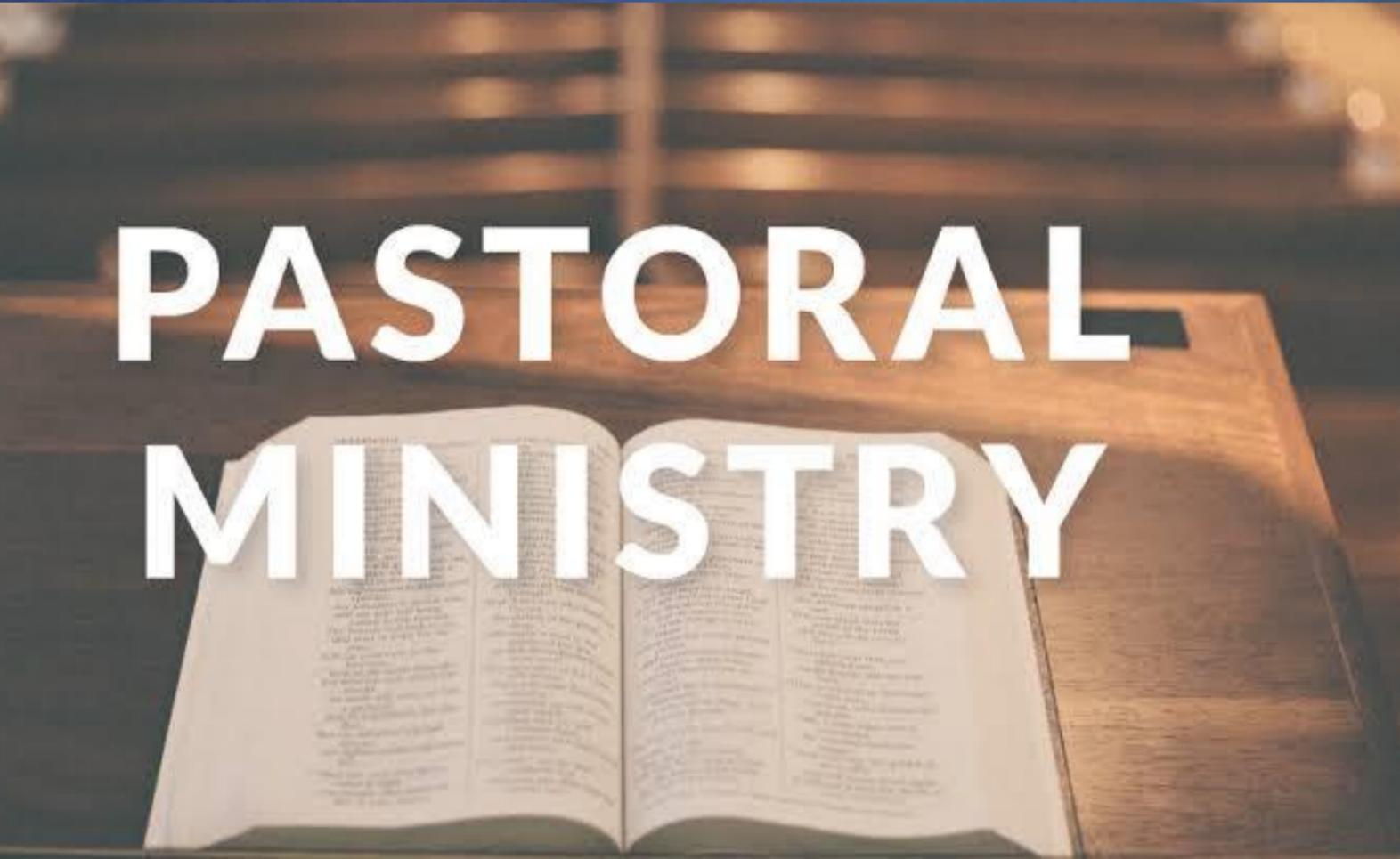


BACK TO THE ALTAR

& MINISTERIAL COUPLES' APPRECIATION





BE DISCIPLES, BEFORE YOU MAKE ONE
DIGITAL DETOX
DELILAH'S POSITION

BACK TO THE ALTAR & MINISTERIAL COUPLES' APPRECIATION



GLOBAL ADVENTIST PASTORS' SURVEY

- 93% of pastors who participated in the survey say that they felt they were in the “place that God has called me to”
- 91% agreed or strongly agreed that “being a pastor seems to fit my gifts and talents”
- 94% of pastors agreed or strongly agreed that “I serve the mission of the Church through my work”
- 94% of pastors rated it very likely (4 or 5 on a five-point scale) that they would be a committed Seventh-day Adventist church-member for the rest of their life

SUBMITTED TO THE GC THIS JANUARY 2024, 12,760 ADVENTIST PASTORS IN LOCAL CHURCHES WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS STUDY



GLOBAL ADVENTIST PASTORS' SURVEY

- 72% of all pastors strongly agreed that “My spouse is very supportive of my ministry,” and a further 17% agreed more than disagreed
- 69% of all pastors strongly agreed that “I feel close to my family,” and a further 23% agreed more than disagreed

SUBMITTED TO THE GC THIS JANUARY 2024, 12,760 ADVENTIST PASTORS IN LOCAL CHURCHES WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS STUDY



GLOBAL ADVENTIST PASTORS' SURVEY

- 74% had felt a deep sense of spiritual peace and well-being a few times a week or more
- 23% report that they work 60 hours per week or more (8% more than 80 hours per week;
- More than 15% of all respondents strongly agreed that “I feel run down and drained of physical or emotional energy” and a further 29% agreed more than disagreed . In other words, nearly 1 in 2 pastors reported being run down and drained of physical or emotional energy.

SUBMITTED TO THE GC THIS JANUARY 2024, 12,760 ADVENTIST PASTORS IN LOCAL CHURCHES WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS STUDY



GLOBAL ADVENTIST PASTORS' SURVEY

- More than 10% of all pastors reported that they strongly agreed with item Q27s, “I feel that I have no one to talk to or counsel with”, and a further 20% agreed more than disagreed.
- More than 10% of all pastors strongly agreed that “I get discouraged because nobody seems to care” and a further 18% agreed more than disagreed .

SUBMITTED TO THE GC THIS JANUARY 2024, 12,760 ADVENTIST PASTORS IN LOCAL CHURCHES WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS STUDY



GLOBAL ADVENTIST PASTORS' SURVEY

Roughly 10% of all respondents strongly agreed that “Sometimes I feel that I would like to leave pastoral ministry,” and an additional 18% agreed more than disagreed with this item. This amounts to 1 in 4 pastors having contemplated leaving ministry at one time or another.

SUBMITTED TO THE GC THIS JANUARY 2024, 12,760 ADVENTIST PASTORS IN LOCAL CHURCHES WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS STUDY



PASTORS AROUND THE WORLD

- 8% of pastors are thinking of quitting the ministry, 51% from mainline denominations. Of the 38%, almost half (46%) are under age 45. 50% of pastors are age 56 and above.
- 72% of the pastors report working between 55 to 75 hours per week.
- 84% of pastors feel they are on call 24/7.

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE FULLER INSTITUTE, GEORGE BARNA, LIFEWAY, SCHAEFFER INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, CHRISTIANITY TODAY, AND PASTORAL CARE INC.



PASTORS AROUND THE WORLD

- 80% believe pastoral ministry has negatively affected their families. Many pastor's children do not attend church now because of what the church has done to their parents.
- 65% of pastors feel their family lives in a "glass house" and fear they are not good enough to meet expectations.
- 23% of pastors report being distant to their family.

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE FULLER INSTITUTE, GEORGE BARNA, LIFEWAY, SCHAEFFER INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, CHRISTIANITY TODAY, AND PASTORAL CARE INC.



PASTORS AROUND THE WORLD

- 78% of pastors report having their vacation and personal time interrupted with ministry duties or expectations.
- 65% of pastors feel they have not taken enough vacation time with their family over the last 5 years.

STATISTICS PROVIDED BY THE FULLER INSTITUTE, GEORGE BARNA, LIFEWAY, SCHAEFFER INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, CHRISTIANITY TODAY, AND PASTORAL CARE INC.



MINISTERIAL COUPLES' APPRECIATION

On Pastor Appreciation Day, church members from more than 168,000 congregations in 215 countries around the world have the opportunity to express gratitude to God and their pastors.



THE 2018 GLOBAL CHURCH MEMBER SURVEY OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS REPORTED:

1. Read their Bibles daily – 48 %
2. Personal Daily prayer – 65 %
3. Engage in personal devotions – 52%
4. Family morning and evening worship – 37%
5. Study the Sabbath School Lesson daily – 36%

— 2017-2018 GLOBAL CHURCH MEMBER STUDY: META-ANALYSIS FINAL REPORT (SILVER SPRING, MD: GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST, 2019).



BACK TO THE ALTAR

Back to the Altar is a landmark global appeal of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, calling all people into a daily personal worship time with God. Amid our busy, media-saturated lives, many of us are neglecting the essential communion with God that our hearts are desperately craving.



1.

**REMEMBER, THERE ARE
NO ADMINISTRATIVE
SOLUTIONS TO SPIRITUAL
PROBLEMS**



“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me, you can do nothing.”

JOHN 15:5



WE CANNOT FABRICATE SPIRITUALITY.

BACK TO THE ALTAR & MINISTERIAL COUPLES' APPRECIATION



REMEMBER THIS.

**GOD'S WORK HAS TO BE DONE WITH
GOD'S POWER. PRAYER IS THE
FOUNDATION OF THAT.**



The Way

BACK TO
THE ALTAR

HOW TO LIVE DAILY AS
A DISCIPLE OF JESUS



- Principle 1 – Come to Jesus As You Are
- Principle 2 – Honor Jesus As Lord
- Principle 3 – Discover Jesus in His Word and in Prayer
- Principle 4 – Receive a Fresh Baptism of the Holy Spirit
- Principle 5 – Love Your Family Sacrificially
- Principle 6 – Disciple Others to Jesus
- Principle 7 – Live Your God-Given Mission

A desert landscape with a film strip border at the top. The text is overlaid on the image.

**WE CAN EITHER
FACE THE ISSUE
OR SUGARCOAT IT.**

2.

BACK TO THE ALTAR & MINISTERIAL COUPLES' APPRECIATION

“When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place.”

MATTHEW 14:13

“Leaving the crowd behind, [the disciples] took him along, just as he was, in the boat.”

MARK 4:36



“The disciples who were associated with Him in His work, Jesus often released for a season that they might visit their home and rest.”

MH, 55



WE NEED EACH OTHER IN THIS JOURNEY

BACK TO THE ALTAR & MINISTERIAL COUPLES' APPRECIATION

“Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, ‘Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.’”

MARK 6:31



LET US
PRAY

BACK TO THE ALTAR & MINISTERIAL COUPLES' APPRECIATION



<https://clpm.adventist.ph/resources/btta>

