CreativeMinistry

October 5, 2013

Dear Center for ,

This eLetter provides you with the latest version of Contemporary Comments.

In the right side bar you can also secure the Sharing Scripture facilitator guides:

**Sharing Scripture - Third Quarter: July 6 - September 28, 2013.** Title: "Revival and Reformation" These excellent discussion sheets are designed to enhance your Sabbath School class or small group. Suitable for photocopying, Sharing Scripture contain thought questions and exercises that transform ordinary study times into dynamic learning adventures.

**Sharing Scripture - Fourth Quarter: October 5 - December 28, 2013.** Title: "The Sanctuary" These excellent discussion sheets are designed to enhance your Sabbath School class or small group. Suitable for photocopying, Sharing Scripture contain thought questions and exercises that transform ordinary study times into dynamic learning adventures.

Grace to you!
Center for Creative Ministry
Royal watchers are done speculating what Prince William and Kate Middleton will name their first born child. They have moved on now to wanting to know all about the place this couple will raise this future heir to the British throne?

After baby George's birth, the three royals broke with British tradition and moved into the home of Kate's parents who, by comparison, are "commoners." The Telegraph, the popular UK newspaper, announced that before the royal family moves into Kensington Palace, the Palace is undergoing renovations "to remove asbestos, roof repairs, rewiring electrical outlets and replacing heating and hot water systems". This will cost British taxpayers approximately $1.52 million (US dollars).1

In another report The Huffington Post noted that it had been 50 years since the 57-room space, known as "Apartment A1" had any structural work done to it. The apartment would have needed to be completed for whoever moved in.2

Britain's tabloid, Daily Mail, reported that the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are footing the bill for parts of the renovation, including fixtures, curtains and furnishings. The rest of the remodel such as electricity, heating and plaster is being paid for by money the government is giving the Queen.3

There is an even grander palace than the one in England where Royalty resides. Throughout the ages many have wondered where God lives and what God's home looks like. From now until the end of this year we will be exploring God's residence, the Heavenly Sanctuary, the center of God's presence and current activity in Heaven.

While other Christian denominations have elements of what constitutes this Sanctuary, only Seventh-day Adventists utilize it in entirety as a basis of faith. Among the list of the denominations fundamental beliefs is Christ's Ministry in the Heavenly Sanctuary, Fundamental Belief #23.

Author Ellen White recommends focusing on "the sanctuary in heaven [because] it is the very center of Christ's work in behalf of men [and women]...It opens to view the plan of redemption, bringing us down to the very close of time and revealing the triumphant issue of the contest between righteousness and sin."4

There is a progression found in our salvation: from Christ's ministry and death, and resurrection on earth to the heavenly ministry in the first and second apartments in the Sanctuary, to the high priestly role and finally to the new earth tabernacle.5
Many things in Scripture are difficult to understand. The Heavenly Sanctuary can be one of those more challenging faith concepts. Our lessons this quarter are intended to help us move beyond Christ’s death and resurrection to an understanding of what is transpiring in Heaven right now.

We begin our study this week by looking at the various sanctuary images. May the earthly model of the Sanctuary as well as the heavenly original, draw us into a deeper and closer relationship with God.

~ck

1. E Online
2. Huffington Post
3. Hollywood Life
5. Adult Sabbath School Lesson Bible Study Guide, p. 11

About Us

Since 1988, the Center for Creative Ministry has been serving local church leaders and individuals around the world. Formerly known as the publishers of ABBA Newsletter and the Baby Boomer Ministries Resource Center, we have now broadened our generational/ministry focus to include our children. The Center for Creative Ministry took on its new name on June 1, 1996.

The Center for Creative Ministry, formerly Baby Boomer Ministries, is a privately funded and managed para-church ministry fully recognized by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. We are dedicated to supporting the local church in outreach and nurture ministries by providing resources, information, training, and consulting.