

1-page Report of Ministry Challenge  
GSem 790, prof. Ricardo Northon  
Student: Robert Benson  
July 12, '05 class

- a) **Statement of Problem:** Despite the example of Jesus in demonstrating the importance of working to restore BOTH the spiritual AND the physical aspects of man to wholeness, the rest of the Biblical literature supporting this same concept, and instruction to the church by EG White that the work of health reform is to be the “entering wedge” and the “right arm” to presenting the body of present truth for this time, in the author’s survey of the various Conference, Union, and Division levels, no master plan nor models for the local church were seen in which the potential of health ministries for soul-saving purposes might be unleashed.<sup>1, 2</sup>
- b) **Statement of task:**  
It is the purpose of this author to survey the Biblical, Spirit of Prophecy, and current literature in an attempt to develop a strategy in which health ministries will become the “entering wedge” and the “right arm” of the gospel, opening doors of people’s hearts to the present truth of the three angels’ messages for the local churches of the Michigan Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.  
\*To develop and implement health ministries for the Holly SDA church which will be effective means of increasing the rate of church growth.
- c) **Justification of the Project:**
1. Jesus said “the fields are white for harvest” (John 4:35).
  2. The “flow” of the apocalyptic book of Daniel, which is unsealed at the “time of the end,” implies that the health message is preliminary to receiving further understanding of prophecies, doctrines, and teaching.
  3. EG White has mentioned that the health message is to be the “entering wedge,” the “right arm” of the gospel that the body of truths (including the 3 angels messages) might follow.
  4. A suggested hypothesis is that Holly church implement health evangelism in cooperation with the divinely outlined plan, increased growth rate will be the result.
  5. The project to implement health evangelism can be a partial solution for the declining growth rate.
- d) **Proposed Title for the Project:** “Utilizing Health Evangelism as an effective Strategy to Increase the Growth Rate of the Holly SDA Church”

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<sup>1</sup> Gary E. Fraser, “Refocusing the Adventist Health Message,” *Ministry* August 1999, 6.

<sup>2</sup> The Michigan Conference is one of the only conferences that has a fully funded Health Director and is implementing a master plan on equipping the local churches with materials for health ministries in addition to encouraging pastors and lay members to do health evangelism.