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 - 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

Contemporary Comments

"EXHORTATIONS FROM THE SANCTUARY"
December 28, 2013
This week it was difficult to pick up a newspaper, listen to the radio, or log onto the Internet without seeing the headlines 2013 Year in Review. One such media outlet, CNN World, posted "2013: The Year in Pictures" on their website. They have also selected what they consider to be notable events that have occurred in the United States as well as throughout the world.\[1\]

Of the selected events that follow, which ones have impacted your thinking the most: the same-sex marriage debate; the fiscal cliff; the second term election of President Barack Obama; the bombing at the Boston Marathon; the rescue of three women and a six-year-old girl held captive in Ohio; the tornado in Moore, Oklahoma that killed 25 people; the jury's decision to not charge George Zimmerman for the death of Trayvon Martin; the extreme weather sparking wildfires and flooding; the shooting inside the U.S. Navy Yard in Washington D.C. that killed 13 people, including the shooter; the federal government shutdown; or the Affordable Care Act?

Perhaps these International events have impacted your thinking more: the birth of Prince George to the Royal family; the 266th pope to be elected and named Francis; nuclear tests in North Korea; the military coup in Egypt; Russia providing asylum for Edward Snowden; or civil war and chemical weapons in Syria, to name a few.

If you have a Facebook account, your computer can make a collage that will enable you to take a look back at what allegedly are the notable things you posted during the year 2013. Is there any correlation between your year in review and what CNN World highlights?\[2\]

We have also come to the end of four quarters of Bible Study lessons. In what we might call the 2013 Adult Bible Study Guide Year in Review, we have studied the origins of our planet; looked into the lives of Hosea, Joel, Amos, Jonah, Micah, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Zechariah, and Malachi; we’ve reviewed the need for revival in our spiritual life; and conclude this week with our last lesson of the Sanctuary series.

Consider for a moment this question: How have the Bible lessons I’ve studied each week during this year made a difference in my life and helped me cope with the events in my corner of the world?

As we come to the end of a year and conclude our lessons on the Sanctuary, it seems fitting to pay particular attention to the exhortations in the final lesson of 2013: “Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings...Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful...Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds...all the more as you...
see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 10:19-25).

~ck

1. cnn
2. facebook

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.