Andrews University

The Institute of Church Ministry

A COMPARISON OF THE CHRISTIAN ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORS BETWEEN THOSE ADVENTIST CHURCH MEMBERS WHO REGULARLY READ ELLEN WHITE BOOKS AND THOSE WHO DO NOT

A Research Report

Commissioned by

The Ellen G. White Estate

by

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#### A COMPARISON OF THE CHRISTIAN ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORS BETWEEN THOSE ADVENTIST CHURCH MEMBERS WHO REGULARLY READ ELLEN WHITE BOOKS AND THOSE WHO DO NOT

During the last half of 1980 the Institute of Church
Ministry (ICM), a branch of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological
Seminary at Andrews University, conducted a church growth survey
throughout the North American Division. Commissioned by the
Division, part of the study involved collecting data from over
8,200 members attending 193 different churches. Every union
conference and most local conferences were represented.

The instrument used in this phase of the study was designed by ICM and labeled "Church Growth Survey: The Adventist Member". It collected forty-four items of information and correlated them with various indices of church growth. The complete report, "A Study of Factors Relating to Church Growth in the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists", is on file in the Division office or can be purchased from the ICM.

One of the questions (19C) asked the members the degree that they had been involved in regular study of Ellen White books. The possible responses were "doesn't apply", "never", "sometimes", "usually", or "always". For purposes of this report, those choosing one of the first three responses (doesn't apply, never, or sometimes) have been combined into one group, hereafter referred to as the "non-readers". Those choosing one of the last two responses (usually or always) have been combined into a second

group, hereafter referred to as the "readers".

This report will compare profiles of readers and non-readers as to how each group responded to the other items on the survey. First the profiles will be given for the total group. Then this will be sub-divided into those members attending white, black, and Hispanic churches.

It is important to note that the survey was administered in the 193 churches during the Sabbath worship services. Therefore it reflects the attitudes and behaviors of <a href="church-attending">church-attending</a> Adventists and does not attempt to describe those who have become inactive. It is a portrait of those members who compose the core of the local congregation.

#### Total Membership Profile

Profile 1 displays the percentage responses of the 2,848 readers. Profile 2 gives the corresponding information for the 5,375 non-readers. Comparing them item by item yields some striking differences. Attention will be drawn to those which seem to be most significant.

Question 1. Those who have been in the church longer are more likely to be readers. Note that 68% of the readers have been members more than ten years while only 53% of the non-readers have been. On the other end of the scale, 22% of the readers have been members for fewer the five years, while 33% of the non-readers are in this category. This suggests that the church is having difficulty in introducing new converts to a regular study of Spirit of Prophecy writings. It may also suggest that the apostasy rate is greater

Institute of Church Ministry	Church Growth Survey	- The Adventist Member

Theological Seminary, Andrews University

All Fights Feserve Church #	đ			
Number of surveys for this report = 2648				
' <u>1. Circle the number showing how long you have been a haptized</u> Adventist. Less than 1 year 1-5 years	6-10 years		11-20 years	Over 20 years
2. Was at least one of your parents an Adventist sometime during	11%	•	17%	51%
the first 12 years of your life?		Yes 45%	No 55%	
3. Circle the number indicating the relationship that you have with	-			
Jesus Christ.	None		3 4 5 135 30% 555	Intirate
4. What number shows your assurance that you are right wih God?	Not sure		3 4 5 14% 31% 51%	Very certain
5. How certain are you about what your spiritual gifts are? Circle a number.			3 4 5 227, 25% 40%	Quite certain
6. How many years have you attended Adventist schools? Circle a number. 0 0-2	2-4 5-8 8% 10%	9-	12 13-16	17 8 up
5 6% 7%	8% 10%		7% 7%	
7. Do you have many non-Adventist friends?	None	1 . 2	3 4 5	Hany II S
8. How do you feel about the money the conference spends on public evangelism? Circle a number.				Should spend zore
9. How well prepared are you for the work of witnessing? Circle a	Not at all			22
10. Would it be better for your church to double or triple its size in one year or grow more gradually?	Gradual growth	1 2	3 4 5	111
11. Have you been engaged in some type of witnessing program over the past year?		15% 10% Yes	27% 17% 30%	
12. Do you hold a church office or other service position?	**	73%	27%	
•		66%	3.4%_	
13. Did you set a personal soul-winning goal this year?		39%	6 1%	
14. Have you been working to win non-Adventist relatives?		80%	20%	
15. Have you been involved in community outreach services (Dorcas, Stop Smoking, etc.)?				
16. Have you held Eible studies with a non-Adventist this year?		48%	5 2%	
17. Within the last year have you attended a witnessing training program?		45%	5.5%_	
		32%		
18. Circle the number which best describes your church group: A) Soul-winning church	No	1 2 7% 13%	3 4 5	
•			75	

b) Advertist standards					
b) Acventist Standards	Low	1 3%	2 6%	3 4 5 26% 29% 35%	High
C) Friendliness	Cold and unfriendly		2 5%	3 4 5 18% 27% 48%	Warm and friendly
D) Unity	Divided and fighting	47	2 6 %	3 4 5 215 314 395	Cooperative/unity
E) New reabers	Ignored	1 3 %	2 67	3 4 5 175 285 465	Involved
I) Feelings towards church people	I don't fit in	1	2 .	3 4 5	My kind of people
Circle the number which shows the degree that you have been involved in:		2%	35	147 26% 559	
DA - Doesn't apply					
N - Never S - Sometimes U - Usually			•		
A - Alvays			ĸ	S U A	
E) Daily prayer for the conversion of specific people		17	25	157 387 447	
C) Fegular study of Iller White books		_ 1,5	25	175 249 575	₹ 
D) Fegular financial support for local soul-winning		0 %	022	0% 55% 45%	L. L
E) Meet regularly with a small study or fellowship group				20% 24% 52%	1
F) Help neighbors with their personal problems	<ul> <li>I se e esta del constitución esta e el moderno de mod</li></ul>			34% 17% 23%	
G) Concern for those who have not accepted Christ	1			365 245 285	, L
H) Daily family worship		0%	1%	8% 23% 57%	Ĉ
I) Fitnessing in everyday activities		_ ,5 %	67.	19% 23% 47%	
Circle the number which shows the emphasis your pastor places or	<b>1:</b>	1%	25	215 355 417	
A) Ministry to members	Little importance			3 4 5 13% 23% 57%	Top priority
B) Soul-winning	Little importance	1	2	3 4 5	Top priority
How many people have you been wholly or partially responsible for bringing into the church in the last three years?		12	27	10% 21% 65%	
	One Two to five 15% 22%	•		Six to ten	More than ten
A)	Discourages		2 2%	3 4 5 9% 19% 69%	Ruilds faith .
B)	Not Christ-centered	1 15	2 25	3 4 5 65 135 795	Christ-centered

.

c)	Not helpful	1 2 · 3 4 5 1% 3% 7% 15% 74%	Helpful
23. Circle the number of your overall evaluation of:  A) Your pastor	Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5 2% 3% 9% 22% 64%	Very effective
B) Your pastor's wife	Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5 5% 4% 13% 22% 56%	Very effective
19 years or under 20-35 years	36-50 years	51-65 years	Over 65 years
Under \$8,000 \$8,001 to \$16,000	\$16,001 to \$25,000	\$25.001 to \$50.000	Above \$50,000
26. Circle the number that shows the distance that you live from the church.  Under 3 miles 4-10 miles 38% 39%			Over 25 miles
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			READERS
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# Church Growth Survey - The adventist Member Institute of Church Ministry Theological Seminary, Andrews University All Rights Feserved Church #

Church # TINGREAD			~ :
Number of surveys for this report = 5375			!
1. Circle the number showing how long you have been a baptized Adventist. Less than 1 year 1-5 years 9% 24%	6-10 years 14%	11-20 year 20	
2. Was at least one of your parents an Adventist sometime during the first 12 years of your life?		Yes N 49% 51	
3. Circle the number indicating the relationship that you have with Jesus Christ.	None	1 2 3 4 :% 6% 33% 28% 31	
4. What number shows your assurance that you are right wih God?	Not sure	1 2 3 4 6% 8% 27% 29% 30	
5. How certain are you about what your spiritual gifts are? Circle a number.	No idea	1 2 3 4 11% 13% 28% 23% 26	5 Quite certain
6. How many years have you attended Adventist schools? Circle a number. 0 0-2 58% 8%	2-4 5-8 85 11%	9-12 13- 7%	16 17 6 up PR
7. Do you have many non-adventist friends?	None	1 2 3 4 2% 10% 18% 13% 57	5 Many
8. How do you feel about the noney the conference spends on public evaluelism? Circle a number.			5 Should spend more!
9. How well prepared are you for the work of witnessing? Circle a number.		1 2 3 4 13% 26% 36% 14% 10	
10. Would it be better for your church to double or triple its size in one year or grow more gradually?	Gradual growth	1 2 3 4 19% 147 28% 15% 23	5 Growth explosion
. 11. Have you been engaged in some type of witnessing program over the past year?			
- 12. Do you hold a church office or other service position?	•	53% 4	7°,
- 13. Did you set a personal soul-winning goal this year?			5%
14. Have you been working to win non-Adventist relatives?		61% 39	99.
15. Have you been involved in community outreach services (Dorcas, Stop Smoking, etc.)?		33% 6	75
16. Have you held Bible studies with a non-Adventist this year?		265 7	4%
17. Within the last year have you attended a witnessing training program?			2%
18. Circle the number which best describes your church group:  A) Soul-winning church	No	1 2 3 4 7% 14% 33% 20% 2	5 Yes

		• • •
B) Adventist standards	Low	1 2 3 4 5 High 3% 6% 29% 31% 30%
C) Friendliness	Cold and unfriendly	1 2 3 4 5 Warm and friendly 4% 7% 19% 25% 44%
D) Unity	Divided and fighting	1 2 3 4 5 Cooperative/unity 5% 7% 25% 31% 32%
E) New Deabers	Ignored	1 2 3 4 5 Involved 4% 8% 21% 27% 40%
F) Feelings towards church people	I don't fit in	1 2 3 4 5 My kind of people 3% 6% 21% 28% 42%
19. Circle the number which shows the degree that you have been involved in:		
DA - Doesa't apply N - Never S - Sometimes		
U - Usually A - Always		
A) Daily personal Eible Study		DA N S U A
B) Daily prayer for the conversion of specific people		3% 6% 45% 32% 15% PRO TI
C) Regular study of Ellen White books		7% 19% 74% 0% 0% D
D) Regular financial support for local soul-winning		6% 14% 34% 23% 23%
E) Meet regularly with a small study or fellowship group		1 05 375 335 115 95 Z
F) Heip neighbors with their personal problems		. 9
G) Concern for those who have not accepted Christ	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	5% 16% 42% 21% 16% I
H) Daily family worship		1% 2% 20% 29% 47% ADER
I) Witnessing in everyday activities		3% 7% 42% 30% 18%
20. Circle the number which shows the emphasis your pastor places on A) Ministry to members	Little importance	1 2 3 4 5 Top priority 3% 4% 17% 27% 49%
B) Soul-winning	Little importance	1 2 3 4 5 Top priority 1% 3% 13% 25% 57%
21. How many people have you been wholly or partially responsible for bringing into the church in the last three years?  Unaware of any	ne Two to five	Six to ten More than ten
678	5% 15%	24 24
22. Circle the number that best describes your pastor's sermons:	Discourages	1 2 3 4 5 Builds faith 1% 3% 14% 24% 59%
B)	Not Christ-centered	

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				<sub>26</sub> ·
:	c)	Not helpful	1 2 3 4 5 25 35 95 205 665	Helpful
23.	Circle the number of your overall evaluation of:  A) Your pastor	Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5 3% 3% 12% 26% 57%	Very effective
	3) Your pastor's wife	<del>-</del>	1 2 3 4 5 4% 5% 15% 26% 49%	Very effective
24.	Circle the number of the age group you are in.  19 years or under 20-35 years  17% 32%  Circle the number which shows your yearly family income.	36-50 years 22%	51-65 years 17%	Over 65 years
	Circle the number which shows your yearly family income.  Under \$8,000 \$8,001 to \$16,000  25% 32%  Circle the number that shows the distance that you live from the	* In. 001 to \$25.000	327 LUU   EO 357 LUU	Above \$50,000 2%
. 26.	Circle the number that shows the distance that you live from the church.  Under 3 miles 4-10 miles 34% 39%	11-15 miles 145	16-25 miles 85	Over 25 miles
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among non-readers, leaving few of them still around after ten years.

Question 3. Here is a striking difference for 85% of the readers chose one of the two strongest responses to indicate that their relationship with Jesus Christ was intimate. Only 59% of the non-readers did so, a difference of 26%. Items 3 and 19C correlated at .29. Certainly readers see their relationship with Christ as closer and more intimate than do non-readers.

Question 4. There is almost the same difference on having assurance of being right with God. Combining the choices 4 and 5, 82% of the readers as against 59% of the non-readers are very certain of their standing—a spread of 23 percentage points. The correlation between questions 4 and 19C is .27. Readers do have more assurance of salvation.

Question 5. The difference here is not quite as noticeable as in 3 and 4, but it is real. Note that 65% (combining the two top choices) of the readers are quite certain about having discovered their spiritual gifts compared with 49% of the non-readers. The difference of 16% is supported by a correlation of .21 between question 5 and 19C. Readers are more ready to be led into the unique service for which the Spirit has equipped them.

Question 8. A small difference is seen in that 72% of the readers favor more spending for evangelism as opposed to 62% of the non-readers who do so. This 10% difference indicates a moderate tendency for readers of Ellen White to be more supportive of investing funds in direct soul-winning. The correlation between

the two items is .14.

Question 9. There is a highly significant difference between the two groups in how well they see themselves as prepared for witnessing. Using the two top responses, 49% of the readers felt well-prepared. Only 24% of the non-readers did. This 25% difference is supported by a correlation of .30 between questions 9 and 19C. Readers definitely feel better prepared to witness than do non-readers.

Questions 11-17. Here is a series of seven "yes" or "no" questions. On every one of these items, Ellen White readers hold a distinct advantage over non-readers. To be specific, 24% more had been engaged in some type of witnessing program over the previous year, 13% more were holding a church office or other service position, 15% more had set a personal soul-winning goal for the current year, 19% more had been working to win non-Adventist relatives, 15% more had been involved in community outreach services, 19% more had held Bible studies with a non-Adventist during the past year, and 14% more had recently attended a witnessing training program. The correlations with question 19C are as follows: #11 = .26, #12 = .19, #13 = .16, #14 = .24, #15 = .18, #16 = .22, and #17 = .19. All correlations are statistically significant. Ellen White readers are definitely more likely to be active in service and in witnessing than are non-readers.

Question 18. The five parts of this question ask for perceptions of the <u>church</u> and do not deal directly with the attitudes or behaviors of the respondents. Therefore differences

between readers and non-readers are not to be expected. However, the small differences that do exist (mostly six or seven percentage points) all favor the Ellen White readers as giving a more positive appraisal. And in part F, 11% more readers than non-readers have rated their churches strongly as "my kind of people". Readers are not negative people. They tend to view their churches in more positive terms than do non-readers.

Question 19A. The nine parts of this question deal with a number of areas of everyday Christian living. And it is in these areas that some of the strongest differences between readers and non-readers are found. Note that 82% of the readers usually or always have daily personal Bible study while only 47% of the non-readers do. This is a 35% difference, and the correlation of .42 between 19A and 19C is the strongest of any inter-item correlations in the study. Ellen White readers are much more likely to be Bible students than non-readers are.

Question 19B. Here is another strong difference. It can be seen that 81% of the readers usually or always pray daily for the conversion of specific people compared with 51% of the non-readers, a difference of 30%. The correlation is .37. Readers are more likely to bear the burden for souls on their hearts and seek the Lord daily for their salvation.

Question 19D. The contrast continues as 30% more (76% versus 46%) readers than non-readers are usually or always involved in regular financial support for local soul-winning. The correlation between the items is .38. Readers tend to give more often and more generously to programs designed to reach the lost within their own

communities.

Question 19E. The small study and fellowship group has been advocated in the Spirit of Prophecy writings and empirically demonstrated to aid in both the spiritual nurture of the members and the soul-winning efforts of the congregation. The profile shows that 40% of the readers as compared with 20% of the non-readers are heavily involved in such small group work. This difference of 20% is supported by a significant correlation of .23. Readers are more likely to participate regularly in small groups where they study the Word, pray together, and share their Christian experience than are non-readers.

Question 19F. Here 52% of the readers usually or always help neighbors with their personal problems in contrast to the 37% of non-readers who do. The difference is 15% with a correlation of .18 between the items. Readers are more likely than non-readers to labor according to Christ's methods by meeting the felt needs of their neighbors.

Question 19G. On this question 90% of the readers indicated heavy concern for those who have not accepted Christ compared to 76% of the non-readers. This difference of 14%, supported by a correlation of .25, indicates that regular readers of Ellen White are more likely to have compassion for the lost.

Question 19H. Daily family worship is an important part of the life of a Christian family. It is usually or always held by 70% of the readers but by only 42% of the non-readers, a difference of 28%. The correlation between 19H and 19C is .29. There is more likely to be daily worship in homes where Ellen White is read

regularly.

Question 19I. Finally, 76% of the readers and 48% of the non-readers are usually or always involved in witnessing in their everyday activities. This difference of 28% is supported by one of the stronger correlations, .33. Readers are more likely to share their faith on an informal basis as well as in organized witnessing activities.

Question 21. Here the survey shifts from subjective judgments to objective results. "How many people have you been wholly or partially responsible for bringing into the church in the last three years?" Notice that while 54% of the readers were unaware of any, 13% more or 67% of the non-readers were non-productive in soul-winning. While 15% of both groups could claim one convert, 22% of the readers could identify two to five people, 3% of them could count six to ten, and 6% could rejoice in more than ten. The corresponding figures for non-readers are 15%, 2%, and 2%. Ellen White readers actually win more souls than non-readers do.

Question 24. A look at the age groups presents a challenge to the church. Only 5% of the readers are 19 years of age or under compared with 17% of the non-readers. Only 30% of the readers are under 36 years old compared with 49% of non-readers. The situation is quite equal in the 36-50 age group, but 46% of the readers are over 50 compared to 29% of the non-readers. The challenge then is to find ways of involving more younger members (35 and under) in the reading of Ellen White books that they might participate in all the other blessings that have been described.

The two profiles are quite similar on yearly family income and on distance of home from the church.

The comparison of the two profiles reveals that on <u>every</u> <u>single item</u> those who read Ellen White regularly are doing better than those who do not. On some items the differences are moderate; on others they are striking. Where correlations are given, they are statistically significant beyond the .01 level. Readers are more likely to have a deep personal religious experience. They engage more regularly in various devotional practices. They are more motivated to share their faith and engage in more witnessing experiences both as to number and as to type. They actually bring more people into the church.

Of course it cannot be determined that the reading of Ellen White books actually causes people to have all of these spiritual benefits. The study only shows that the various items are related. But it is amazing that the contrasts between these two profiles are so numerous and so great. The implication is certainly that the regular reading of Ellen White material does make a positive difference in Christian life and witness.

#### White Membership Profile

The total groups will now be briefly examined by ethnic sub-groups. Profile 3 displays the percentage responses of 1,846 white readers. Profile 4 gives the corresponding information for 3,396 white non-readers. Attention will be drawn to important differences in these two profiles.

Question 1. The situation is quite similar to the total

## Church Growth Survey - The Adventist Bember Institute of Church Ministry Theological Seminary, Andrews University All Rights Reserved

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RUMBE	R OF SURTERS FCR THIS REPORT = 1846		F Commencer Commencer				
•	Circle the number showing how long you have been a baptized Adventist. Less than 1 year 1-5 year 4% 11	1 1 1	ars	11-20 y	ears	Over 20 years 60%	
2 ;	Was at least one of your parents an Adventist sometime during the first 12 years of your life?		Yes	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	No		
3(	Circle the number indicating the relationship that you have with Jesus Christ.					Intimate	
, 4. 5	What number shows your assurance that you are right wih God?	Not s		2% 14% 34% 		Very certain	
-		not s		15% 34%		very certain	
5. 8	How certain are you about what your spiritual gifts are? Circle number.	No i				Quite certain	-77
6. E	How many years have you attended Adventist schools? Circle a number. 0 0	2-4 8% 9%	5-8	9-12	13-16 115	17 & up	ROFILI
7I	Do you have many non-Adventist friends?				•	•	ω -
8. E	How do you feel about the money the conference spends on public evangelism? Circle a number.					Should spend more	E E
9. #	dow well prepared are you for the work of witnessing? Circle a						ж. Щ
10. F	Yould it be better for your church to double or triple its size in one year or grow more gradually?	Not at				Growth explosion	EADE
11. E	dave you been engaged in some type of witnessing program over the past year?	oradad, 920	15% 12	2% 31% 17%	25%		- <del>S</del> -
	Oo you hold a church office or other service position?		71%		29%		
	Oid you set a personal soul-winning goal this year?		66%		34%		
	Have you been working to win non-Adventist relatives?		30%		·70%		
15. H	Tave you been involved in community outreach services (Dorcas, Stop Smoking, etc.)?		79%		21%	emercina — Communica de Communica de La Propio de Angles	
16. E	dave you held Bible studies with a non-Adventist this year?		44%	** * - *** · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	56%		
17.	within the last year have you attended a witnessing training program?		35%		65%		
18.	Circle the number which best describes your church group:	-	24%		76%		An all the second to the second to the second to
	A) Soul-winning church		No 1 8% 17	2 3 4 7% 36% 18%	1 5 5 2 1 %	Yes	- Milder manufacturi describis - mai

A. B)		Not Christ-centered					5 75%	Christ-centered
λ)			. 1%	2%	11%	23%	5 62%	Builds faith
for bringing into the church in the last three years?  Unaware of any 63%  22. Circle the number that best describes your pastor's sermons:	One 14%	Two to five			Si			More than ten
B) Soul-winning  21. How many people have you been wholly or partially responsible		Little importance					5 60%	Top priority
A) Ministry to members		Little importance	2%	4%	15%	279	51%	
I) Witnessing in everyday activities  20. Circle the number which shows the emphasis your pastor places	on:						36%	
H) Daily family worship		···					45%_	ERS
G) Concern for those who have not accepted Christ							23% 65%	READ
E) Heet regularly with a small study or fellowship group  P) Help neighbors with their personal problems			_10%	21%	37%	_15%	18%_	
D) Regular financial support for local soul-winning							52%	<u> </u>
C) Regular study of Ellen White books	-						54%_ 43%	ω
B) Daily prayer for the conversion of specific people							44%	FIL.
A - Always  A) Daily personal Bible Study			DA	n	s	σ	A	PRO
N - Never S - Sometimes U - Usually								
	• •	The second secon			••	<u></u>		
P) Peelings towards church people		I don't fit in	1 2%	2	3 16%	28%	51%	My kind of people
E) New members		Ignored				4 31%		Involved
D) Unity		Divided and fighting				33%		Cooperative/unity
C) Friendliness		Cold and unfriendly				4 29%		Warm and friendly
B) Adventist standards		Lov				4 32%		нідь

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	C)		Not helpful	1 2 3 4 5 1% 4% 9% 18% 68%	Helpful
23.	Circle th	e number of your overall evaluation of: Your pastor	Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5 2% 4% 10% 26% 58%	Very effective
•	B)	Your pastor's wife	Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5	
24.		te number of the age group you are in.  19 years or under 20-35 years	36-50 years	51 <b>-</b> 65 years	Over 65 years
25.	Circle th	te number which shows your yearly family income, Under \$8,000 \$8,001 to \$16,000	\$16,001 to \$25,000	\$25,001 to \$50,000	28%Above \$50,000
26.	Circle th	26% 33% se number that shows the distance that you live from the Under 3 miles 4-10 miles	25%		
•		40%	13%	85	5%
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6-10 years 11-20 years Over 20 years 12% 21% 71%	
Yes No 54% 46%	
None 1 2 3 4 5 Intimate - 1% 6% 35% 31% 27%	
Not sure 1 2 3 4 5 Very certain 5% 8% 27% 31% 29%	
No idea 1 2 3 4 5 Quite certain 11% 14% 29% 23% 23%	
2-4 5-8 9-12 13-16 17 & up C	PROF 1
None 1 2 3 4 5 Hany == 2x 10x 20x 14x 54x ==	- - 
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Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 Very well	<u></u>
Gradual growth 1 2 3 4 5 Growth explosion	N N N
Yes No	-RFADE
53% 47%	Ri S
18% 82%	
No 1 2 3 4 5 Yes	
	Yes

		•
Low	1 2 3 4 5 2% 6% 31% 34% 27%	Righ
Cold and unfriendly	1 2 3 4 5 3% 7% 19% 27% 43%	Warm and friendly
Divided and fighting	1 2 3 4 5 3% 7% 25% 34% 31%	Cooperative/unity
Ignored	1 2 3 4 5 4% 9% 22% 29% 37%	Involved
I don't fit in	1 2 3 4 5	My kind of people
	3% 6% 22% 30% 39%	
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	2% 5% 45% 34% 14%	D
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	6% 18% 77% 0% 0%	11
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The state of the s	1% 2% 21% 31% 45%	
	5% 15% 38% 22% 20%	
	2% 6% 41% 33% 17%	RE/
n: Little importance		ADER S
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Little importance	1% 3% 15% 29% 52%	Top priority
One Two to five	Six to ten	More than ten
Discourages	1 2 3 4 5	Builds faith
Not Christ-centered	1 2 3 4 5	Christ-centered
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
(	Cold and unfriendly  Divided and fighting  Ignored  I don't fit in  Little importance  Little importance  One  Two to five 12%  Discourages  Not Christ-centered	2% 6% 31% 34% 27%  Cold and unfriendly 1 2 3 4 5 3% 7% 19% 27% 43%  Divided and fighting 1 2 3 4 5 3% 7% 25% 34% 31%  Ignored 1 2 3 4 5 4% 9% 22% 29% 37%  I don't fit in 1 2 3 4 5 3% 6% 22% 30% 39%  DA N S U A  2% 5% 45% 34% 14%  3% 7% 41% 23% 26%  6% 18% 77% 0% 0%  5% 12% 34% 25% 24%  10% 40% 31% 11% 9%  5% 15% 44% 23% 14%  1% 2% 21% 31% 45%  5% 15% 38% 22% 20%  2% 6% 41% 33% 17%  n:  Little importance 1 2 3 4 5 3% 5% 19% 29% 44%  Little importance 1 2 3 4 5 1% 3% 15% 29% 52%  One Two to five Six to ten

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c)			Not helpful	1 2 3 4 5 2% 3% 11% 23% 61%	Helpful
3. Circle the number of your over A) Your pastor	rall evaluation of:		Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5 2% 4% 12% 29% 52%	Very effective
E) Your pastor's wife			Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5 3% 5% 16% 28% 48%	Very effective
4. Circle the number of the age	group you are in. 19 years or under 13%	20-35 years 30%	36-50 years 22%	51-65 years 20%	Over 65 years
5. Circle the number which shows	your yearly family inc	ome.   001 +0 \$16.000	\$16,001 to \$25,000	\$25,001 to \$50,000 18%	Above \$50,000
6. Circle the number that shows church.	ala dimamma abab wam 1	live from the	11-15 miles	16-25 miles 10%	
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profiles for 76% of the readers have been in the church longer than ten years while only 62% of the non-readers have—a difference of 14%. And only 15% of the readers have been baptized less than five years compared with 26% of the non-readers—an 11% spread. There is a need to involve the more recent converts in the study of the Spirit of Prophecy.

Question 3. Here 85% of the readers perceive their relationship with Jesus Christ as intimate compared with 58% of the non-readers. The difference of 27% is about the same as that on the total profiles.

Question 4. As in the total group, 82% of the readers are strongly certain in their assurance of being right with God. This is 22% higher than the 60% of the non-readers who claim the same assurance.

Question 5. Again, 60% of the readers are quite certain about having discovered their spiritual gifts in contrast to 46% of the non-readers. The difference of 14% is slightly less than that on the total profiles.

Question 8. A small difference is seen in that 69% of the readers favor more spending for evangelism as opposed to 57% of the non-readers who do so. The 12% difference is slightly greater than that on the total profiles.

Question 9. While 40% of the readers felt very well prepared for witnessing, only 17% of the non-readers did. The 23% difference is slightly less than that on the total profiles.

Questions 11-17. As in the total group, white readers hold the advantage over white non-readers in every one of this

series of seven items. Comparing the "yes" columns, 25% more had been engaged in some type of witnessing program over the previous year, 13% more were holding a church office or other service position, 12% more had set a personal soul-winning goal for the current year, 19% more had been working to win non-Adventist relatives, 13% more had been involved in community outreach services, 17% more had held Bible studies with a non-Adventist during the past year, and 10% more had recently attended a witnessing training program. These differences are approximately the same as those on the total profiles.

Question 18. The only significant difference in this series is in part F, where 79% of the readers have rated their church groups rather strongly as "my kind of people" compared with the same rating by 69% of the non-readers.

Question 19. This series of items dealing with areas of Christian living presents a very similar picture for the white profiles as it did for the total profiles. Combining the "usually" and "always" categories it may be seen that 85% of the readers contrasted with 48% of the non-readers have daily personal Bible study (the 37% difference being even slightly stronger than on the total profiles), 79% of the readers contrasted with 49% of the non-readers pray daily for the conversion of specific people, 76% of the readers contrasted with 49% of the non-readers are heavily involved in regular financial support for local soul-winning, 33% of the readers contrasted with 20% of the non-readers are regularly participating in small study or fellowship groups, 48% of the readers contrasted with 37% of the non-readers are

helping neighbors with their personal problems, 91% of the readers contrasted with 76% of the non-readers have large concern for those who have not accepted Christ, 68% of the readers contrasted with 42% of the non-readers have daily family worship, and 75% of the readers contrasted with 50% of the non-readers are involved in witnessing in their everyday activities.

Question 21. On this important question, 63% of the readers were unaware of having been wholly or partially responsible for bringing anyone into the church in the previous three years, but 73% of the non-readers were in this position. While 17% of the readers brought in two to five converts, only 12% of the non-readers did. Six or more converts were claimed by 5% of the readers but by only 2% of the non-readers.

Question 24. Among white members, as among the total group, younger members tend to be non-readers and older members readers. Only 26% of the white readers are 35 years of age or less compared with 43% of the non-readers who are. At the other end, 53% of the readers are over 50 years of age as opposed to 35% of non-readers.

Question 25. Non-readers tend to be slightly more affluent than readers with 21% of them having yearly family incomes over \$25,000 compared to 15% of the readers. This is probably related to the higher percentage of readers in the retirement-age group (28% versus 15%).

Is has been shown that the comparison of profiles of white Ellen White readers and non-readers yields the same conclusions as the comparisons of the total profiles. Readers are

superior in every item of Christian attitudes and behavior measured by the survey.

#### Black Membership Profile

The next sub-group are the members of black churches.

Profile 5 displays the percentage responses of 597 black readers.

Profile 6 gives the corresponding information for 1,351 black non-readers. Some of the most important differences will be noted.

Question 1. Black members as a group have not been in the church as long as white members. Yet the percentage difference between Ellen White readers and non-readers is about the same for 56% of the readers and 43% of the non-readers have been in the church more than ten years. This difference of 13% is almost the same as the 14% difference among white members. At the other end, 28% of the readers and 40% of the non-readers have been baptized less than five years. This 12% difference is close to the 11% difference found among the white members. So even though the whole black membership shifts toward more recency of baptism, the more recent members tend to be non-readers in about the same proportions as among the white church.

Question 2. Only 33% of the readers were raised in Adventist homes compared with 45% of the non-readers. This 12% difference is not seen on the white or total profiles. Why do black second-generation Adventists have a tendency to read Ellen White less regularly than first-generation converts? That question deserves pursuing.

			b
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Church * ELREADER		·	
BURBER OF SURVEYS FOR THIS REPORT = 597			
7% 21%	15%	11-20 years 17%	Over 20 years 39%
the first 12 years of your life?		Yes Ko 33% 67%	
3. Circle the number indicating the relationship that you have with Jesus Christ.	None	1 2 3 4 5 1% 1% 12% 24% 62%	Intimate
4. What number shows your assurance that you are right wih God?	Not sure	1 2 3 4 5 2% 1% 15% 28% 54%	Very certain
5. How certain are you about what your spiritual gifts are? Circle a number.	No idea	1 2 3 4 5 5% 3% 18% 21% 53%	Quite certain P
6. How many years have you attended Adventist schools? Circle a number. 0 0-2 76% 6%			17 & up H
7. Do you have many non-Adventist friends?			
8. How do you feel about the money the conference spends on public evangelism? Circle a number.			Ł.
9. How well prepared are you for the work of witnessing? Circle a number.	Not at all	1 2 3 4 5	Very well
10. Would it be better for your church to double or triple its sizein one year or grow more gradually?	Gradual growth		· · · ·
11. Have you been engaged in some type of witnessing program over the past year?			
2. Do you hold a church office or other service position?			
3. Did you set a personal soul-winning goal this year?  4. Have you been working to win non-Adventist relatives?		52% 48%	
15. Have you been involved in community outreach services (Dorcas,  Stop Smoking, etc.)?		84% 16%	
16. Have you held Bible studies with a non-Adventist this year?		58% 42% 59% 41%	
17. Within the last year have you attended a witnessing training program?		45% 55%	
18. Circle the number which best describes your church group: A) Soul-winning church	No	1 2 3 4 5 8% 8% 21% 14% 49%	Tes
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			•
B) Adventist standards	Lov	1 2 3 4 5 7% 7% 22% 23% 42%	High
C) Priendliness	Cold and unfriendly	1 2 3 4 5 5% 5% 17% 20% 52%	Warm and friendly
D) Unity	Divided and fighting	1 2 3 4 5 7% 7% 21% 29% 37%	
E) New members	Ignored	1 2 3 4 5 5% 6% 14% 22% 53%	
P) Peelings towards church people	I don't fit in	1 2 3 4 5 3% 3% 14% 24% 55%	My kind of people
Circle the number which shows the degree that you have been involved in:	<del> </del>		
Dl - Doesn't apply N - Rever S - Sometimes U - Usually	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
A - Alvays			
A)_ Daily_ personal Bible Study		DA N S U A	
B) Daily prayer for the conversion of specific people		1% 2% 23% 36% 38% 1% 2% 16% 23% 58%	RC
C) Regular study of Ellen White books		0% 0% 0% 52% 48%	=
D) Regular financial support for local soul-winning			
E) Meet regularly with a small study or fellowship group		5% 14% 31% 19% 31%	
P) Help neighbors with their personal problems		3% 8% 29% 23% 37%	>
G)_Concern for those who have not accepted Christ			
H) Daily family worship		1% 2% 6% 14% 77% 3% 5% 19% 24% 50%	A
I) Witnessing in everyday activities		2% 3% 19% 27% 49%	$\mathcal{R}$
- Circle the number which shows the emphasis your pastor places  A) Hinistry to members	Little importance	1 2 3 4 5 3% 4% 9% 17% 67%	
B) Soul-winning	Little importance	1 2 3 4 5 2% 2% 9% 13% 74%	Top priority
How many people have you been wholly or partially responsible for bringing into the church in the last three years? Unaware of any 42%		Six to ter	Bore than ten
Circle the number that best describes your pastor's sermons:		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
A)	Discourages	1 2 3 4 5 1% 2% 6% 10% 80%	Builds faith
В)	Not Christ-centered		Christ-centered

vanagementale engigenderen	C)	Not helpful	1 2 3 4 5 0% 2% 4% 7% 86%	Helpfül .
23.	Circle the number of your overall evaluation of:  1) Your pastor	Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5 3% 2% 9% 16% 71%	Very effective
	B) Your pastor's wife	Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5 8% 5% 12% 17% 59%	Very effective
24.	Circle the number of the age group you are in.  19 years or under  10%  20-35 years	36-50 years 24%		
25.	Circle the number which shows your yearly family income.  Under \$8,000 \$8,001 to \$16,000  30%  30%	\$16 001 to \$25,000	\$25,001 to \$50,000 8%	Above \$50,000
26.	Circle the number that shows the distance that you live from the church.  Under 3 miles 4-10 miles 379	11-15 miles		Over 25 miles
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BURBER OF SURVEYS FOR THIS REPORT = 1351					
1Circle the number showing how long you have been a baptized Adventist. Less than 1 year 1-5 years 11% 29%	6-10 years		years 21%		rs 2%
		Yes	No		
3Circle the number indicating the relationship that you have with Jesus Christ.		43%			
Jesus Christ.	None	1 2 3 2% 7% 29% 23	4 5 x 39%	Intimate	
4. What number shows your assurance that you are right wih God?	Not sure	1 2 3 9% 9% 29% 26		Very certain	
5. How certain are you about what your spiritual gifts are? Circle a number.				Quite certain	PR
	The second secon	<del></del>			
6. How many years have you attended Adventist schools? Circle a number. 0 0-2	2-4 5-	-8 9-12	13-16	17 & up	
number0 0-2 73% 7%	6%	8% 4%	1%	15	6
Doyou have many non-Adventist friends?	Kon	e 1 2 3	4 5 % 63%	Hany	- B
8. How do you feel about the money the conference spends on public evangelism? Circle a number.			4 5	Should spend zo	_
9. How well prepared are you for the work of witnessing? Circle a number.	,	7/1 7/2 Z 7/8 Z 2	מטד א.		N ON ON
10. Would it be better for your church to double or triple its size in one year or grow more gradually?	Gradual growt	h 1 2 3	4 5	Growth explosion	n REAL
11. Have you been engaged in some type of witnessing program over		23% 11% 23% 1			ERS
the past year?		60%	40%		
12. Do you hold a church office or other service position?		56%	44%		
13. Did you set a personal soul-winning goal this year?		33%	67%		
14. Have you been working to win non-Adventist relatives?					
15. Have you been involved in community outreach services (Dorcas, Stop Smoking, etc.)?					
16. Have you held Bible studies with a non-Adventist this year?		38%			
17. Within the last year have you attended a witnessing training		37%	63%		
program?		23%	77%		
18. Circle the number which best describes your church group:  A) Soul-winning church	N	o 1 2 3 7% 12% 25% 1			

B) Adventist standards	Low	1 2 3 4 5 5% 8% 27% 26% 34%	High .
C) Priendliness	Cold and unfriendly	1 2 3 4 5 6% 7% 22% 20% 45%	Warm and friendly
D) Unity	Divided and fighting	1 2 3 4 5 85 85 305 265 285	Cooperative/unity
E) New members	Ignored -	1 2 3 4 5 6% 9% 20% 22% 43%	Involved
F) Feelings towards church people	I don't fit in	1 2 3 4 5 5% 6% 20% 27% 41%	My kind of people
Circle the number which shows the degree that you have been involved in:			
DA - Doesn't apply N - Never S - Sometimes U - Usually			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
A - Always		DA N S U A	
A) Daily personal Bible Study			
	-	4% 6% 49% 27% 13%	77
B) Daily prayer for the conversion of specific people		4% 6% 42% 21% 27%	PRO#
C) Regular study of Ellen White books			}
D) Regular financial support for local soul-winning		9% 22% 70% 0% 0%	ш
		7% 16% 36% 20% 21%	0
E) Heet regularly with a small study or fellowship group		12% 32% 37% 11% 9%_	<u> </u>
F) Help neighbors with their personal problems			$\simeq$
G) Concern for those who have not accepted Christ		6% 16% 40% 18% 20%	CX
•		2x 3x 19x 23x 53x	
H) Daily family worship		4% 11% 44% 18% 23%	N O N
I) Witnessing in everyday activities			R
Circle the number which shows the emphasis your pastor places or	1:	3% 10% 44% 24% 19%	AD
A) Ministry to members	Little importance	1 2 3 4 5 4% 4% 15% 23% 54%	Top priority R
B) Soul-winning	Little importance	1 2 3 4 5 2% 4% 9% 21% 64%	Top priority
How many people have you been wholly or partially responsible			
604	One Two to five 19% 17%	Six to ten	More than ten
Circle the number that best describes your pastor's sermons:			
λ)	Discourages	1 2 3 4 5 _1% 3% 11% 18% 66%	Builds raith
B)	Not Christ-centered	1 2 3 4 5	

<b>C)</b>			Not helpful	1 2 3 4 5 2% 3% 7% 14% 75%	Helpful .
23. Circle the number of your ov  1) Your pastor	erall evaluation of:	. • • • • •	Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5 3% 3% 11% 21% 62%	Very effective
B) Your pastor's wife			Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5 6% 7% 15% 22% 50%	Very effective
24. Circle the number of the age	group you are in. 19 years or under 26%	20-35 years	36 <b>-</b> 50 years	51-65 years	Over 65 years
25. Circle the number which show	s your yearly family in Under \$8,000 \$8	come. ,001 to \$16,000	\$16,001 to \$25,000	\$25.001 to \$50.000	7%
26. Circle the number that shows church.	the distance that you.  Onder 3 miles	live from the 4-10 miles	11-15 miles	16-25 miles	Over 25 miles
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Questions 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10. This series favors the reader as it did in the total and white profiles. Combining the top two responses (4 and 5), the differences may be seen in the following chart:

	<u>Item</u>	Reader Reponse	Non-reader Response	Difference
3.	Relationship with Christ	86%	62%	24%
4.	Assurance of being right with God	82%	54%	28%
5.	Certainity of spiritual gifts	74%	53%	21%
8.	Spend for evangelism	83%	68%	15%
9.	Prepared for witnessing	68%	40%	28%
10.	Prefers rapid growth	54%	43%	11%

Question 11-17. As in the total and white profiles, black readers lead in each of these "yes" or "no" items. Note that 21% more had been engaged in some type of witnessing program over the previous year, 17% more were holding a church office or other service position, 19% more had set a personal soulwinning goal for the current year, 22% more had been working to win non-Adventist relatives, 20% more had been involved in community outreach services, 22% more had held Bible studies with a non-Adventist during the past year, and 22% more had recently attended a witnessing training program. In all but item 11, the differences in the black profiles exceed those of the white profiles.

Question 19. There are some strong contrasts on this series of eight items. Combining the "usually" and "always" responses, the differences may be seen in the following chart:

<u>Item</u>	Reader Response	Non-reader Response	Difference
A. Daily Bible study	74%	40%	34%
B. Prayer for conversions	81%	48%	33%
D. Financial support for local soul-winning	75%	41%	34%
E. Small group participat	ion 50%	20%	30%
F. Help neighbors with personal problems	60%	38%	22%
G. Concern for lost people	e 91%	76%	15%
H. Daily family worship	74%	41%	33%
I. Witnessing in everyday activities	76%	43%	33%

Question 21. Here 42% of the readers were unaware of anyone brought into the church in the last three years that they had been at least partially responsible for but 60% of the non-readers made a similar confession. While 29% of the readers brought in two to five converts, only 17% of the non-readers did. Six or more converts were claimed by 12% of the readers but by only 4% of the non-readers.

Question 24. Only 38% of black readers are under 36 years of age compared with 59% of the non-readers. At the other end 38% of the readers are over 50 years as opposed to 20% of the non-readers. This continues the picture portrayed on the total and white profiles.

As is the case with the total and the white groups, black readers of Ellen White books are markedly superior to non-readers in every item of Christian attitudes and behavior measured by the survey.

#### Hispanic Membership Profile

The last sub-group to be examined are the members of Hispanic churches. Profile 7 displays the percentage responses of 405 Hispanic readers. Profile 8 gives the corresponding information for 628 Hispanic non-readers. Some of the most important differences will be noted.

Question 1. The Hispanic church in North America is even younger than the black church. Yet the relation of readership to recency of baptism is even stronger than in the other groups. Note that 41% of the readers and only 26% of the non-readers have been in the church for more than ten years. However 40% of the readers and 55% of the non-readers have been baptized less than five years. On both ends of the scale the difference is 15%.

Questions 3, 4, 5, and 9. Significant differences, all in favor of the Hispanic reader, may be found in these four questions as in the other profiles. Combining the top two responses (4 and 5) reveals the following information:

	<u>Item</u>	Reader Response	Non-reader Response	Difference
3.	Relationship with Christ	t 86%	64%	22%
4.	Assurance of being right with God	85%	66%	19%
5.	Certainty of spiritual gifts	76%	50%	26%
9.	Prepared for witnessing	65%	27%	38%

Questions 11-17. Hispanic readers have greater percentages in the "yes" column than non-readers do on each of these items. It can be seen that 25% more had been engaged in some type

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1. Circle the number showing how long you have been a baptized				
Less than 1 year 1-5 years 9% 31%	6-10 years 1	1-20 years 16%	Over 20 years 25%	
2. Was at least one of your parents an Adventist sometime during the first 12 years of your life?	Yes 29%	No. 71%		
3. Circle the number indicating the relationship that you have with Jesus Christ.	None 1 2		Intimate	
4. What number shows your assurance that you are right wih God?	Not sure 1 2 2% 2% 1	3 4 5 2% 23% 62%	Very certain	
5. How certain are you about what your spiritual gifts are? Circle a number.	No idea 1 2 5% 4% 1	 3 4 5 5% 23% 53%		
6. How many years have you attended Adventist schools? Circle a	2-4 5-8 9-11 6% 8% 4	2 13-16 5 25		
* 7. Do you have many non-Adventist friends?	None 1 2	3 4 5 7% 13% 60%		<u> </u>
8. How do you feel about the money the conference spends on public evangelism? Circle a number.	Too Euch spent 1 2		Should spend more =	
9. How well prepared are you for the work of witnessing? Circle a number.			Very vell SPAN	
10. Would it be better for your church to double or triple its size in one year or grow more gradually?	Gradual growth 1 2		Srowth explosion R	
11. Have you been engaged in some type of witnessing program over the past year?		No	ADERS	
12. Do you hold a church office or other service position?	60%			
" 13. Did you set a personal soul-winning goal this year?	62%	38%		
- 14. Have you been working to win non-Adventist relatives?  - 15. Have you been involved in community outreach services (Dorcas, - Stop Spoking, etc.)?	82%	18%		
16. Have you held Bible studies with a non-Adventist this year?	50%	50%		
17. Within the last year have you attended a witnessing training program?	70%			
18. Circle the number which best describes your church group: A) Soul-winning church	No 1 2	51%	Yes	
	3% 7% 2	0% 21% 49%	and the second s	

В)	Adventist standards	Loa			4 5 25% 53%	High	Ć.
C)	Priendliness	Cold and unfriendly			4 5 24% 57%	Warm and frie	ndly
D)	Unity	Divided and fighting			4 5 22% 58%	Cooperative/u	nity
E)	Rea members	Ignored			4 5 22% 64%	Involved	
P)	Feelings towards church people	I don't fit in			4 5 19% 71%	my kind of pe	ople
Circle t involved	he number_which shows the degree that you have been						
N - Neve S - Some	times						
A - Alva	ys		DA	n s	U A		.•
A) _	Daily_personal Bible Study		1%	1% 17%	29% 51%	-	
B)	Daily prayer for the conversion of specific people		0%	2% 10%	20% 67%		PROF
C)	Regular study of Ellen White books	The state of the s			49% 51%		끝
D)	Regular financial support for local soul-winning				25% 52%		— <b>~</b> — <b>~</b>
E)	Meet regularly with a small study or fellowship group						1
P)	Help neighbors with their personal problems						——픕
G)	Concern for those who have not accepted Christ				23% 35%		SPAN
	Daily family worship		1%	1% 9%	25% 64%		IC
	Witnessing in everyday activities		_7 <u>%</u> _	5%_18%	22% 48%		REA
			1%	3% 20%	27% 48%		ADE
Circle (	the number which shows the emphasis your pastor places dinistry to members	Little importance	1 2%	2 3 4% 9%	4 5 14% 71%	Top priority	<del>-</del> <del>-</del>
-	Soul-winning	Little importance			4 5 14% 76%	Top priority	
	y people have you been wholly or partially responsible aging into the church in the last three years?  Unaware of any 30%	One Two to five		Six	to ten	More than	ten 16%
Circle (A)	the number that best describes your pastor's sermons:		1		4 5 14% 79%	Builds faith	
В)		Not Christ-centered		2 3 2% 4%	4 5 9% 84%	Christ-center	ed

c)	Not helpful	1 2 3 4 5 1% 1% 3% 11% 84%	
3. Circle the number of your overall evaluation of:  A) Your pastor	Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5 1% 2% 6% 13% 79%	Verv effective
B) Your pastor's wife	Not very effective	1 2 3 4 5 6% 5% 11% 17% 61%	Very effective
4. Circle the number of the age group you are in. 19 years or under 20-35 years 9% 32%	36-50 years		Over 65 years
5. Circle the number which shows your yearly family income.  Under \$8,000 \$8,001 to \$16,000	\$16,001 to \$25,000	\$25,001 to \$50,000	Above \$50,000
6. Circle the number that shows the distance that you live from the church.  Under 3 miles  4-10 miles  36%		6% 16-25 miles 5%	
			P
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Church Growth Survey - The adventist Member
Institute of Church Ministry
Theological Seminary, Andrews University

	All Rights Reserved Church # SPROREAD	•		
BUNBER OF SURVEIS FOR THIS REPORT = 628	_ Status .			and a second second specific at the contract way about the contract and contract an
la Circle the number showing how long you h Adventist. Less than	ave been a baptized 1 year 1-5 years 13% 42%	6-10 years 18%	11-20 years 12%	Over 20 years
_2 Was at least one of your parents an Adve the first 12 years of your life?	ntist sometime during		Tes No 35% 65%	
_3Circle the number indicating the relation Jesus Christ.	nship that you have with	None	1 2 3 4 5 x 5% 30% 26% 38%	Intimate
4. What number shows your assurance that yo	u are right wih God?	Not sure	1 2 3 4 5 % 7% 24% 26% 40%	Very certain
<ol> <li>How certain are you about what your spir a number.</li> </ol>	itual gifts are? Circle		1 2 3 4 5 % 13% 25% 21% 29%	
6. How many years have you attended Adventi	et echoole? Circle a			PR
•				in in
8. How do you feel about the money the conf	erence spends on public			1 7
9. How well prepared are you for the work on number.	f vitnessing? Circle a	Not at all	1 2 3 4 5	▼ery well ≥
10. Would it be better for your church to doin one year or grow more gradually?	ouble or triple its size	Gradual growth	<b>X</b> 20 <b>X</b> 38 <b>X</b> 15 <b>X</b> 12 <b>X</b> 1 2 3 4 5	Growth explosion Z
11. Have you been engaged in some type of with the past year?	tnessing program over		% 12% 25% 21% 31% Yes No	7
12. Do you hold a church office or other ser	vice position?		42% 58%	-READER
13. Did you set a personal soul-winning coal	this year?		46% 54% 41% 59%	<del></del>
14 Have you been working to win non-Adventi	st relatives?		64% 36%	
15. Have you been involved in community outrested Stop Snoking, etc.)?	each services (Dorcas,			
16. Have you held Bible studies with a non-A	dventist this year?			
17. Within the last year have you attended a program?	witnessing training		42% 58%	45. S Alle Silve in control of the control of
18. Circle the number which best describes y  1) Soul-winning church	your church group:	No	25% 75% 1 2 3 4 5 % 10% 23% 23% 40%	

В)	Advertist standards .	Lov	1 2 3 4 5 4% 4% 23% 28% 41%	High
c)	Priesdliness	Cold and unfriendly	1 2 3 4 5 4 7 17 17 24 4 48 5	Warm and friendly
D)	Unity	Divided and fighting	1 2 3 4 5 5% 5% 20% 28% 42%	Cooperative/unity
E)	Sev members		1 2 3 4 5 2% 6% 16% 25% 51%	
F)	Peelings towards church people	I don't fit in	1 2 3 4 5 2% 3% 15% 21% 59%	My kind of people
_Circle t _involved	he number which shows the degree that you have been in:		<u> </u>	
DA - Doe	sn't apply			
N - Neve S - Some U - Usua	r times			
A - Alva	ys		DA N S U A	
	Daily personal Bible Study			
	Daily prayer for the conversion of specific people	•	2% 5% 31% 24% 38%_	
C)	Regular study of Ellen White books		8% 22% 70% 0% 0%	
D)	Regular financial support for local soul-winning			
	meet regularly with a small study or fellowship group		6% 17% 36% 19% 22%	
	Relp reighbors with their personal problems		8% 31% 35% 14% 12%	
G)	Concern for those who have not accepted Christ		6% 20% 39% 18% 18%	
	Daily family worship		1% 3% 21% 30% 46%	
			6%_16%_38%_19%_21%_	
_	Witnessing in everyday activities		3% 9% 42% 27% 20%	
	he number which shows the emphasis your pastor places of ministry to members	Little importance	1 2 3 4 5 3% 2% 9% 24% 62%	Top priority
	Soul-winning	Little importance	1 2 3 4 5 2% 2% 10% 16% 70%	Top priority
How many for brin	people have you been wholly or partially responsible ging into the church in the last three years?  Unaware of any	One Two to five	Six to ten	More than ten
Circle (	45% the number that best describes your pastor's sermons:	Discourages	1 2 3 4 5 1% 2% 8% 20% 69%	Builds faith
В)		Not Christ-centered	1 2 3 4 5	Christ-centered

C)		•			1 2 3 4 5 1% 2% 5% 14% 78%	_
8.1	he number of your overal Your pastor			Not work offective	1 2 3 4 5 _1% _1% _8% 19% 70%_	York offosting
B)	Your pastor's wife					Very effective
. Circle t	the number of the age gro	oup you are in. years or under	20-35 years	36-50 years	51-65 years	
	the number which shows yo	our yearly family in Under \$8,000 \$8	ncome. 3,001 to \$16,000	\$16,001 to \$25,000	\$25,001 to \$50,000	Above \$50,000
charch.	the number that shows the	e distance that you	live from the		16-25 miles 5%	
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of witnessing program over the previous year, 14% more were holding a church office or other service position, 21% more had set a personal soul-winning goal for the current year, 18% more had been working to win non-Adventist relatives, 15% more had been involved in community outreach services, 28% more had held Bible Studies with a non-Adventist during the past year, and 24% more had recently attended a witnessing training program. With minor variations, this is a similar profile to those of the total, white, and black groups.

Question 19. As in the other profiles, there are strong contrasts in this series between Hispanic readers and non-readers of Ellen White books--all in favor of the readers. The following chart highlights the differences.

····	2. 6 9 9		Non-reader	
	<u>Item</u>	Reader Response	Response	Difference
Α.	Daily Bible study	80%	55%	25%
В.	Prayer for conversions	87%	62%	25%
D.	Financial support for local soul-winning	77%	41%	36%
Ε.	Small group participation	on 46%	26%	20%
F.	Help neighbors with personal problems	58%	36%	22%
G.	Concern for lost people	89%	76%	13%
Н.	Daily family worship	70%	40%	30%
I.	Witnessing in everyday activities	75%	47%	28%

Question 21. Only 30% of the readers (the lowest percentage of any group) were unaware of having been wholly or partially responsible for bringing anyone into the church in the last three

years but 45% of the non-readers were in this position. While 32% of the readers brought in two to five converts, only 25% of the non-readers did. Six or more converts were claimed by 22% of the readers but by only 12% of the non-readers. Hispanic readers win more souls than non-readers do.

Question 24. Only 41% of Hispanic readers are under 36 years of age compared with 61% of the non-readers. At the other end 29% of the readers are over 50 years as opposed to 17% of the non-readers. While the entire Hispanic group is younger than the black group, and both of them than the white group, the same general pattern prevails. The younger people are more likely to be non-readers and the older people to be readers.

#### Conclusions

Seldom does a research study find the evidence so heavily weighted toward one conclusion. On every item in the church growth survey which deals with personal attitudes or practices, the member who regularly studies Ellen White books tends to be higher than the member who reads only occasionally or never. On a few items the difference is small--3 or 4 percentage points. But on most items it is large--in the teens, twenties, or thirties.

And these differences are found not only on the total profiles but in each of the ethnic components. White, black, and Hispanic readers as groups are each superior to non-readers. On no item do non-readers rate higher than readers.

Readers have a closer relationship with Christ, more certainity of their standing with God, and are more likely to have

identified their spiritual gifts. They are more in favor of spending for public evangelism and contribute more heavily to local missionary projects. They feel more prepared for witnessing and actually engage in more witnessing and outreach programs. They are more likely to study the Bible daily, to pray for specific people, to meet in fellowship groups, and to have daily family worship. They see their church more positively. They are responsible for winning more converts.

Of course these statistics compare Ellen White readers and non-readers as groups. Individuals within these groups may vary widely in their Christian attitudes and practices. But on the average, a striking difference exists.

These findings should lead pastors and church leaders to encourage and promote regular study of the writings of Ellen White. The church is especially challenged to seek ways to involve younger members and newer converts in this study. For it is these groups that hold the future of the church, and it is precisely these groups that are the least involved at the current time in the regular study of the Ellen White writings

#### CHURCH GROWTH SURVEY

### The Adventist Member

1.	CIRCLE THE <u>NUMBER</u> SHOWING HOW LONG YOU HAVE BEEN A BAPTIZED ADVENTIST.	<ol> <li>LESS THAN 1 YEAR</li> <li>1-5 YEARS</li> <li>6-10 YEARS</li> <li>11-20 YEARS</li> <li>OVER 20 YEARS</li> </ol>
2.	WAS AT LEAST ONE OF YOUR PARENTS AN ADVENTIST SOMETIME DURING THE FIRST 12 YEARS OF YOUR LIFE?	1. YES 2. NO
3.	CIRCLE THE <u>NUMBER</u> INDICATING THE RELATIONSHIP THAT YOU HAVE WITH JESUS CHRIST.	1 2 3 4 5 NONE INTIMATE
4.	WHAT NUMBER SHOWS YOUR ASSURANCE THAT YOU ARE RIGHT WITH GOD?	1 2 3 4 5 NOT SURE VERY CERTAIN
ź.	HOW CERTAIN ARE YOU ABOUT WHAT YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE? CIRCLE A NUMBER.	1 2 3 4 5 NO IDEA QUITE CERTAIN
6.	HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU ATTENDED ADVENTIST SCHOOLS? CIRCLE A <u>NUMBER</u> .	<ol> <li>NONE</li> <li>UP TO 2 YEARS</li> <li>2-4 YEARS</li> <li>5-8 YEARS</li> <li>9-12 YEARS</li> <li>13-16 YEARS</li> </ol>
		7. 17 YEARS OR MORE
7.	DO YOU HAVE MANY NON-ADVENTIST FRIENDS?	1 2 3 4 5 NONE MANY
8.	HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE MONEY THE CONFERENCE SPENDS ON PUBLIC EVANGELISM? CIRCLE A NUMBER.	1 2 3 4 5 TOO MUCH SHOULD SPEND SPENT MORE
9.	HOW WELL PREPARED ARE YOU FOR THE WORK OF WITNESSING? CIRCLE A NUMBER.	1 2 3 4 5 NOT AT ALL VERY WELL

10.	WOULD IT BE BETTER FOR YOUR CHURCH T DOUBLE OR TRIPLE ITS SIZE IN ONE YEA OR GROW MORE GRADUALLY?		GF	1 RADUAL GROWTH		3	4	5 GROWTH EXPLOSION
					(ES			40
11.	HAVE YOU BEEN ENGAGED IN SOME TYPE O WITNESSING PROGRAM OVER THE PAST YEA				1			2
12.	DO YOU HOLD A CHURCH OFFICE OR OTHER SERVICE POSITION?				1			2
13.	DID YOU SET A PERSONAL SOUL-WINNING GOAL THIS YEAR?				1			2
14.	HAVE YOU BEEN WORKING TO WIN NON-ADVENTIST RELATIVES?				1			. 2
15.	HAVE YOU BEEN INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERVICES (Dorcas, Stop Smoking, Etc.)?				1			2
16.	HAVE YOU HELD BIBLE STUDIES WITH A NON-ADVENTIST THIS YEAR?				1			2
17.	WITHIN THE LAST YEAR HAVE YOU ATTEND A WITNESSING TRAINING PROGRAM?	ED			1			2
18.	CIRCLE THE NUMBER WHICH							
	BEST DESCRIBES YOUR CHURCH GROUP:	A)	NOT A	SOUL		3	4	5 SOUL WINNING CHURCH
		В)	LOW ADVE			3	4	5 HIGH ADVENTIST STANDARDS
		C)		D AND ENDLY	2	3	4	5 WARM AND FRIENDLY
		D)		1 VIDED HTING	2	3	4	5 COOPERATIVE UNITED
		E)	NEW ME IG	1 MBERS NORED	2	3	4	5 NEW MEMBERS IN- VOLVED IN FELLOW- SHIP & ACTIVITIES
		F)	I DON'T TO F	SEEM IT IN	2	3	4	5 MY KIND OF PEOPLE

10	ATROLE TUE	NUMBER HUTOU GUOVO TUT ATOMA		V PS PS		MES	SALT MAY	
19.		NUMBER WHICH SHOWS THE DEGREE AVE BEEN INVOLVED IN:	OOESN	MEYER	SON		BLLWAY	)
	Α)	DAILY PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY	1	2	- 3	4	5	
	В)	DAILY PRAYER FOR THE CONVERSION OF SPECIFIC PEOPLE	1	2	3	4	5	
	c)	REGULAR STUDY OF ELLEN WHITE BOOKS	1	2 .	3	4	5	
	D)	REGULAR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR LOCAL SOUL-WINNING	1	2	3	4	5	
	Ε)	MEET REGULARLY WITH A SMALL STUDY OR FELLOWSHIP GROUP	1	2	3	4	5	
	F)	HELP NEIGHBORS WITH THEIR PERSONAL PROBLEMS	1	2	3	4	5	
	G)	CONCERN FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT ACCEPTED CHRIST	1	2	3	4	5	
	н)	DAILY FAMILY WORSHIP	. 1	2	3	4	5	
	I)	WITNESSING IN EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES	1	2	3	4	5	
20.		NUMBER WHICH SHOWS THE OUR PASTOR PLACES ON:	LITTLE	TANCE			708 5	RIORITY
	A)	MINISTRY TO MEMBERS	1		3	4	5	
	В)	SOUL-WINNING	1	2	3	4	5	
21.	OR PARTIALL	OPLE HAVE YOU BEEN WHOLLY Y RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING HURCH IN THE LAST THREE	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	ONE TWO SIX	to to	FIVE TEN		

22. CIRCLE THE NUMBER THAT BEST 1 2 3 4 5 DESCRIBES YOUR PASTOR'S A) **DISCOURAGES** BUILDS FAITH **SERMONS:** 2 3 4 B) NON-CHRIST CHRIST CENTERED **CENTERED** 5 2 3 4 C) NOT HELPFUL HELPFUL 23. CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF YOUR OVERALL EVALUATION OF: A) YOUR PASTOR 3 B) PASTOR'S WIFE 2 1 3 24. CIRCLE THE NUMBER OF THE AGE GROUP YOU ARE IN. 19 YEARS OR UNDER 2. 20-35 YEARS 3. 36-50 YEARS 4. 51-65 YEARS 5. OVER 65 YEARS 25. CIRCLE THE NUMBER WHICH SHOWS YOUR YEARLY FAMILY INCOME. 1. UNDER \$8,000 2. \$8,000 to \$16,000 \$16,001 to \$25,000 4. \$25,001 to \$50,000 5. ABOVE \$50,000 26. CIRCLE THE NUMBER THAT SHOWS THE DISTANCE THAT YOU LIVE FROM THE 1. UNDER 3 MILES CHURCH. 2. 4-10 MILES 3. 11-15 MILES 4. 16-25 MILES 5. OVER 25 MILES 1. MALE 27. YOUR SEX 2. FEMALE

PLEASE ANSWER <u>ALL</u> QUESTIONS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.