



CONCH SHELL

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Breaking through the sound barrier

"Listen before you answer. If you don't, you are being stupid and insulting"
(Proverbs 18:13 TEV).

To really communicate, you must give up **THREE** things:

1. You must give up your assumptions. We get into trouble when we start assuming we understand the meaning of what people say to us. The truth is everything you hear goes through a filter. Your filter is determined by your past experiences and your unique personality. You may not be hearing what they are really saying. Therefore, it is smart (and safe) to ask for clarification: "Listen before you answer. If you don't, you are being stupid and insulting" (Proverbs 18:13 TEV).

2. You must give up your accusations. You never get your point across by being cross. Anger and sarcasm only make people defensive and that kills communication. There are four common forms of accusation:

- Exaggerating, such as making sweeping generalities like "You never," or "You always."
- Labeling, such as derogatory name-calling. Labeling never changes anyone. It only reinforces the negative behavior.
- Playing historian, such as bringing up past failures, mistakes, and broken promises.
- Asking loaded questions, ones that really can't be answered, such as, "Can't you do anything right?"

The Bible says, "Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you" (Ephesians 4:29 TEV).

3. You must give up your apprehensions. Fear prevents honest communication. It causes us to conceal our true feelings and fail to confront the real issues. The two most common apprehensions are: the fear of failure and the fear of rejection. But when you face your fear and risk being honest, then real communication can happen. Freedom is the result of openness. Jesus said, "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:32 TEV).

Blessings as you continue to REVEAL Jesus.

Mere Vaihola
Education Director



SCHOOLS HAVESTING IN VANUATU



Maranatha Adventist Junior secondary School is one of our mission schools in Vanuatu. It is located on the south-west part of the island of Ambrym. The current enrollment is about 130 students. This year has been a challenging year for the school, but praise God for His leading. In the month of July, the school participated in the 40 days of prayer. Due to some of

the students interested to learn more; the school chaplain conducted an evangelistic meeting in the month of September, starting on the 11th to the 23rd for two weeks with the help of the school handyman. This resulted in a baptism of 18 students who gave their lives to Jesus. To God be the glory!

Every night people from the nearby villages would come to listen to God's word. One very interesting thing happened. One of the students who decided to be baptized on Sabbath, shared a very powerful and heartfelt testimony. She asked her father to be baptized but he refused, yet with her firm decision she was baptized. Her father decided that she will not call him dad anymore. However, with tears in her eyes she stood up and got baptized. God is working miracles here at Maranatha Adventist Junior Secondary School states the school chaplain, Minister Cliff Tahun. It is said that this is the first baptism since 2000. God's timing is always the best and for allowing me to serve here at Maranatha school continues Minister Cliff Tahun. Maranatha school is inviting you to remember them in your prayers. -

Cliff Jack Tahun (School Chaplain)



There were 28 souls were saved on the 23rd September, after a 2 week's revival meeting held in Kwataparen Adventist Secondary School in Tanna, Vanuatu. The school would like to thank everyone for the love and support through prayers. Also, thank you to the school chaplain and the staff members for your commitment who presented each night. God has called you for such a time as this. The school would like to remember them in your prayers especially these 28 students in their faith journey.

**"THERE IS REJOICING
IN HEAVEN"**

On the 8th of October, Aore Adventist Academy community were blessed to witness 19 Students who decided and gave their lives to follow Jesus through the water of Baptism. Thank you Pr Esau Tawali who is also an Ex-AAA student who facilitated the Baptism and service. May all Praise to Him above.

**"I CAN DO
ALL THINGS
THROUGH
CHRIST
WHO
STRENGTHENS
ME."
PHIL4:13**



MALEKULA Adventist Junior Secondary School MAJSS baptized 19 students on the 1st of October 2022.

Evangelism is happening in our schools. Thank you to the school chaplain, minister Sabrina for her leadership in saving souls for God's Kingdom. - Morex Bong



SPD SENIOR EDUCATOR'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

On the 11th -15th September, senior educators from the South Pacific Division (Union directors and Institution leaders) met at Fulton Adventist University College, Sabeto, Fiji for their leadership conference.

Ben Thomas (Director of Pacific Capacity Development), Dean Banks (Leadership Strategy Leader | Leadership & PD Manager) and Mr and Mrs Smith (Human Resource Manager) were the facilitators for this conference. The 2 days Professional Development was very encouraging to finally sit-down face to face and discuss how we see Adventist institutions in the next 10 years or so will look like.



Wednesday, the SPD Education Committee met and members who couldn't make it joined via zoom. The highlight for this conference is honoring Dr David McClintock who will be retiring at the end of the year, with the SPD Medallion Award presented by the President of the South Division Pr Glenn Townend during the school prayer meeting service. A well-deserved award to a very humble servant of God who has served unselfishly wherever God sends him. Thank you, David, for your leadership throughout the Pacific.

NEW WELLNESS CENTER FOR BETIKAMA

TPUM President, Pr. Maveni and his wife Annie Kaufononga visited Betikama Adventist College on the 31st August, 2022 during their recent visit to Solomon Islands Mission. The couple including SIM President, Pr. Silent Tovosia visited the College and were welcomed during a special Church assembly with the staff and students. Pr. Maveni shared a thought and encouraged the students to work hard in their studies and also to remain connected to Christ always in these challenging times. After the Church assembly, the college family gathered outside a new Wellness Centre to witness its opening and dedication by Pr. Maveni Kaufononga. Also present was the Solomon Islands ADRA Director Mr. Stephen Tasker. ADRA Australia through ADRA Solomon supported the project with office furniture and refurbishment costs. This is a great initiative for Betikama and also a pilot project. Its primary purpose to assist students overcome negative behaviours. The Centre provides a room for the College Chaplain as well as an open space for students. Betikama Adventist College is very grateful for project and also blessed with the visit from the TPUM President. - **Partinson Bekala**



Pr Maveni and his wife Annie Kaufononga



Stephen Tasker, Pr Silent Tovosia and Pr Maveni Kaufononga

DISCOVERY GOD'S FINGER PRINT IN MY LIFE



School Chaplain Pr Salabogi, Siupeli Tau, Luisa Tau

My name is Luisa Teisina from Vaini, Tonga, and this is my story. Like many unfortunate children I grew up in a family where violence was the norm. I remember praying that after school, I won't come back to yelling and parent arguing. As much as I hate it, I grow up to be one and sometimes I am good at hiding it and sometimes not. Don't get me wrong, my parent were my definition of hard work and endurance, they kept it together all these years, they kept us together.

In 2015 I got expelled from school for drinking, and it was a very critical time of the year, when it was 2 more weeks for National Examination for Form 6.

My parents tried asking around for a school to accept me in order for me to sit for my national examination, but NO was the answer given to them. To their surprise Beulah College accepted me for some odd reason I do not understand then. I sat for the national examination, and I passed. I continued on to Form 7 and successfully completed it. The top student did not want to attend Pacific Adventist University in Papua New Guinea. Because I was the second runner up, I requested if I give given that chance, as I wanted to be a teacher. I praised God for His leading, in 2020 I graduated and received a call to teach at Beulah College which I humbly accepted.

Taught in the doctrine of a Latter-Day-Saint helped me with one step closer to the truth. But it never touched my spirit as deep as the SDA evangelism message shared by the school chaplain Pr Akuila Salabogi, here at Beulah about the prophecy. In the book of Daniel where clay and iron can never be united and that we are living in the time of clay and iron then everything else made sense. I figured that if this is the truth and also being newlywed why not raise my new family in the fullness of the gospel. So, my husband Siupeli Tau and I got baptized on the 10 of September 2022. Now I understand, my cross path with Beulah College in 2015. All along it was God's plan and I have no regret to the decision I made despite my family opposition. He has been with me in the past, presence, and with much confidence I know He will see me through with what lies ahead for me. -

Luisa Teisina Tau

REACHING OUT TO SCHOOL FAMILIES

The Adventist Education Week happened for Tuvalu SDA Primary School on the 24/09/22-01/10/22. The eight classes facilitated a day each. The class teachers and students worked together to make this special event a successful one along with the support from the parents. All have been richly blessed with the messages shared through songs and speeches by all the classes every night.

Moreover, everyone enjoyed the health messages reminding that God desires us to be fit holistically, so that we can effectively and holistically reveal Jesus to everyone around us.

Our theme "I Will Go to My Family" together with this special week of Adventist emphasis has really helped us teachers, students and parents create positive relationship stated Adi Veniana Nawawabalavu one of the teachers. - **Adi Veniana Nawawabalavu.**



I WILL GO TO MY FAMILY - HOMES EVENING

Covid restrictions in Tonga has only begun to ease of in the past two months, with restrictions being fully lifted this month. Because of the pandemic, Hilliard Memorial School was not able to host the Adventist Education Day-I will go to my family in April.

Because of the large school enrolment more than 500 students, to reach individual families was a challenge. Therefore, on the 15th of September, the school hosted a home evening program. The program was held at Falemasiva hall, Tailulu College because this was the only hall suitable to host a big number of people. The turn-out was awesome, the hall was full, with parents having to stand and watch from outside.



The program began with a school report by the Principal Mrs. Katalina Matui, to update the parents on the work of the school. The rest of the program was filled with songs and performances, done by the students, and in between the performances there were testimonies from parents. The parents spoke on the positive impact Christian education have on their children, and why they love having their children study at Hilliard memorial school. The testimonies were heartwarming, and it was very encouraging because many of these parents that testified, were not members of the church. One must know that 80% of the enrolment for this school consist of non-Adventist students. According to the Principal Mrs Matui, this program has created positive relationship between the school and the parents.

The school is looking forward to running an evangelistic campaign in November, so this home evening program is part of the preparation for the November harvest. We would love your prayers and support for this upcoming evangelistic program. "We can only thank God for using Hilliard memorial school in such a time like this. And we pray that God will continue to be with Hilliard and will continue to use Hilliard until He returns to take us home." states the School Chaplain Minister Payne - **Charles Payne (School Chaplain)**

ATOIFI GRADUATION

Atoifi Adventist College of Nursing (AACON) is in Atoifi on the eastern part Kwaio, Malaita province. AACON a campus of Pacific Adventist University Nursing School and offers a four-year bachelor's degree program on nursing. Each year AACON graduates around twenty students. And for the fourth-year students, December first week is always a graduation weekend. The recent graduation ceremony that took place on the 28th of August this year is a special graduation for only five students. This special group should have had their graduation last year with their 2021 cohort; however, circumstances would



not allow it. Therefore, with a special provision and support from Pacific Adventist University and the Atoifi Nursing School itself, these students were able to complete their study and graduated – something that they would always praise God for.

Among the invited guests present was Paul Hingei - the Program Manager for Nursing Education & the Probation and Chair of Standard Committee & Nurses Supervised Practice Program (SPP) representing the ministry of Health and Medical Services. For prospecting pupils, AACON caters for local students, and overseas students from countries like PNG(Bougainville), Vanuatu and Kiribati. If you are interested, you can always check their website. - **Joseph Pitakia**

FINALLY

READ THIS LETTER, READ IT

Dear Teacher

Today I left my son in your school. He is not perfect, or is he fully developed. He is in your school to become a man and to learn to face life alone.

As I drove away from your school and from the hostel where I left my son, I felt as though I had left part of my life behind. We drove home to a broken circle. Our boy has gone. He is missing because of our deliberate choice to take him out of his home and place him in your school in the name of Adventist Education.

I look at that boy and don't see the child he is now but rather the noble man we want him to become. He is standing today in Daniel's shoes alert to God's call.

First of all teacher, we want you to be the kind of man our boy is to become. He will sense your attitude, your values. He will be sensitive to your integrity and bigness of soul, and fair play. He will watch your manhood and Christianity at work.

You can do something I cannot do. You can look objectively, free from the bias that deflects my decisions. With sincere love for all children, you can analyze my son.

Another wish I have is labeled responsibility. He should develop the habit of punctuality and promptness. Don't let him be careless please.

One of the greatest lessons I want my son to learn in your school is an advanced lesson in obedience. We have tried to give the first lessons at home. Now he enters a larger sphere, and we want him to find that the same basic foundation of freedom and liberty continue in the larger world he finds in your school. As a little lad at home he obeyed our spoken directions. Now he enters a world where he must object right principles because of choice. We want him to learn self-control. We want him to learn to do by choice what others may be required to do by force.

Most of all teacher, I want my son to learn to know God, for this is life eternal. I want him to find happiness and the greatest security on earth in a very personal acquaintance with the God of heaven. This can be if the very atmosphere of the school invites the sweet spirit of God as a constantly honored Guest.

"You say I have asked much. Yes, for I am investing much. Today i gave you my son."

Yours sincerely

WILSON BALDWIN

(This letter was published posthumously in the Pacific Union Recorder. October 15, 1970)

PRAYER REQUESTS

Schools 2023 Staffing
 Schools harvesting programs
 Up-coming preparation for National Examinations
 New baptized students
 Non-Adventist Teachers and Students in schools
 Navesau, Vatuvonu and Kauma Schools

We would love to hear from you, your stories and challenges could be a means of blessings and encouragement to others. So, please share!

For your stories please forward it to:

Mere Vaihola
 Education Director

or

Joseph Pitakia
 Associate Education Director

