

## Adventist Men's Ministry SURVEY

### Background Information

1. Age  18-24  25-29  30-39  40-49  50-64  65 +
2. Marital Status: Single  Married  Number of Children
3. Type of work
4. Which of these issues are most important to you? (Check two most important)
  - a.  Finding a Job
  - b.  Relationship to wife
  - c.  Job security
  - d.  Male roles and identity
  - e.  Balancing work, home and ministry
  - f.  Parenting Skills
  - g.  Retirement
  - h.  Reaching other men
  - i.  Spiritual Life

### A Man and his Family

5. Would you be interested in a monthly meeting on family issues? (Parenting, relationship to wife, etc.)  Yes  No
6. When would be the best time for you to attend that meeting?
  - a.  Sabbath afternoon
  - b.  Week night
  - c.  Sunday night
  - d.  Sunday MorningAnother time?

7. What topics would you like to see addressed? (check two)

- a.  Keeping the romance alive in your marriage
- b.  Disciplining your children
- c.  Surviving the teenage years.
- d.  Being the spiritual leader at home
- e.  Handling conflict
- f.  Communicating with your wife
- g.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Men in the Marketplace

8. How can we best help you integrate your Christian faith into your job?

- a.  Monthly meeting with a speaker
- b.  Weekly small group meeting to discuss the issues
- c.  Monthly small group meeting to discuss the issues
- d.  3-5 week seminar on ethics, relationships on the job, etc.

9. Best time for these small groups or seminars:

- a.  Weekday morning
- b.  Weekday evening
- c.  Sabbath afternoon
- d.  Sunday evening

10. Topics I would like to hear addressed: (check top 3)

- a.  Handling stress
- b.  Changing careers
- c.  Relationships on the job
- d.  Sharing your faith with work associates
- e.  Balancing home, work and ministry
- f.  Keeping your ethic/edge sharp
- g.  Coping with failure
- h.  Mentoring
- i.  Planning retirement
- j.  Resisting sexual temptations
- k.  Avoiding the success obsession

## Men and the Word

11. Would a short-term mission trip be of interest to you? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
  
12. What type of short-term missions trip would interest you the most?
  - a. \_\_\_ Construction project
  - b. \_\_\_ Business trip
  - c. \_\_\_ Medical trip
  
13. What would be a good length of stay for such a trip?
  - a. \_\_\_ Weekend
  - b. \_\_\_ 1 week
  - c. \_\_\_ 2 weeks
  - d. \_\_\_ 3 weeks
  - e. \_\_\_ One month or more

## Retreats

14. If we would begin to have retreats as part of the ministry, would you be interested? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
  
15. What type of retreat would interest you most?
  - a. \_\_\_ Teaching type
  - b. \_\_\_ Adventurous type (canoeing, camping, fishing, etc.)
  - e. \_\_\_ Spiritual and personal renewal
  - d. \_\_\_ Networking with other men
  
16. And the length of the retreat?
  - a. \_\_\_ One night
  - b. \_\_\_ Two nights
  
17. How far would you be willing to travel for a retreat?
  - a. \_\_\_ 30 minutes
  - b. \_\_\_ 1 hour
  - c. \_\_\_ 2 hours
  - d. \_\_\_ 3 hours
  - e. \_\_\_ More than 3 hours

## Man to Man

18. Are you currently attending a men's Bible study group?  Yes  No
19. If you are not in a group, would you be interested in attending a men's small group?  Yes  No
20. What would you like to see happen in that group? (Check two)
- a.  Study the Bible
  - b.  Talk about problems at home and work
  - c.  Pray for one another
  - d.  Discuss how you integrate your Christian faith and your work and family life
21. Which would you prefer for meeting?
- a.  Every week for one hour
  - b.  Once a month for three hours
  - c.  Every other week
22. When would you prefer the meeting?
- a.  Early morning before work
  - b.  After work in the evening
  - c.  Lunch hour
  - d.  Over the weekend

## Men's Conference

23. What type of seminars would you like to see at the Men's Conference? (Check three)
- a.  Parenting
  - b.  Masculinity
  - c.  Relationship to wife
  - d.  Work ethics
  - e.  Changing jobs
  - f.  Dealing with retirement
  - g.  Balancing work, home and ministry
  - h.  Finances
  - i.  Evangelism
  - j.  Growing as a Christian
  - k.  Other

24. If yes, what are your areas of potential interest?
- a.  Publicity
  - b.  Organize events (retreats, golf outings, etc.)
  - c.  Work in the kitchen
  - d.  Lead small group
  - e.  Do telephoning
  - f.  Work with work projects
  - g.  Marketplace Ministries
25. What do you or would you personally like to accomplish through your involvement in Men's Ministry? (Check two)
- a.  A closer walk with God
  - b.  Fellowship with other Christian men
  - c.  An outlet to vent problems or frustrations
  - d.  More involvement in the church
  - e.  A chance to meet other men
  - f.  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
26. When the entire men's program is determined, I would like someone to contact me so I can become more involved or receive more information.  Yes

If yes, Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone # Days \_\_\_\_\_  
 Eves \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please list additional comments about the Men's Ministry you may have in the space below. You may optionally include your name, mailing address and telephone number. Thank you very much for completing this survey.

## Adventist Men's Unspoken Needs

Adapted from *Men's Ministry*  
by Steve Sonderman

Eleven Important Needs of Adventist Men are:

- 1. Men Need Action.**  
Men's self-image is largely determined by what they do and what they accomplish. A man's goal orientation pushes him to achieve things and to focus until the task is accomplished. Men enjoy working on projects where results can be solid and tangible.
- 2. Men Need Safety.**  
One rule of masculinity has been "Thou shalt not show emotion." Men are rarely open with one another unless there is a safe environment for openness. A key ingredient that makes this happen is a clear commitment to confidentiality. Men need time and safety in order to develop authentic relationships with other men,
- 3. Men Need to be Challenged.**  
Men grow up with challenges. In school it's the big exam. In athletics it's the big game. In the business world it's the big sale--or a takeover or a new product or a new venture. Men expect to be challenged. In the Gospels we see Jesus over and over again drawing a line in the sand and daring the disciples to meet Him on His side. It's no different today. Men aren't interested in a ministry that gets together to chew the fat. They want to be challenged to act, pray, behave and think in a way that glorifies God.
- 4. Men Need to Get to the Point.**  
The Christian man wants to know what the program is all about. He doesn't want to spend time on fluff, trappings and extracurricular activity. This mind set will greatly impact what and how we do our men's ministry—from how we present the mission and vision to how we advertise, to how to run small groups and large events. Men want to know what two or three practical life—applications they can take away from their time together.
- 5. Men Need to Win.**  
Almost all of us have grown up with pressure to win. We are taught to be independent and self-sufficient. Failure isn't an option. Men bring this strength into men's ministry. We have to plan challenging, yet achievable goals. Programs that aren't working must be quickly set aside.

6. **Men Need to Dream.**  
Men grow up dreaming and scheming big. In designing men's ministry, give the men a chance to be a part of the brainstorming process. Allow them to think big and see themselves involved in something bigger than themselves. This need to dream should impact informal times as well. Men want to discuss their dreams and find ways to act upon them.
7. **Men Need Other Men Like Them.**  
Men like to be in the company of men just like them. That isn't always the best thing in the world, but it's not a bad place to start. Some have found that the best way to reach doctors was to have a small group for doctors. They have reached lawyers by having a group of those in that field. They discovered that men naturally gravitate toward men facing the pressures they face and doing the same jobs they do. This flocking together of birds of a feather isn't always true, but keep it in mind.
8. **Men Need Help Working Around Daily Work.**  
Downsizing and takeovers are wearing out men and their families. Add to that emotional weariness the long, odd hours most men work. The result? How and when we do ministry with men will largely revolve around their lives at work. The most precious commodity for men is time. They don't have enough of it. How they divide it is crucial. Leaders of men's ministries need to consider the competing time demands men face and be sensitive about how many meetings to have and how long they last. Announce how long each meeting will last. The men may stay two hours for the first meeting and be too busy to ever come again. Look carefully at the yearly schedule to ensure that they are not pulled away from home and work too much. Since some men start early in the morning and others work late, it is important to offer activities at a variety of times to meet the needs of the men.
9. **Men Need Healing.**  
Not many of the men you minister to go to work and hear what a great job they are doing. When they get home their kids don't usually say what a great dad they have and thank him for working all day long so they can have a roof over their head and food to eat. Later that evening their wives probably won't applaud their performance as a dad or a husband. No, most of the guys you work with will be rather discouraged about life. They need a refuge where they can heal and be encouraged in their roles as men, fathers, husbands and workers.
10. **Men Need Freedom.**  
Men who are taught from boyhood to win develop a fierce independence. Men have difficulty forming friendships with other men. They would rather stand alone and fight alone than work together. Men's ministry will work to pull men together

at the same time they reflexively pull apart. Men need respect for their space.

11. **The Need to Identify.**

God established the Seventh-day Adventist Church to be the carrier of a unique message that would help to prepare those who would be alive when Jesus comes the second time. We live in a time when there is a spirit of brotherhood among men. This can cause some men to become confused as to what role they play as Adventist Men among men of other faiths and traditions.

As men become more comfortable in sharing with men of other faiths they need to be encouraged to identify with the unique message that gives them a special mission and role in the events leading up to the coming of Jesus.

These are a few needs to consider when beginning a men's ministry.



## Applying Needs Principles in Program Planning

Take each of the eleven needs of men and discuss how they will impact the design of the men's ministry program.

1. **Men need action**

How is this manifested in men?

How does that impact the men's ministry plan of action?

2. **Men need safety**

How is this manifested in men?

How does that impact the men's ministry you plan?

3. **Men need to be challenged**

How is this manifested in men?

How does that impact the men's ministry you plan?

4. **Men need to get to the point**

How is this manifested in men?

How does that impact the men's ministry you plan?

5. **Men need to win**

How is this manifested in men?

How does that impact the men's ministry you plan?

6. **Men need to dream**

How is this manifested in men?

How does that impact the men's ministry you plan?

7. **Men need other men like them**

How is this manifested in men?

How does that impact the men's ministry you plan?

8. **Men need help working around work time**

How is this manifested in men?

How does that impact the men's ministry you plan?

9. **Men need healing**

How is this manifested in men?

How does that impact the men's ministry you plan?

10. **Men need freedom**

How is this manifested in men?

How does that impact the men's ministry you plan?

11. **Men need to identify**

How has the ecumenical movement of recent years impacted the mind-set of Adventist men in respect to the world-view and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church?

As Adventist men reach out to fellowship with men of other faiths and traditions what steps can be taken to maintain their sense of belonging to the SDA community?