the \$299 site registration fee. Other meeting and marketing materials may be purchased at this time, or ordered at a later date.
9. Order **Discovering Revelation handbills** by **June 1**.
 - a. Access meeting supplies at the Discovering Revelation host site [here](#).
 - b. Complete and submit the online order form (handbill content will be populated from your site registration information entered in step 8; the only thing needed in this step is **quantities** and **mail routes**).
10. **Finalize handbill proof** with Voice of Prophecy no later than **July 31st!**
 - a. Even if you have already ordered your handbills, **unless** the final proof has been signed off on, **your handbills will not be mailed!**
11. Order **all other meeting materials no later than Aug. 1**.
 - a. The leaders for each area – Resource Table, Registration Table, Children’s Program, etc. – should determine what is needed for their respective areas to ensure that they will have it at least 1 week before the series begins.
12. Kickoff **Operation Andrew** on third Sabbath of August (**Aug. 19**).
 - a. Order Operation Andrew cards with other materials in step 11.
 - b. Encourage members to make a list of individuals to pray for and personally invite to series.
13. Kickoff **Social Media Emphasis** on first Sabbath of September (**Sep. 2**).
 - a. Remind members every Sabbath to regularly advertise the series on their social media platforms even throughout the series.
14. **[No Action Required]** Billboards go up around **Sep. 11** for 4 weeks.
15. **[No Action Required]** Handbill mailings are delivered **Sep. 18-20**.
16. If **advertising on the radio**, secure contracts in September for ads to air the week of **Sep. 24-30**.
17. Organize **local church prayer focus** during **Sep. 24-30** week of prayer.
18. Site speakers and/or coordinators join **organizational conference call Sep. 25 at 11:00 a.m.**
19. Site speakers and/or coordinators join **organizational conference call Oct. 2 at 11:00 a.m.**
20. **Series begins Monday evening, October 2!**



Discovering Revelation

Team Responsibilities

**positions with asterisk are not listed in the Voice of Prophecy DR Evangelism Manual*

- **Full Team List**

- Evangelism Committee*
- Pre-Work Committee*
- Meeting Coordinator/Campaign Secretary
- Speaker
- Health Presenter*
- Platform Host*
- Prayer Coordinator
- Visitation Coordinator
- Advertising Coordinator*
- Children's Program Coordinator
- Greeter/Parking Attendant Coordinator
- Registration Table/Attendance Tracking Coordinator
- Usher/Row Host Coordinator
- Materials/Resource Table Coordinator* (*falls under Campaign Secretary*)
- Audio/Visual Coordinator*
- Music Coordinator*
- Janitorial Coordinator*
- New Member Discipleship Coordinator*
- Refreshment Table Coordinator* (if refreshments provided)

- **Evangelism Committee***

- Gives overall direction to plans and preparations for the meetings
- Develops meeting budget
- Assembles team of coordinators
- Meets on regular basis or as needed
- Committee consists of:
 - Personal Ministries Director
 - Personal Ministries Secretary
 - Pastor
 - Representative elder
 - Bible Worker(s)
 - Meeting Coordinator (if not one of the above)
 - Other coordinators or church members as needed

- **Pre-Work Committee**
 - Plan an effective outreach program that incorporates all phases of the GROW Cycle:
 - Friendship evangelism
 - Literature and GLOW distribution
 - Bible study emphasis – get as many Bible studies going as possible!
 - Door-to-door witnessing
 - Involving members in *Operation Andrew*, urging members to invite and bring people to the meetings just like Andrew brought others to see Jesus
 - Other creative evangelism pre-work
 - Committee consists of:
 - Personal Ministries Director
 - Personal Ministries Secretary
 - Pastor
 - Bible Worker(s)
 - Advertising Coordinator
 - Other church members with a passion for soul-winning

- **Meeting Coordinator/Campaign Secretary**
 - Oversees the smooth operation of the entire evangelistic series
 - Go-to person for questions and concerns of coordinators and other church members related to the meetings (rather than the pastor/speaker)
 - Often the Personal Ministries Leader or an elder
 - Immediately encourage coordinator to set aside March 31-April 2 for coordinator training at Camp Au Sable

- **Speaker**
 - Pastor can speak at one site
 - Consider capable lay speakers from nearby congregations
 - Immediately encourage speakers to set aside March 29-April 2 for speaker training at Camp Au Sable

- **Health Presenter***
 - Presents 5-10 minute health presentations each meeting
 - It may be beneficial if presenter is a health professional, but not necessary
 - We recommend using *Balanced Living* tracts/scripts and PowerPoint slides (materials may be downloaded or ordered from <https://www.lifestylematters.com/>).
 - Health ministry ministers to people's day-to-day struggles and needs, and is an entering wedge to prepare the heart to make decisions for Christ

- **Platform Host***
 - Recognized as the host of the local program
 - Begins the program each night with a welcome, opening prayer, and announcements
 - Consults with Meeting Coordinator to ensure that important program changes and announcements are made each night
 - No more than two platform hosts is preferred

- **Prayer Coordinator**
 - Organize one or more prayer bands that will meet regularly to pray for the upcoming meetings, for members' contacts, and for the church's spiritual readiness (a sign-up sheet at church is an easy way to facilitate this).
 - Give a short presentation on the power and necessity of prayer
 - Organize a local church *Discovering Revelation* Week of Prayer (Sept. 24-30).
 - Provide a bulletin insert advertising the Week of Prayer three weeks in advance to give members time to plan ahead.
 - Work with the meeting coordinator, platform chair and speaker to include prayer requests in the question box during the series.
 - Schedule a rotation of your prayer bands to pray each night during the meeting. Meet in a designated prayer room for fifteen minutes at the start of the meeting, and then transition into the meeting, praying silently for each guest. In addition to praying for the speaker, staff, guests, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, remember to pray each night for the requests that have been turned in.

- **Visitation Coordinator**
 - Works closely with the pastor / speaker(s) and coordinator to maintain contact with visitors via weekly letters, phone calls, emails, and home visits
 - Organizes visitation teams
 - Arranges for weekly letters to be sent to attendees notifying them of upcoming topics and special gift offers for attending on certain nights
 - Arranges for email reminders to be sent to attendees
 - Arranges for phone calls and home visits to be made as appropriate to:
 - Encourage attendance of those who pre-registered but have not come
 - Encourage the return of missing attendees
 - Answer potential objections of attendees who have stopped coming after a sensitive topic has been introduced
 - Take meeting handouts and CD/DVD/media cards to missing attendees
 - Visit regular attendees to encourage continued study and attendance and to lead them to make positive decisions to follow the truth

- **Advertising Coordinator* (see also pp. 19-21)**
 - Ensure all advertising is ordered well in advance and displayed in a timely manner (including but not limited to):
 - Handbills
 - GLOW tracts
 - Banners
 - Yard signs
 - Billboards
 - Radio ads
 - Newspaper ads
 - Internet ads
 - Train church members in social media advertising/invitations (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.) and regularly encourage/remind church members to advertise using social media during the month of September

- **Children’s Program Coordinator**
 - Organize child care for ages 0-10; in some cases, there may be two separate programs, one for younger children and one for older
 - Plan an effective program, including elements such as:
 - Music
 - Crafts
 - Activities
 - PowerPoint or video for children
 - The “Truth for Youth” series is an example of a program that may be used (<https://mybiblefirst.org/?module=products&func=product&id3=57>).
 - Recruit volunteers to run the children’s program each night, and make sure they
 - Complete online training and background check with Adventist Screening Verification at <https://www.nadadventist.org/asv>.
 - Be there at least an hour early the first two nights, and at least 35 minutes early on all other nights
 - Be able to stay until all children have been picked up (sometimes parents need time to ask questions after the meeting)
 - Provide a sign-in sheet where parents sign their children’s names and their own names; be sure that the same person who signed the child in signs him or her out
 - Organize follow-up for children who make decisions to accept Jesus
 - Be sure to order children’s program materials well in advance

- **Greeter/Parking Attendant Coordinator (see also p. 16)**
 - Assemble and organize a team of greeters and parking lot attendants (opening night and other nights as needed) and ensure that a sufficient number of volunteers is present at each meeting
 - Train greeters to make friends and give a good first impression
 - Remind Discovering Revelation staff to leave the best parking spots for guests
 - Ensure that umbrellas and flashlights/guide lights are available to be used by greeters and/or parking lot attendants as the circumstances require
 - Train parking lot attendants how to guide attendees to the appropriate parking spaces and to be warm and friendly with the guests
 - Arrange for someone to be at the venue each evening before the meeting in time to get temperature controls adjusted and have things unlocked (at least an hour before the meeting)

- **Registration Table/Attendance Tracking Coordinator (see also pp. 17 & 18)**
 - Train registration team beforehand on the registration process
 - Be at church an hour early the first two nights, and at least 35 minutes early on subsequent nights.
 - Oversee efficient and organized registration on opening night
 - Ensure that attendance is tracked at every meeting and updated nightly
 - We have provided a simple tracking spreadsheet in Microsoft Excel and Google Sheets file formats. This spreadsheet can be downloaded from www.MichiganSSPM.org/DR/.
 - Provide a printout or email attendance report to speakers, coordinators and visitation teams as soon as available (no later than the day after the meeting)

- **Usher/Row Host Coordinator**
 - Assemble and organize a team of row hosts/ushers and ensure that a sufficient number of volunteers is present at each meeting
 - Secure decision cards, pens, etc., before the meetings in which these materials will be required – distribute to row hosts/ushers
 - Train row hosts/ushers to:
 - Help people find seats
 - Be friendly and make attendees comfortable
 - Distribute and collect decision cards, pens, etc.
 - Take up offerings when needed
 - Bring in extra chairs if necessary
 - Watch for need of climate control (people putting on sweaters or fanning themselves, etc.)

- **Materials/Resource Table Coordinator***
 - Order, purchase, or print materials to be handed out to attendees:
 - Study guides used as nightly handouts
 - Decision cards
 - Offering envelopes
 - Pens for ushers
 - Gift books, CD/DVD/media cards
 - Double-check to make sure materials to be handed out match each night's topic
 - Appoint people (greeters are a good choice) to stand at each door and pass out materials as attendees leave
 - Make sure materials from past nights are available each night
 - Order or obtain materials to be sold/given away to attendees:
 - Amazing Facts pocketbooks and evangelistic magazines
 - Balance magazines
 - CD/DVD/media cards of previous meeting presentations (obtain from Audio/Visual)
 - Prophecy bookmarks
 - Relevant books on topics presented
 - GLOW
 - Use a nightly resource schedule to ensure that materials are not put out on a topic that has not yet been presented (refer to pp. 22 & 23).
 - Develop a resource price sheet to cover costs, and post prices on resource table
 - Start and maintain a cash box for sales
 - Consider using a tablet and a credit card reader such as Square or PayPal Zettle
 - Ensure that resource table is only available for free items on Sabbath
 - You may just avoid bringing the cash box and/or payment device on the first Friday evening. Once the subject of the Sabbath has been covered, it will be understood why you conduct no Sabbath sales.
 - Periodically turn in cash to church treasurer

- **Audio/Visual Coordinator***
 - Assemble an audio/visual team to ensure the following is performed:
 - Set up projection screen each night (make sure you have all cords, cables, and adapters prior to opening night so that additional equipment can be obtained if needed; test all equipment, and have a spare projector bulb on hand)
 - Assist the speaker as needed in setting up laptop projection each night
 - Set up and test audio system for speaker, host, and music each night
 - Instruct all participants on the use of the microphones
 - Set up and record audio or video of each night's presentation
 - Produce CD/DVD/media cards for each presentation
 - Arrive at venue at least an hour early the first two nights, and at least 35 minutes early on subsequent nights

- **Music Coordinator***
 - Selects the participants for the musical selections to be performed
 - Arrange a music schedule in coordination with the speaker/platform host that may include one or more of the following:
 - Soft instrumental music to be played before or after the meeting
 - Musical selection before the message
 - Appeal music at conclusion of the message
 - Make sure a piano is available and has been recently tuned
 - Provide guidance on music standards to those performing

- **Janitorial Coordinator***
 - Arrange for meeting site to be regularly cleaned – floors, bathrooms, tables, etc.
 - Clearly outline the cleanup process so that volunteers know exactly what needs done and the products or process to accomplish the task
 - Schedule deacons or other helpers so that the burden does not rest on only one or two people – many hands make light work

- **New Member Discipleship Coordinator***
 - Prepare a welcome gift for new members
 - In consultation with the pastor, match each new member with a spiritual mentor who will meet weekly after baptism to continue the discipleship process
 - Ensure that a systematic discipleship process is being followed with all new members such as that found in the *Discipleship Handbook*
 - Ensure that an ample supply of the *Discipleship Handbook* is available for the upcoming mentors and new members
 - Maintain regular contact with the assigned mentors, such as a monthly meeting, to get updates on the discipleship progress and to provide support and accountability to mentors

- **Refreshment Table Coordinator* (if refreshments are provided)**
 - Arrange for volunteers to provide refreshments each meeting
 - Make the refreshment table attractive to guests
 - Provide guidance to volunteers in terms of what refreshments to provide (healthy snacks, drinks, cookies, etc.)



Discovering Revelation Greeters

Greeting is very important because first impressions are often lasting and you want people to feel welcome at the seminar.

- **Choose the right people!** You want those who are friendly, warm, and can make others feel at home. While a warm handshake is appropriate, discourage hugging guests, especially the first night!
- **Get enough greeters.** Make sure you have enough for every entrance. Everyone who comes through the door should receive a smile and a warm welcome, and be given directions as to where to go.
- **Encourage greeters to be on time.** Greeters should arrive 35 minutes before the meeting (1 hour the first two nights) and stay at their post for at least 30 minutes after the meeting begins so latecomers are also greeted. They should resume their post 15 minutes before the meeting ends so they can be ready to handout supplementary study materials to those leaving.
- **Have greeters learn names.** As the series continues, greeters should make an effort to learn the names of the attendees. This not only helps to provide a more personal greeting, but it can also be helpful information for the speaker as he or she tries to learn names, too.
- **Train greeters.** Show the greeters where to stand. Ask them to smile, shake hands (don't hug guests), and direct guests to the registration table. Suggest a sample greeting such as, "Welcome to Discovering Revelation! So glad you are here. Come right this way to the registration desk."
- **Greeters must not run ahead of the speaker.** If the guests ask about a topic that has not yet been presented, say, "That's a good question. I will let the speaker answer that for you," and direct them to submit that question to the speaker.



Discovering Revelation Registration & Interest Tracking

Registration is vital. It tells you who are attending, their names, their religious background, and how they learned about the seminar (advertising). Registration also allows you to contact those attending. You can send out a weekly letter letting them know about upcoming sessions or any changes or special features. The speaker or church members can also use the contact information to make important calls and visits to those making decisions.

Have friendly and efficient people doing registration. Like greeters, your registration team should create a positive first impression for your guests. Smile and say, "We are so glad you are here. Would you be so kind as to fill out this registration card to tell us how you heard about the seminar?"

Register everyone on opening night – guests and church members alike. On subsequent nights, you will only register first-time attendees. Some people won't register even if you ask and that is okay. Don't pressure them. If they ask why you want them to register, tell them it is to help us learn what forms of advertising worked best and to keep them informed about upcoming sessions or changes regarding the seminar.

Pre-registrations. The Discovering Revelation website encourages people to pre-register in order to receive a free DVD. Prior to opening night, you will be given instructions on how to obtain a list of all those who have pre-registered for your site. Print this list off and have it available for your registration team. When guests come to the registration table, ask if they have pre-registered and if so give them the DVD. Still have them fill out the registration card so you can learn how they heard about the seminar and to be sure you have accurate and up-to-date contact information.

You will need a way to track the nightly attendance and decisions made by those attending. There are a number of software programs available, each with its own benefits and shortcomings. As there is no consensus on which program to recommend, we have provided a simple tracking spreadsheet in Microsoft Excel and Google Sheets file formats. This spreadsheet can be downloaded from <https://michigansspm.org/dr/>.

his excel spreadsheet can be used to enter the information from the registration cards (contact information, religious affiliation, and advertising.) Before each session, print the report and use it as a check sheet to record the attendance of previous guests. After each session, enter the information from new registration cards, update previous attendee attendance, and record decisions from the decision cards.

Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Decisions
Smith, Joe	x																								1
Stevens, Jill	x																								1
DeVasher, Kameron	y																								1
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Discovering Revelation Advertising Campaign

Advertising materials may be ordered from the Discovering Revelation host site (<https://www1.discoverycenters.com/ext-dr-marketing-res-2021/>).

Discovering Revelation GLOW Tracts

- Plan and organize mass distribution of the Discovering Revelation GLOW Tracts on May 1st (once your meeting site has been registered with the Discovery Center); organize mass distribution projects by church and school, and encourage personal distribution among members.
- Tract contains website address (www.DiscoveringRevelation.com/GLOW/), a QR code which links to the website, and a phone number (888-611-GLOW), which will be answered by the Discovery Center.

Operation Andrew – Pray and Personally Invite

- Aug. 19 – Kickoff *Operation: Andrew*, in which every church member prays for a short list of people to invite and bring to Discovering Revelation; pray over list and personally invite between Aug. 19 and Oct. 2 (and *throughout the series!*).
- Order *Operation: Andrew* cards from the Discovery Center

Social Media and Yard Sign Emphasis

- Sept. 2 – Kickoff Social Media and Yard Sign advertising emphasis; provide Discovering Revelation media kits for church members to share on their social media accounts; post signs in yards and other visible outdoor areas.

Billboards (Michigan Conference)

- Sept. 11 – Most billboards go up and continue for 4 weeks (some will go up a week earlier and some a week later). Billboards will direct people to the website where they will be geolocated to the nearest meeting site.

Handbills

- Sept. 18-20 are the current expected in-home delivery dates, but are subject to change.
- Handbills will contain website address, meeting location speaker, and dates, titles, and descriptions for the first three nights, and a list of continuing topics.

Radio

- Churches across the union that are in the same coverage area are encouraged to join together to buy radio ads, as pooling the resources of multiple churches in the same area to pay for radio advertising is one of the best ways to get significant advertising at low cost
- Sept. 24-30 – Radio ads to air every day of the week before meetings begin
- Sample scripts can be found on p. 18 of this handbook, and pre-recorded radio spots will be available on the <https://michigansspm.org/dr/> page soon.

Emails to Pre-Registrants

- Those who pre-register **should** receive a reminder email 7 days before, 3 days before, and the day before the meetings begin

Internet/Direct Marketing/Social Media/Etc. (Michigan Conference)

- The Michigan Conference has partnered with Voice of Prophecy for a customized social media campaign targeting larger centers of population. Local churches may also purchase a Social Media promotional package from the Discovery Center marketing page to cover more of their local territory.



Discovering Revelation Radio Spots

Voice of Prophecy Script A (30-Second Spot)

Our world is in a state of turmoil: war, earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, the threat of pandemics, escalating crime, a shaky global economy and a volatile stock market. Our whole world is on edge. Millions are asking: "What on earth will happen next?" Find out by attending *Discovering Revelation*, a free local event starting on Monday, October 2. Visit DiscoveringRevelation.com to find your nearest location and to reserve your seat, that's DiscoveringRevelation.com

Voice of Prophecy Script B (30-Second Spot))

As we listen to the news, random violence and rapid changes in the world governments can make it feel like the ground is shifting beneath us. Is there any way to have certainty in life? What does the Bible say? Attend *Discovering Revelation*, coming to a location near you, and learn how you can clearly understand the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation, which offer us hope for the future. For more information about this free local event starting on Monday, October 2, please visit DiscoveringRevelation.com

Modified Jesus on Prophecy w/Children's Program (30-Second Spot)

Does Bible prophecy leave you feeling perplexed or fearful about what lies ahead? When Revelation's mysterious symbols are made clear, you will find peace and hope for the future. Come to *Discovering Revelation*, a free Bible prophecy series beginning on Monday, October 2 at multiple locations across [city or state]. Enjoy free study materials and a separate program for children. Go to DiscoveringRevelation.com to learn about dates, topics, and locations, or call **844-250-4000**. Pre-register and receive a **free gift**. Visit DiscoveringRevelation.com today!

Modified Jesus on Prophecy Script B (15-Second Spot)

Attend *Discovering Revelation*, a free Bible prophecy series coming to multiple locations beginning October 2. Pre-register today at DiscoveringRevelation.com, or by calling **844-250-4000**, and receive **a free prophecy DVD** on opening night. Visit DiscoveringRevelation.com today!

Discovering Revelation

Recommended Resource Table Schedule

Discovering Revelation Recommended Resource Table Schedule

Session	Day	Date	Message Title	Message Topic	Resource	Selling Price to Attendees	Where to Purchase
1	Mon	28-Mar	Our Day in Bible Prophecy	Signs	Balance Magazines Non-Controversial GLOW Bookmark #2: Signs You Can't Ignore Non-Controversial Pocketbooks	Free Free \$0.25 \$1.00	Lifestyle Matters 866-624-5433 www.lifestyl matters.com GLOW Central 517-316-1515 www.glowcentral.org Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com Amazing Facts 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org
2	Tue	29-Mar	The Master Key to Bible Prophecy	Daniel 2	GLOW: An Intelligent Faith? Bookmark #4: Prophecy's Metal Man DVD: An Ancient Dream Unlocks the Future	Free \$0.25 \$3.00	GLOW Central 517-316-1515 www.glowcentral.org Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com MI Cont Publishing 517-316-1515
3	Thu	31-Mar	The War Behind All Wars	Great Controversy	Bookmark #3: The Great Controversy DVD: Theodicy	\$0.25 \$3.00	Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com MI Cont Publishing 517-316-1515
4	Fri	1-Apr	Unfolding the Revelation	Salvation	NO CASH BOX ON WEEKENDS - NO SALES		
5	Sat	2-Apr	Revelation's Global Peace Plan	Law & Grace	NO CASH BOX ON WEEKENDS - NO SALES		
6	Mon	4-Apr	Revelation's Eternal Sign	Sabbath	GLOW: Why I Go To Church on Saturday GLOW: Return to Rest Bookmark #15: God's Law Bookmark #16: The Sabbath Pocketbook: Can a Saved Man Choose to be Lost? Pocketbook: Does God's Grace Blot Out the Law Pocketbook: Why God Said Remember Book: When God Said Remember DVD: The Ark and the Covenant	Free \$0.25 \$0.25 \$1.00 \$1.00 \$1.00 \$2.00 \$3.00	GLOW Central 517-316-1515 www.glowcentral.org Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com Amazing Facts 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org Amazing Facts 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org Amazing Facts 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org Adventist Book Ctr 517-316-1502 www.adventistbookcenter.com Anchor Point Films www.anchorpointfilms.com
7	Tue	5-Apr	History's Greatest Religious Cover-up	Change of the Sabbath	Bookmark #17: First-day Texts Pocketbook: Is Sunday Really Sacred? Pocketbook: Feast Days and Sabbaths	\$0.25 \$1.00 \$1.00	Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com Amazing Facts 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org Amazing Facts 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org
8	Thu	7-Apr	Revelation's Time of the End	Judgment & 2300 Days	Bookmark #6: 70 Weeks Prophecy Bookmark #11: 2300 Days Prophecy Bookmark #12: The Earthly Sanctuary Bookmark #13: The Heavenly Sanctuary Bookmark #14: The Judgment	\$0.25 \$0.25 \$0.25 \$0.25	Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com
9	Sat	9-Apr	The Mystery of Death	Death	NO CASH BOX ON WEEKENDS - NO SALES		
10	Mon	11-Apr	Revelation's 1,000 Years	Millennium	GLOW: Is There Hope After Death? GLOW: Can Dead People Talk? Bookmark #8: State of the Dead Bookmark #10: The Millennium Pocketbook: Solving the Mystery of Death Pocketbook: Absent From the Body Pocketbook: The Millennium DVD: Death, Near Death and Life After Death	Free Free \$0.25 \$0.25 \$1.00 \$1.00 \$1.00 \$3.00	GLOW Central 517-316-1515 www.glowcentral.org GLOW Central 517-316-1515 www.glowcentral.org Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com Amazing Facts 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org Amazing Facts 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org Anchor Point Films www.anchorpointfilms.com
11	Tue	12-Apr	Revelation's Lake of Fire	Hell	GLOW: Myths about Hell Bookmark #9: The Lake of Fire Pocketbook: The Hot Topic of Hell Pocketbook: The Rich Man and Lazarus Magazine: Hidden Truth	Free \$0.25 \$1.00 \$1.00 \$1.00	GLOW Central 517-316-1515 www.glowcentral.org Seminars Unit 800-274-0016 www.hopessource.com Amazing Facts 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org Amazing Facts 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org Amazing Facts 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org

**Discovering Revelation
Recommended Resource Table Schedule**

Session	Day	Date	Message Title	Message Topic	Resource	Selling Price to Attendees	Where to Purchase
12	Thu	14-Apr	A Thief in the Night	Second Coming	Bookmark #5: Christ's 2nd Coming Pocketbook: Anything But Secret	\$0.25 \$1.00	Seminars Unit Amazing Facts 800-274-0016 www.hopesource.com 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org
13	Sat	16-Apr	The U.S. in Bible Prophecy	U.S. in Prophecy	NO CASH BOX ON WEEKENDS - NO SALES		
14	Mon	18-Apr	Buried and Forgotten by God	Baptism	Bookmark #20: U.S. in Prophecy Pocketbook: America and the Ten Commandments Pocketbook: Baptism - Is It Really Necessary?	\$0.25 \$1.00 \$1.00	Seminars Unit Amazing Facts Amazing Facts 800-274-0016 www.hopesource.com 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org
15	Tue	19-Apr	Fitness for the Crisis	Health	Pocketbook: The Christian and Alcohol Pocketbook: Hogs & Other Hazards	\$1.00 \$1.00	Amazing Facts Amazing Facts 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org
16	Thu	21-Apr	Babylon Rising	Antichrist/Babylon	GIOW: Isaac Newton's Forgotten Discovery Bookmark #7: Antichrist Revealed DVD: The Antichrist Power Revealed DVD: The Antichrist Amendment	Free \$0.25 \$3.00 \$3.00	GIOW Central Seminars Unit Anchor Point Films Anchor Point Films 517-316-1515 www.glowcentral.org 800-274-0016 www.hopesource.com www.anchorpointfilms.com www.anchorpointfilms.com
17	Sat	23-Apr	The Mark of the Beast	Mark of the Beast	NO CASH BOX ON WEEKENDS - NO SALES		
18	Mon	25-Apr	The 144,000	Spiritual Israel & Sanctification	Bookmark #18: Mark of the Beast Bookmark #19: The Seal of God Pocketbook: Spiritual Israel Book: Exploding the Israel Deception Book: End-Time Delusions	\$0.25 \$0.25 \$1.00 \$3.00 \$10.00	Seminars Unit Seminars Unit Amazing Facts ABC ABC 517-316-0016 www.hopesource.com 800-274-0016 www.hopesource.com 800-538-7275 www.hopesource.com 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org 517-316-1502 www.adventistbookcenter.com 517-316-1502 www.adventistbookcenter.com
19	Tue	26-Apr	The Scarlet Woman	Babylon	Bookmark #21: Mystery Babylon Book: Why So Many Denominations? DVD: The Bride, the Beast and Babylon	\$0.25 \$3.00 \$4.00	Seminars Unit ABC Amazing Facts 800-274-0016 www.hopesource.com 517-316-1502 www.adventistbookcenter.com 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org
20	Thu	28-Apr	Back From the Wilderness	True Church	Pocketbook: A Light for the Last Days Book: Steps to Christ Book: Your Friends the Seventh-day Adventists Book: Desire of Ages Book: The Great Controversy	\$1.00 Free Free \$2.00 \$2.00	Amazing Facts ABC ABC ABC ABC 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org 517-316-1501 www.adventistbookcenter.com 517-316-1502 www.adventistbookcenter.com 517-316-1502 www.adventistbookcenter.com 517-316-1502 www.adventistbookcenter.com
21	Sat	30-Apr	The Unpardonable Sin	The Unpardonable Sin	Bookmark #24: Heaven Pocketbook: All that Glitters Pocketbook: Thieves in the Church Pocketbook: Heaven: Is It for Real?	\$0.25 \$1.00 \$1.00 \$1.00	Seminars Unit Amazing Facts Amazing Facts Amazing Facts 800-274-0016 www.hopesource.com 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org 800-538-7275 www.amazingfacts.org



Discovering Revelation Personal Soul-Winning Plan

Before the Series:

- 1. Pray for Interests.** Pray for those for whom you labor.
- 2. Build Relationships.** Hold “soil preparation” events – health, socials, community service, concerts, etc. – to minister to needs and build relationships with people in your community.
- 3. Literature.** Distribute literature and offer Bible studies to as many people as possible.
- 4. Bible Studies.** Engage in personal or small group Bible studies with as many people as possible. The more Bible studies during pre-work the greater the harvest at the meetings!!!
- 5. Reclaim Former and Inactive Members.** Visit, get reacquainted, invite to “soil preparation” events, and finally invite to the evangelistic meetings.
- 6. Personal Invitations.** Personally invite family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and any other potential interests for whom you have been praying and laboring to the evangelistic meetings. Also invite everyone on your existing interest lists to the meetings.
- 7. Mass Advertising.** Use mass handbill mailings to reach everyone within a reasonable drive time from your church (20-30 minutes or less).
- 8. Pre-Registration.** Collect names and contact information of those planning to attend using pre-registration.
- 9. Pray for Pre-Registrants.** Pray for each pre-registrant by name.

During the Series:

- 1. Registration & Attendance Tracking.** Collect names and contact information using guest registration and attendance tracking.
- 2. Daily Review of Attendance Report.** Produce and consistently review a full attendance report the day after each meeting. Evaluate the spiritual progress of each guest.
- 3. Pray for Guests.** Pray for each guest by name.
- 4. Socialize.** Be social and friendly with the guests.
- 5. Contact Non-Attending Pre-Registrants.** During the first week, send a letter and/or email, call, or visit those who pre-registered but have not attended, assuring them that it is not too late to attend.
- 6. Contact Non-Attending Personal Invites.** During the first week, call or visit those you have invited but who have not attended.
- 7. Weekly Letters.** Send weekly letters to all guests to inform of upcoming topics and encourage attendance.

8. Contact Missing Guests. Regularly call or visit those who missed two nights in a row or more. Church members or the speaker/pastor can do this. Make special efforts to contact those who miss more than one night after a sensitive topic or testing truth.

9. Spend Time with Guests. Spend as much time as possible with the guests before and after each meeting.

10. Resource Table. Sell tracts, magazines, books, and CD/DVD/media cards of the meetings at cost to affirm the truths being presented and lead to positive decisions.

11. Visit Regular Guests. After approximately 1/3 of the meetings, begin meeting with consistent guests personally before each nightly meeting or at their homes on off days/nights. Announce publicly that you would like to meet with everyone for feedback as to how we can improve and to address any personal questions.

12. Decision Cards. Use decision/response cards (5 in IIW series) to encourage, identify, and record spiritual decisions of guests.

13. Decision Cards Follow-up. Visit at the hall or in the home with those who mark positive decisions, especially for salvation, baptism, or the Sabbath, and offer prayer and encouragement.

14. Importance of Sabbath Decision. The decision regarding the Sabbath is often the deciding factor as to whether guests will continue studying with us. When visiting with guests in the second half of the series, ask, "So how have you felt about the meetings so far? Have you learned anything new? I know for many people the truth about the Sabbath can be surprising. Was that different for you?" Get them talking about it and encourage them to obey. Remind them of Jesus' words, "If you love Me, keep My commandments." Share stories of faith and obedience. Say, "The Lord will help you. God will honor those who honor Him." If someone has continued attending after the Sabbath presentation, but then stops coming due to some other topic (death, Spirit of Prophecy, lifestyle, etc.), visit with them and bring their attention back to the Sabbath. Even if they disagree on a different topic, does that make the Sabbath unimportant? Can they conscientiously continue worshiping on Sunday and violating one of the Ten Commandments? Suggest that they might worship with us on Sabbath even if there are other areas where we currently don't see eye to eye. The key is to keep them coming so that their hearts will soften and become receptive.

15. Baptismal Classes. After the baptism presentation is made and decisions for baptism or rebaptism are collected, hold baptismal classes each evening before the main presentation. Announce that the class is open and everyone is invited and encouraged to come.

After the Series:

1. Follow-up / "Phase 2" Meetings. About halfway through the baptismal classes, the main Discovering Revelation series will conclude. Have a second series that continues at a slightly slower pace (two weeknights plus Sabbath School). We recommend using the It Is Written Bible Study Guides or a similar series that will review the subjects you have just covered in the meetings. This series can begin during Sabbath School time while the Discovering Revelation meetings are still going on and should continue with no breaks after the main Discovering Revelation meetings are over.

2. Final Baptismal Preparation. Begin personally meeting with each baptismal candidate near the end of the baptismal classes to lead to final decisions for Christ and to ensure readiness for baptism.

3. Baptisms. Baptize those who are ready!

4. Spiritual Mentorship. Immediately assign a mentor to each new member who will utilize the Discipleship Handbook for church integration and discipleship, including ongoing weekly meetings between the mentor and new member.

5. Bible Study Follow-up. After the meetings have ended, begin Bible studies with anyone who is still interested but who missed a large portion of the meetings. Visit everyone who attended at least once but stopped coming and everyone who pre-registered but never attended. Offer personal or DVD Bible studies and invite to church events.

Our goal is not merely to hold a well-attended event, but to win souls. We can't assume that people will keep coming and eventually become members without earnest prayer, personal labor, and a clear process that leads to positive decisions for Christ and the truth!



Discovering Revelation Sample Evening Schedule

- 6:00pm – Staff Arrival Time (**first 2 meetings**)
- 6:25pm – Staff Arrival Time (**subsequent meetings**)
- 7:00pm – Welcome and Announcements (first night will take a little longer)
- 7:05pm – Health Presentation
- 7:15pm – Bible Answers (**beginning night 3 or 4**)
- 7:25pm – Special Music (you may opt to schedule these for weekends)
- 7:30pm – Prayer and Presentation
- 8:25pm – Appeal (song) and Prayer
- 8:30pm – Announce next two or three nights' topics & Dismiss
- 8:45pm – Staff Wrap-up and Prayer

General Guidelines for Staff

1. **Arrival Time.** Arrive 1 hour before start time the first 2 meetings. For future meetings, arrive 35 minutes before start. Have a few minutes of staff prayer and instruction 45 minutes before the first 2 meetings and 30 minutes before subsequent meetings. When baptismal classes are added later, arrival time will be 20 minutes before the class.
2. **Dress & Hygiene.** Dress code is business casual. All staff should dress modestly and neatly, avoiding jewelry or heavy perfumes and taking care to maintain proper hygiene.
3. **Name Badges.** Wear a name badge if you are serving in an area that is in direct contact with the guests (Greeter, Registration, etc.).

Tips for Church Members

4. **Conduct yourself like a visitor.** Register, fill out decision cards, take handouts, and avoid conspicuously gathering in groups with other members.
5. **Give opportunity for visitors to respond.** Avoid shouting out every answer. Answering the speaker's questions can be helpful, but don't give the impression that you already know everything the speaker is saying.
6. **Be friendly and pray.** Sit by or near visitors and be friendly. Pray for the speaker and the visitors, especially during appeals.



Discovering Revelation Complete Meeting Schedule

#	Sermon Title	Topic
1	A New World Order	Daniel 2: "There is a God in Heaven"
2	Planet in Upheaval	Mt. 24: Jesus is coming soon
3	Armageddon	Rev. 16 & Dan. 5: Understanding prophecy
4	The Man of Revelation	Rev. 4 & 5: Gospel presentation
5	The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse	Rev. 6: Demonstrating Historicism
6	The Time of the End, Pt 1	Dan. 8: Intro to 2300 days, judgment
7	The Time of the End, Pt 2	Dan. 9: 70 weeks, 1844, judgment
8	The Appearing	Manner of 2nd coming; sets stage for little horn
9	The Anatomy of Evil	Rev. 12: Origin of evil/Great Controversy
10	The Ultimate Mind Game	Rev. 14: Christian lifestyle
11	The Coming of the Lawless One	God's law & character vs. last-day lawlessness
12	Revelation's Sign of God	Sabbath as sign of allegiance to our Creator
13	Revelation's Forgotten History	Change of the Sabbath, first day texts
14	A River Runs Through It	Baptism
15	Babylon Rising	Dan. 7 & Rev. 13: The little horn power
16	Revelation's Keys of Death	State of the Dead
17	Secrets of Answered Prayer	Importance of Prayer (or Personal Testimony)
18	God's Strange Act	Destruction of the Wicked
19	A Desolate Planet	The Millennium and Heaven
20	How to Postpone Your Funeral	Biblical Health Principles
21	Return of the Woman	Rev. 12: The Remnant Church
22	Mark of the Beast	Rev. 13: Mark of the Beast, USA in Prophecy
23	The Testimony of Jesus	The Gift of Prophecy, tests of prophets and EGW
24	The Last Night on Earth	Final appeal



Sample weekly letter 1 of 4

Dear Friend,

Thank you for joining us for our opening week of *Discovering Revelation*. We are so glad you came! Soon, the topics of prophecy that we have examined will begin to fit together like the pieces of a puzzle. You will understand God's plan for your life and the future of our world. Here's a sample of what's to come:

Tuesday, March 10 — The Man of Revelation. We'll be looking at Revelation chapters 4 and 5 and touching on the most important theme in Bible prophecy. Without this foundation, it is virtually impossible to truly grasp Bible prophecy.

Wednesday, March 11 — The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse. Revelation 6 paints a surprising picture of the history of our world. It's a prophecy that reveals, once again, that we are quickly running out of time. Most of it has already been fulfilled!

Thursday, March 12 — No Meeting. There are no presentations on Mondays or Thursdays. Enjoy an evening off!

Friday, March 13 — The Time of the End, Part 1. The Bible is quite clear that "no one knows the day or hour" of Christ's return. (Matthew 24:36, 42) At the same time, the Bible indicates that we can know when we're getting close (Matthew 24:32), and there's a startling prophecy that clearly marks when earth's history is moving into its final phase.

Saturday, March 14 — The Time of the End, Part 2. We'll be picking up where we left off on Friday evening, and delve into one of the biggest mysteries of Bible prophecy. Has our world finally moved into the "last days"?

Sunday, March 15 — The Appearing. What will it actually be like when Jesus returns? What should we expect?

Thank you for attending this past weekend! Remember to [periodically check our website, \[insert your website here\]](#) for updates and announcements. We'll be continuing our studies in the book of Revelation and you won't want to miss a single presentation. Thanks again for coming!

Yours in Christ,

P.S. Even if you've missed some meetings, I hope you'll join us again—we'll help you get up to speed! And don't forget, [once you attend 10 nights, you will receive a free Bible.](#)



Sample weekly letter 2 of 4

Dear Friend,

We are so glad that you've been attending *Discovering Revelation*. Very soon, the principles we've been learning each night will take us to a point where we will be able to stand back and see an amazing big picture emerge from the book of Revelation! Here's just a taste of what's to come:

Tuesday, March 17, at 7 p.m. — The Anatomy of Evil

If God is good, then why is there so much evil and suffering? Let's find the answer by studying the prophecy of Revelation 12.

Wednesday, March 18, at 7 p.m. — The Ultimate Mind Game

Most modern books place the climax of the story at the end, but the climax of Revelation is at the very heart of the book. We'll look at the stunning opening verses of Revelation 14.

Thursday, March 19 — No Meeting.

There are no presentations on Mondays or Thursdays. Enjoy an evening off!

Friday, March 20, at 7 p.m. — The Coming of the Lawless One

We've already touched on a prophecy that predicts his arrival. What should we be looking for?

Saturday, March 21, at 7 p.m. — Revelation's Sign of God

There is an incredible sign in Bible prophecy that demonstrates God's love for us. This is a subject the devil hates!

Sunday, March 22, at 7 p.m. — Revelation's Forgotten History

There's something that everyone is convinced can be found in the Bible. Is it really in there? You'll be amazed at what the Christian church seems to have forgotten.

We'll be continuing through April 4. Don't forget: There are never meetings on Mondays or Thursdays. Each night's presentation will build on previous nights, helping us see prophecy in a way that makes Revelation as clear as other portions of the Bible. You won't want to miss a single presentation. Thanks for coming!

Yours in Christ,

P.S. Even if you've missed some meetings, I hope you'll join us again—we'll get you up to speed! And don't forget, once you attend 10 nights, you will receive a free Bible.



Sample weekly letter 3 of 4

Dear Friend,

It's hard to believe, but we've just passed the halfway point of *Discovering Revelation*! I've really been enjoying the chance to meet everyone before and after each meeting. If we haven't yet had an opportunity to chat, please come up and say "hi!"

I hope you've been getting a lot out of the nightly messages—I encourage you to continue studying the subjects we've discussed. Our meetings will continue at the [insert your location here] through April 4. In order to cover as much material as possible, we will hold two sessions on Saturday, March 28—at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Here's a preview of some upcoming topics:

Tuesday, March 24, at 7 p.m. — A River Runs Through It

Tonight, we'll look at an amazing thread that runs all the way through the Bible—from Genesis to Revelation.

Wednesday, March 25, at 7 p.m. — Babylon Rising

This will be a deep study of Bible prophecy, building on the principles we've learned. Who or what is the beast of Revelation 13?

Thursday, March 26 — No Meeting.

There are no presentations on Mondays or Thursdays. Enjoy an evening off!

Friday, March 27, at 7 p.m. — Revelation's Keys of Death

What happens one minute after you die? What does that have to do with the Second Coming? The Bible provides amazing details!

Saturday, March 28, at 10:30 a.m. — Secrets of Answered Prayer (Extra Meeting!)

Do you feel like your prayers never rise higher than the ceiling? Learn how to have a meaningful prayer life.

Saturday, March 28, at 7 p.m. — God's Strange Act

Bible prophecy tells us that God does something unusual to deal with pain and suffering once and for all. What is God's "strange act"?

Sunday, March 29, at 7 p.m. — A Desolate Planet

What does the Bible say about the millennium? Through the lens of Bible prophecy, we're going to discover a remarkable scenario—and take a sneak peek at heaven itself!

You won't want to miss a single night. These upcoming presentations are crucial, and at the end, with all the puzzle pieces in place, an amazing panorama of Bible prophecy will be revealed. And don't forget to pick up your free Bible once you attend 10 meetings!

Yours in Christ,



Sample weekly letter 4 of 4

Dear Friend,

Can you believe we're nearing the end of our month-long Bible study? It has been great getting to know you over these last few weeks. Since the beginning of March, we've been studying the Bible and gathering information, and all of this has been leading up to something big! During our **three sessions Friday and Saturday**, you will get a chance to step back and see the big picture. The puzzle pieces we've been assembling will result in a glorious panorama of prophecy that you won't want to miss! Here are our upcoming topics:

Tuesday, March 31, at 7 p.m. — How to Postpone Your Funeral

This is one of my favorite subjects. In addition to revealing our future, the Bible tells us how to get more out of life right now—literally. The information found in Scripture has given some people almost an extra decade of life!

Wednesday, April 1, at 7 p.m. — Return of the Woman

The woman of Revelation 12 goes into hiding . . . and then, at the last minute, she comes back for a very specific purpose.

Thursday, April 2 — No Meeting.

Friday, April 3, at 7 p.m. — Mark of the Beast

Tonight, we're going to finish unpacking the 13th chapter of Revelation. The picture that emerges when you study the whole prophecy is startling. What is the mark of the beast? How can you avoid it?

Saturday, April 4, at 10:30 a.m. — The Testimony of Jesus (Extra Meeting!)

There is something that God's last-day people should expect to find on planet Earth just before the Second Coming. What is it? Tonight we'll also explore the predictions of people like Nostradamus and Edgar Cayce—and put them to the Bible test!

Saturday, April 4, at 7 p.m. — The Last Night on Earth

It really will happen. This planet—as we know it—will come to a grinding halt. You're going to hear an amazing story that has a direct bearing on your life right now. God has been preparing you for something remarkable!

And please don't forget, for those of you who want to keep studying, we will continue exploring the Bible through a number of events that will be taking place across the **[insert your location here...i.e. Greater Raleigh area]**. I'll tell you all about them this weekend. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Yours in Christ,

Discovering Revelation

Sample Decision Cards



My Decision for Jesus ¶

- I surrender my life fully to Christ. ¶
- I want to be baptized by immersion, the way Jesus was. ¶
- I have been baptized, but have questions about rebaptism. ¶
- Please pray for me—I need help in solving a problem. ¶
- I would like a personal visit. ¶

NAME _____ PHONE _____ ¶

ADDRESS _____ ¶



My Decision for Jesus ¶

- I have heard about the Seventh-day Sabbath before. ... YES ... NO ¶
- It is clear to me from the Bible that Saturday, the seventh day, is ←
God's Sabbath. ... YES ... NO ¶
- Pray for me. I am considering what this means for me. ¶
 - I would like more information. ¶

NAME _____ PH _____ ¶

ADDRESS _____ ¶



Discovering Revelation Baptismal Class Instructions

The *Discovering Revelation* baptismal class handouts are adapted from a baptismal preparation card developed by Gary Gibbs and used by Amazing Facts evangelists. The handouts contain a 19-point summary of the 28 fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, broken down into 11 separate handouts. These 11 handouts are designed for 11 baptismal class sessions, each lasting 35 minutes.

Two special considerations allow the classes to begin just after the mid-point of a series of evangelistic meetings (rather than waiting until the series is over) without fear of covering topics prematurely: (1) The topics are organized in such a way that you will not cover a sensitive area in the baptismal class prior to the subject having been presented in your evangelistic meeting; and (2) The baptismal points, rather than being given in one card or booklet, are on separate handouts so that candidates receive only the information being covered in a specific class and are not tempted to “read ahead” prematurely.

It is best to begin a baptismal class as soon as decisions for baptism are made. This ensures that you “strike while the iron is hot” and increases the likelihood of having baptisms soon after your evangelistic meetings have ended. One method of doing this is to schedule your baptismal classes to begin 45 minutes prior to the start of the evangelistic meetings (plan to begin two or three nights after gaining decisions at the baptism presentation). If the baptismal class is 35 minutes, it will allow a 10-minute break between the baptismal class and the main meeting. With this in view, you may want to consider starting your evangelistic meetings at 7:15 p.m. Though guests may be able to arrive earlier than this, you are planning ahead for when you will add your baptismal classes, which if you begin your main meeting at 7:15 could be held at 6:30 p.m.

The Importance of Baptismal Preparation

Preparing someone for baptism is one of the most rewarding and yet challenging aspects of winning a soul to Christ. The baptismal preparation process requires genuine kindness and sympathy for the weaknesses of others. At the same time, it requires courage and strength to faithfully instruct and then urge the candidate to honor God by obeying His will. It is not only a lack of discipleship after baptism, but also a lack of faithful instruction *before* baptism, that results in many new members leaving the church through the proverbial “back door.”

Readiness for baptism involves three main areas:

- **The Heart** – The candidate should have a genuine interest in the Bible and spiritual things, manifesting a love for Jesus that gives evidence of a converted heart.
- **The Mind** – The candidate should understand and believe the fundamental teachings of the Bible.
- **The Actions** – The candidate should manifest a genuine trust in God by being obedient to the clear teachings of Scripture in practical habits and lifestyle.

In most cases, the most challenging of these areas is the *actions*, or practical obedience to God's Word. Learning that we are out of harmony with God's will in some practical area of our daily lives can be an unwelcome surprise. Because of this, instruction is often neglected to avoid offending, creating discomfort, or discouraging someone from continuing toward baptism. However, a great blessing is lost when faithful instruction is not given as someone is contemplating a full surrender to Christ in baptism.

By helping the baptismal candidate to find victory over sinful habits or other obstacles in their lives, we help them to experience what it means to have a saving relationship with Christ – one built on repentance and faith. As practical obstacles are faced and overcome, faith in Christ grows, and Jesus dwells more fully in the heart. A failure to instruct and gain decisions in practical areas before baptism will usually lead to greater problems after baptism. Consider the following counsel:

“Before baptism, there should be a thorough inquiry as to the experience of the candidates. Let this inquiry be made, not in a cold and distant way, but kindly, tenderly, pointing the new converts to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. Bring the requirements of the gospel to bear upon the candidates for baptism” (*Evangelism*, p. 311).

“The test of discipleship is not brought to bear as closely as it should be upon those who present themselves for baptism ... When they give evidence that they fully understand their position, they are to be accepted. But when they show that they are following the customs and fashions and sentiments of the world, they are to be faithfully dealt with. If they feel no burden to change their course of action, they should not be accepted as members of the church. The Lord wants those who compose His church to be true, faithful stewards of the grace of Christ” (*Pastoral Ministry*, p. 164).

“God would be better pleased to have six truly converted to the truth ... than to have sixty make a nominal profession, and yet not be thoroughly converted” (*Evangelism*, p. 320).

While careful preparation is important, we are not to withhold baptism because we perceive a lack of sincerity or wrong motives. We are to examine the fruit of the life, but leave the responsibility of the motive to the candidate:

“There is one thing that we have no right to do, and that is to judge another man's heart or impugn his motives. But when a person presents himself as a candidate for church membership, we are to examine the fruit of his life, and leave the responsibility of his motive with himself. But great care should be exercised in accepting members into the church; for Satan has his specious devices through which he purposes to crowd false brethren into the church, through whom he can work more successfully to weaken the cause of God” (*Evangelism*, p. 313).

It is important to understand that many who desire baptism are not truly ready for baptism until they go through the preparation process itself. By prayerfully guiding the candidate to a more thorough understanding of Scripture and a deeper commitment to Christ, you can significantly increase his or her likelihood of becoming a faithful, productive, and steadfast disciple of Christ. Furthermore, you can experience a special bond of love and friendship to last throughout eternity.

How to Use the Discovering Revelation Baptismal Class Handouts

1. Present the topic of baptism at your evangelistic meetings and make a decision card appeal. Your decision card should have a place to circle decisions for baptism, rebaptism, and simply to become part of a Sabbath-keeping body of believers.
2. Over the next 1-2 days, visit or call every individual who marked his or her card with one of the decisions referred to in step #1. Invite them all to attend the baptismal class beginning at 6:30 p.m. before the next evangelistic meeting.
3. On the night after your baptism presentation, in addition to personally inviting everyone who marked a decision on a card, make an announcement to the entire audience before the meeting begins. Say, "Last night there were many of you who expressed interest in baptism, rebaptism, or just worshiping with a Sabbath-keeping body of believers. So beginning tomorrow night, we will begin holding doctrinal classes at 6:30 p.m. to help prepare those who have expressed that kind of interest. But even if you did not mark your card because perhaps you are still thinking things through, we want to extend an open invitation to these classes. All are invited and there is no pressure or requirement attached to attending. You are encouraged to just come and listen and learn and be blessed. So that begins ___ night at 6:30 p.m. and we hope that many of you can come. Then there will be a 10-minute break before our *Discovering Revelation* presentations begins at 7:15 p.m."
4. The baptismal classes are not intended to be a comprehensive explanation of every topic. Most of the topics are already covered during the evangelistic meetings and the baptismal class simply reviews these and fills in the blanks for certain other beliefs. The baptismal preparation actually occurs in four complementary ways: (1) Evangelistic meetings; (2) Baptismal classes; (3) One-on-one baptism preparation meetings; (4) Carefully chosen books and other resources.
5. In the pages that follow, a "Baptismal Class Outline" will provide the key points to be shared when teaching the baptismal class (the same points apply to personal baptismal preparation). It is important that some fundamental beliefs not covered in an evangelistic meeting are clearly expressed in the baptismal class (e.g., the Godhead, Creation, etc.).
6. At the conclusion of each class, hand out resources that will reinforce what will be presented in the next class. Especially is this important, for instance, if you are not covering areas of Christian lifestyle or dress in your evangelistic meetings. It is often helpful for them to read about these truths first, rather than being caught off guard in a small group or personal setting. Providing reading material is just one more way to reinforce the presentations/classes and prepare the heart for the reception of truth. There is a list of recommended pocketbooks & tracts given in a chart on the next page, or you may have other favorite resources to reinforce the topics.

7. Explain (during early baptismal classes) that for those who have shown interest in baptism, you will schedule personal appointments toward the end of the classes to help fill in the blanks for any classes that were missed and to help answer questions, etc.
8. When most of the baptismal classes have been completed, schedule and begin meeting personally with any candidates who may already be acquainted with the sensitive topics that have yet to be presented in the baptismal class. Schedule to meet with the others as soon as those topics have been covered. Sensitive truths may be presented in a baptismal class, but many decisions will only be made from personal appeals in a private visit. Of course, never make a visit with someone of the opposite sex without someone else accompanying.
9. Prior to your personal appointment, review the attendance record to determine what topics might still need covered with the candidate due to missing evangelistic meetings or baptismal classes.
10. When meeting personally, briefly review the 19 points on the baptismal class handouts and do a more in-depth study of any that the candidate may not have heard. This process may take only a small portion of one meeting or it may take several meetings depending on how many evangelistic meetings and/or baptismal classes were missed.
11. Now is where you really need to pray earnestly for the candidate. The last decisions are often the hardest! If you do not perceive that there is anything standing in the way of the baptism, simply ask the candidate if there is any doctrine or practical commitment in the baptismal class handouts with which they still feel uncomfortable. If you know there is an obstacle that the candidate is not acknowledging, it is sometimes helpful to ask him or her to take time to carefully read the points at home, and schedule a time to meet again so that you can address any hurdles or objections.
12. Lastly, once a candidate agrees to the points in the baptismal class handouts, and you feel comfortable with the visible evidences of their faith, set a date for the baptism!

Discovering Revelation

Baptismal Class Outline

Baptismal Class – Session 1

1. The Bible is the inspired Word of God, the standard of both doctrine and conduct. **2 Timothy 3:15- 17; Matthew 4:4.**
2. There are three members of the Godhead - the Father; His Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit. **Genesis 1:26; Matthew 3:16,17; 28:19.**

Baptismal Class – Session 2

3. Jesus Christ, because of His love for us, died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins of breaking God's holy law. **John 3:16; 1 John 3:4; 1 Corinthians 15:3.**
4. Our response to Jesus Christ is to repent of our sins and accept Him as our personal Savior. **Acts 20:21; Revelation 3:20.** Because of His death in our behalf, Jesus freely forgives our sins and gives us the gift of eternal life. **Matthew 26:28; Romans 6:23; 1 John 5:11-13.**
5. Another part of our response to Jesus is to surrender our lives to be ruled by Him and His truths. It is important for us to grow in our relationship with Him by personal Bible study and prayer. **Romans 6:16-18; John 14:15; 1 John 3:22.**

Baptismal Class – Session 3

6. Those who love Jesus will choose to keep the Ten Commandments. Exodus 20:3-17; John 14:15. We obey through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Romans 7:7,12; 8:4; Revelation 14:12; 22:14.**
7. "The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord." **Exodus 20:8-11.** Jesus' followers will keep the Sabbath holy "according to the commandment" (**Luke 23:56**) from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday. **Nehemiah 13:19; Leviticus 23:32; Mark 1:32; Isaiah 58:13,14.**

Baptismal Class – Session 4

8. Jesus' second coming in the clouds of Heaven will be audible, personal, literal, and "every eye shall see Him." **Revelation 1:7; Acts 1:9-11.** God's people prepare for His coming. **Matthew 24:44.**
9. The dead are asleep unconsciously in their graves awaiting the resurrection. **Ps. 13:3; Eccl. 9:5-6; Jn. 5:28-29; Acts 2:29,34; 1 Cor. 15:51-54.**

Baptismal Class – Session 5

10. Sequence of end-time events: (1) Resurrection of saved at Second Coming. **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.** (2) Desolation of earth and Satan bound for 1000 years. **1 Thessalonians 5:1-3; Jeremiah 4:23-26; 25:30-33; Revelation 20:1-3.** (3) Righteous in heaven for 1000 years. **Revelation 20:4.** (4) Resurrection of the wicked and Satan loosed at end of 1000 years. **Revelation 20:5,7.** (5) Final destruction of Satan and wicked in lake of fire. **Revelation 20:15; Malachi 4:1-3.** (6) Creation of new heaven and earth. **Revelation 21:1,4,5.**

Baptismal Class – Sessions 6 & 7

11. There is a sanctuary in heaven where Jesus is ministering now during the judgment. **Hebrews 8:1-2; Revelation 11:19; Daniel 7:9-10; Revelation 14:7.**
12. The Seventh-day Adventist Church fulfills the prophetic description of the remnant church whose mission is to prepare people for Jesus' second coming. **Revelation 12:17; 14:6-16.** We believe in church organization (**1 Corinthians 12:28**), and in the importance of church attendance. **Hebrews 10:25.** We wish to follow the example of Jesus, who "as His custom was, went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day." **Luke 4:16.**
13. The gift of prophecy is an identifying mark of God's last day people, and the Seventh-day Adventist Church recognizes this gift in the ministry of Ellen G. White. **Revelation 12:17; 19:10; 22:9.**

Baptismal Class – Session 8

14. Jesus established the foot-washing service and the Lord's Supper. **John 13:1-17; 1 Corinthians 11:23- 26.**
15. Baptism by immersion (**Matthew 3:16,17**), symbolizes the burial of my old life of sin and resurrection to a new life in Jesus. **Romans 6:3,4.** Baptism makes the believer a member of a "body," or church. Following Jesus in baptism at the conclusion of your preparation will make you a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. **1 Corinthians 12:13; Acts 2:41, 47; 19:1-5.**

Baptismal Class – Session 9

16. Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit. **1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 10:31.** As a result, we will abstain from unclean foods (**Genesis 7:2; Leviticus 11**), and addictive, non-prescription drugs such as alcohol (**Proverbs 20:1; 23:29-33**), tobacco, caffeine, and illegal drugs. **Exodus 20:13.** God's grace will help us to live healthy lives. **3 John 2.**

Baptismal Class – Session 10

17. By connection with Christ, we desire to overcome the sinful ways of the world. **1 John 2:14-17.** We will avoid reading, watching, and listening to sinful things that the Bible condemns. **Philippians 4:8; Ephesians 5:19.** We will follow in the humble steps of Jesus and not wear jewelry or immodest clothing. **1 Timothy 2:9-10; 1 Peter 2:21; 3:3-4.**

Baptismal Class – Session 11

18. Marriage between a man and woman was affirmed by Jesus and should be formally recognized by the laws of the state. **Genesis 2:24; Hebrews 13:4.** We should not be involved in "common law" relationships. **Matthew 19:3-9; John 2:1-11.**
19. The Bible teaches about returning tithes and offerings. **Malachi 3:8-10; Matthew 23:23; 2 Corinthians 9:7,8.** Desiring to be good stewards of all God has given us, we support the Lord's work according to our ability. And as good stewards, we also refrain from gambling.

Discovering Revelation

Baptismal Class Topics & Teaching Tips

This outline explains important areas to emphasize during the baptismal class.

1. Bible

- a. "ALL Scripture is given by inspiration of God." We believe in Old & New Testaments. We don't believe in picking and choosing.
- b. We take Bible literally unless metaphoric or symbolic language is used. For example, we believe in the literal 6-day creation and a literal worldwide flood. The Bible is trustworthy even when popular science disagrees.

2. Trinity

- a. The Father and Jesus are equally loving – "He who has seen Me has seen the Father." John 14:9.
- b. Jesus is fully divine and has always existed – "His goings forth are from everlasting." Micah 5:2.
- c. Jesus is fully man and was "in all points tempted as we are." Hebrews 4:15.
- d. The Holy Spirit is a person and fully God. Jesus called the Spirit "He" and "Him" continually, denoting a person (John 14 and 16). The Spirit can be insulted (Heb. 10:29) and grieved (Eph. 4:30), denoting feelings. The Great Commission was to baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matt. 28:18-20)—the Holy Spirit here included as an equal member of the Godhead.
- e. The Trinity, or Godhead (Rom. 1:20; Col. 2:9), consists of 3 individual persons with different roles but equally all-powerful and all-knowing. Three individual persons, but one God – or Godhead. The Bible says, "Then God said, 'Let US make man in OJoP image.'" Genesis 1:26.

3. The Cross

- a. Jesus died to pay the penalty for our sins. Romans 6:23; 1 Corinthians 15:3.
- b. Jesus' death was different from normal death. He died the sinner's death of separation from God – the weight of shame. This is why He was sorrowful, "even unto death." Matt. 26:38. It is why He sweat "great drops of blood." Luke 22:44. The sorrow and shame caused by carrying our sins as if they were His own (Isa. 53:4-6) was causing Jesus' physical death. On the cross, He cried, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" because He could not see the Father's assurance through the guilt of our sins.

4. Repentance & Forgiveness

- a. We cannot manufacture repentance. We have to come to Christ just as we are. His love and goodness leads us to repentance. Repentance is a gift. Romans 2:4; Acts 5:31.
- b. God is faithful and just to forgive. 1 John 1:9.

- c. Receiving forgiveness happens as we forgive others. Matthew 6:12, 14 – inquire as to anyone with whom bitterness may be harbored rather than a spirit of forgiveness.

5. Growing with Jesus Christ as Lord

- a. We cannot accept Jesus as Savior without also accepting Him as Lord. Jesus isn't divided.
- b. Prayer is the breath of the soul. It must be honest – like talking to a friend. Try praying on your knees to encourage humility and out loud to encourage faith. Prayer isn't for God to learn about us but to bring us into a spiritual frame of mind that is in harmony with God.
- c. Personal Bible study is not an optional practice for the Christian – it sustains spiritual life (spiritual hunger, interest, etc.). The Word is living (Heb. 4:12); the words Jesus speaks are spirit and life (John 6:63); man is to “live” by every word that proceeds from God (Matt. 4:4).
- d. Daily prayer and Bible study should be part of the new life with Christ. If the candidate does not already have this habit, help him or her to begin building it now.

6. The Ten Commandments

- a. The law is still valid in the New Testament – Romans 2:21-23, 7:12, 14; Ephesians 6:1-3; James 2:10-12; 1 John 3:4.
- b. The Spirit is given to overcome obstacles to obedience when we choose to obey – John 14:15- 17; Acts 5:32.

7. Sabbath Observance

- a. Sundown to sundown – Genesis 1:5 – evening was first part of day, then light part. See also Leviticus 23:32 – which is speaking of a ceremonial sabbath but still makes the point that it is to be celebrated from evening to evening. See Mark 1:32 for a definition of evening.
- b. Exodus 20:8-11 – You nor your servant nor anyone within your gates is to work on the Sabbath (i.e. don't hire out work on Sabbath, don't work on Friday night, etc.). It is lawful to do good on Sabbath (Luke 6:9), but the context is saving life – emergencies or relief of suffering – not building a deck for a neighbor or some other work that could be done on any other day.
- c. No buying or selling – Nehemiah 13:15 – leads us to prepare for Sabbath by fueling our cars and buying our groceries on Friday (Preparation Day – Mark 15:42) and not eating out or going shopping on Sabbath.
- d. Isaiah 58:13-14 – the Sabbath principle text. The Sabbath is for delighting in the Lord. Personal hobbies and pleasures (football games, etc.) should not occupy us on the one day the Lord has asked us to keep holy for building our relationship with Him. The Sabbath is for spiritual things.
- e. Give possible approach to common Sabbath challenges – parties, work outings, etc.

8. The Second Coming

- a. No secret rapture – “every eye shall see Him.” Revelation 1:7.
- b. Literal, audible, personal – 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17.
- c. We need to be ready and not be lulled to sleep by the “cares of this life.” Luke 21:34.

9. Death

- a. The dead sleep until the resurrection. Psalm 13:3; John 11:13; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18.
- b. Those who die do not go straight to heaven or hell. Acts 2:29-34.
- c. There is no consciousness in death. Ecclesiastes 9:5-6.

10. Resurrection, Millennium, Lake of Fire, New Earth

- a. Resurrection of the righteous at Jesus coming. 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.
- b. 1,000 years of desolation on earth with Satan bound and no one for him to deceive. Revelation 20:1-3; Jeremiah 4:23-26.
- c. Righteous have “judgment” committed to them in heaven during 1,000 years. This doesn’t determine saved or lost, but the saints demonstrate agreement with the righteous judgment of God. Revelation 20:4; 1 Corinthians 6:2-3.
- d. Unrighteous are resurrected at the end of 1,000 years, surround holy city, and are devoured by the lake of fire. The wicked are not burned for all eternity but are totally destroyed – brought to ashes by the fire. Revelation 20:15; Malachi 4:1-3.

11. The Heavenly Sanctuary and Judgment Hour

- a. Jesus is our High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary. Hebrews 8:1-2.
- b. Jesus is interceding for sinners and serving as our “advocate” in the heavenly judgment described in Daniel 7:9-14 and in the words “cleansing of the sanctuary” in Daniel 8:14.
- c. The judgment, or cleansing of the sanctuary, began at the conclusion of the 2300 days of Daniel 8:14, or in 1844. This is why God’s people can say that the hour of His judgment “has come” in Revelation 14:7.
- d. Judgment precedes the coming of Jesus because when He comes His reward is with Him. Revelation 22:12.

12. The Remnant Church, and

13. The Spirit of Prophecy

- a. Revelation 12:17 teaches last-day church will keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus. The testimony of Jesus is the prophetic gift (Revelation 19:10; 22:8-9).
- b. God always worked through the law and the prophets, but when His people rejected His law He ceased given them instruction through prophetic visions (Isaiah 8:20, Ezekiel 7:26; Lamentations 2:9). When God wanted to restore the truth of the Sabbath (the Law), He also restored visions (the Prophets). God gave prophetic visions to point people back to the Bible and His law that they had neglected to follow.

- c. The SDA Church recognizes that time is needed to fully have confidence in the prophetic ministry of Ellen G. White. When one is baptized he or she commits to recognizing that the prophetic gift is one of the identifying marks of the last day church and that the gift of prophecy is still available to the church through the end of time. Eph. 4:11-13; Joel 2:28-31. While not having much experience with Ellen White's writings, a candidate for baptism should be inclined to believe rather than doubt the authenticity of her prophetic gift.
- d. Matthew 24:14 predicts the gospel going to the entire world before the end comes. Revelation 14 shows the fulfillment of this with the gospel in verse 6 and the end coming in verse 14, with detail given in verses 7-13 as to what that gospel must include. Seventh-day Adventists recognize the messages of the three angels of Revelation 14 as representing the last message we are to deliver to the world. These messages include a call to worship God as creator (the Sabbath), a call that judgment has come (cleansing of the sanctuary), a call that Babylon is fallen (error exposed by truths about death, hell, second coming, etc., being restored), and a warning against worshiping according to tradition instead of the commandments of God (mark of the beast).
- e. The special calling of the SDA Church leads its members to:
 - Regularly attend church just like Jesus. Luke 4:16. The importance of attending Sabbath School and Prayer Meeting should also be explained.
 - Embrace the mission of sharing this end-time message in our personal sphere of influence and beyond.

14. The Lord's Supper and Foot-washing

- a. John 13:14-17 – We wash one another's feet because Jesus told us to do so.
- b. We use grape juice and not fermented wine for the Lord's Supper since wine was a term used to refer to both fermented and unfermented juice. Isaiah 65:8. Context must be considered to determine which was meant.
- c. We practice "open communion," meaning that Christians of any denomination are invited to participate in the ordinance.
- d. The Lord's Supper is a believer's ordinance like baptism. Just like we don't have infant or early childhood baptism, we don't have infant or early childhood participation in the Lord's Supper. Parents are encouraged to maintain the sacredness of the service by choosing to educate their children through observation rather than participation until they are of age to discern the true meaning of the symbols. 1 Corinthians 11:27-28. Since that is the same time that baptism becomes meaningful, we simply encourage young children to be baptized before partaking in Communion.

15. Baptism

- a. Represents dying to old ways and committing to new ways. Romans 6:3-4.
- b. Someone being baptized is baptized into the body of Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:13. To be in a body you must be connected with other parts of the same body. Baptism, therefore, makes someone a part, or member, of the body of believers with whom they agree concerning the fundamental teachings of the Bible – in this case, the SDA Church. By being baptized, we join ourselves with a local body of believers (local SDA church) who are also joined with a worldwide body of believers (worldwide SDA Church). There is no such thing as a "lone

ranger” Christian. 1 Cor. 12:20-22. The early church was organized (elders, deacons, leadership conference in Acts 15, etc.) and we should not be afraid of organization – only corrupt organization.

16. Health

- a. Health is important, but as a church we recognize that improvement in health is progressive (increased exercise and water, improved nutrition, etc.). The progressive element of health improvements is recognized with the exception of two areas – these two areas we believe to violate the Scriptural injunction to not defile the body temple (1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 6:19) and should therefore be entirely abstained from when we make our commitment to follow Christ:
 - Unclean foods – Leviticus 11 – this distinction existed in the time of the flood (Genesis 7:1-2), which was before God instructed the Jewish nation with temporary, ceremonial laws.
 - Addictive and mind-altering substances (non-prescription) – Alcohol, tobacco, caffeinated beverages, etc. These are mind-altering and addictive. Try substituting with things that are not addictive or artificially stimulating. God wants our minds to be clear so that we are more attentive to the voice of conscience and stronger to resist temptation.

17. Christian Behavior

- a. Avoid reading, watching, or listening to sinful things. Philippians 4:8 should be the filter through which all our entertainment passes (i.e. TV, movies, music, internet, video games, etc.). Hollywood does not appeal to the spiritual nature but to the carnal. Caution is needed because even non-“sinful” amusements can blunt our interest in spiritual things.
- b. Christians should dress modestly – avoiding clothes that are too revealing, clothes that are overly priced just because of a label, or jewelry (a watch or tie clip that is functional we do not consider jewelry). 1 Timothy 2:9-10; 1 Peter 3:3-4 (the word “merely” in some translations is added); Revelation 12:1 compared with Revelation 17:4. A wedding band, while symbolic, is not considered necessary by many. Others, however, view it as imperative in our country and as a symbol of virtue. If someone feels this way and can wear a simple wedding band conscientiously, it should not be considered a hindrance to baptism. However, if the motive is truly to have a symbol of marriage and not ornamentation – it should be a modest, simple band (a watch is functional, but a \$2,000 watch is ornamentation!).

18. Marriage

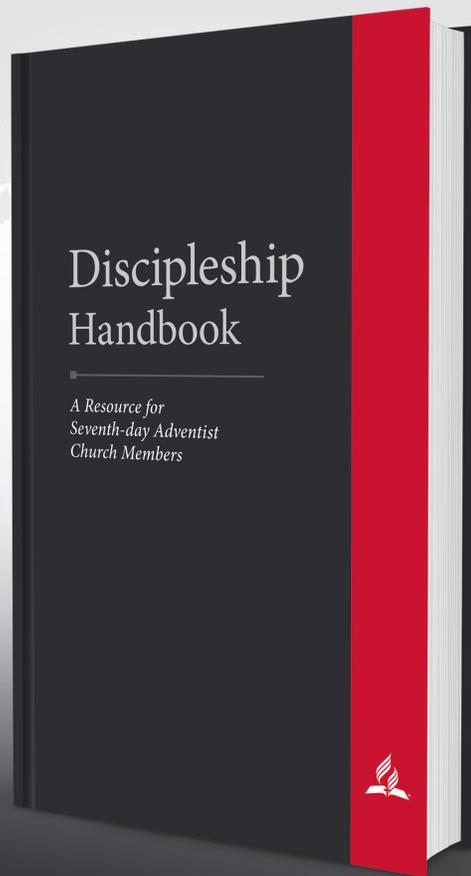
- a. The family comes first after our commitment to God, then the church.
- b. There is no biblical justification for divorce with the exception of adultery. Matthew 5:32.

- c. Physical relationships outside of marriage is called fornication and clearly spoken of as sin in the Bible. Galatians 5:19-21. If a couple is living together outside of marriage, they should consider separating or marrying after getting the appropriate pre-marital counseling. This needs to happen before they are baptized.
- d. Encourage family worship, which helps to bind families together. A sample family worship consists of prayer, a Bible passage, a song, and closing prayer. It will preferably be no longer than 10 or 15 minutes. The Father, as the spiritual servant leader of his family, can ensure that the family is taking time together with God.

19. Tithes & Offerings

- a. Malachi 3:8-10 says that withholding tithes and offerings is robbing God.
- b. Leviticus 27:30 says tithe is holy to the Lord. Returning tithe is not a matter of generosity, but honesty. Deut. 14:22 says that tithe is on our increase. Tithe means tenth. So one tenth of our increase – our gross income – belongs to God and should be returned to Him. It is not ours to determine how to use.
- c. Numbers 18:21 says that the tithe was exclusively for the Levites – the full-time ministers. God sacredly guarded the tithe for that purpose.
- d. The tithe was placed in a storehouse and then distributed to the Levites. In the same way, SDA churches send their tithe to the local conference, which in turn uses that for the support of full- time ministers, Bible workers, and other clear ministry functions. All ministers get the same base salary – it is not affected by the tithe of the local church.
 - e. Offerings are above and beyond the 10% and are given liberally as a person is able. Systematic giving (some % of gross income) is recommended. The local church does not get any of the tithes because God commanded it to be used for the “Levites” – the full-time ministry. Local church operating expenses require support from offerings. “Combined Budget” is a recommended place to give the greatest portion of a systematic offering. Conference and world budget offerings are also worthwhile. Start with a certain percentage and as time goes by consider increasing. When we come to the end, we won’t regret giving to God’s cause.
- f. Visually describe how to use tithe envelope – especially the “tithe” line for 10%.
- g. Gambling is addictive and a poor investment of God’s resources and should be avoided by Christians.

The *Discipleship Handbook* is your local church discipleship ministry...
IN A BOOK!



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- 2) The mentor and new member meet weekly to read and discuss a new chapter from the *Discipleship Handbook*
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