March 15, 2012
Sligo e-weekend Newsletter
"A True Rest....Or A Bastard Sabbath?"

Dear Lexie,

If you were present at Sligo this past Sabbath, you are aware that the message that I shared, *What A Difference a Day Makes*, is part of a series that I have been presenting on the Ten Commandments. The focus of this particular message was on one of the commandments that for us as Seventh-day Adventists, has always been of great interest - the fourth commandment. Although there may be many Adventists who are unable to recite all ten from memory and in correct sequence, I haven't met a Seventh-day Adventist yet that doesn't know the fourth commandment by heart. Many of you, I am sure, were taught this particular commandment before you even knew how to spell your own names. All kidding aside, the fourth commandment is the one that we as 7th Day Adventists take pride in knowing all about, but, should we?

...(read more below)
"A True Rest...Or A Bastard Sabbath?"

In my message on Sabbath, I shared the statement made by contemporary theologian, Eugene Peterson, where he refers to much of what many view as "true" Sabbath keeping, as nothing more than a bastard Sabbath. According to Peterson, for many Sabbath keepers, the day is destitute of the rich blessings that God has embedded in the DNA of the seventh day and has merely become simply just another day off from work. In other words, it's not a "real" Sabbath but rather an illegitimate one. It's not one that provides us with the intimate fellowship that God so desperately longs for with his people and we so desperately need. It is one that merely gives us the opportunity to catch our breaths from our out of control week simply so that we can resume our hectic lifestyles. It you weren't present on Sabbath then I invite you to go to the Sligo website and view and listen for yourselves.

In my opinion, the main culprit that has robbed many of God's people of experiencing God's true Sabbath rest is that we have ignored the boundaries that God has established for us on the other six days of the week. In other words, we are working ourselves to death. So by the time Sabbath rolls around, we have nothing left for God.

As I did on Sabbath, I challenge the church to share ideas and Sabbath traditions that we have instituted in our homes with our pastoral team, so that in turn we can make them available to the entire church family. By so doing, maybe, just maybe, our bastard Sabbaths can be transformed into "of all the days the brightest; of all the days the best."

As Sabbath is fast upon us, I challenge each of you to be present in church this week as we continue our series and take a look at the fifth Commandment with a message I've titled, "Married with Children."

Charles A. Tapp
Senior Pastor
New England Youth Ensemble of Washington Adventist University
Preston Hawes, director

Mark DiPinto, pianist
Aaron Tucker, tenor soloist
Karla Rivera, soprano soloist

UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

March 24
Pr. Rebecca Brillhart

March 31
Pr. Charles A. Tapp

Worship Services every Saturday:
First Service - 8:45am
Sabbath School - 10:00am
Sabbath Celebration - 11:15am

Please consider giving a gift to Sligo. Your tax-deductible gifts will help enable us to provide environments both locally and globally.
We hope you found this week's e-weekend newsletter helpful. If there is anything else you would like to see included, we appreciate your feedback. Just email us to sligo@sligochurch.org. We will continue to send this out on a weekly basis. Remember, you may choose to unsubscribe for any reason at any time, though, we hope you won't!

May God continue to richly bless you!

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