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# For God & Country

*A Journal for Seventh-day  
Adventists in Military and  
Public Service*





# WORLD SERVICE ORGANIZATION DO BUDGETS MATTER?

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**A**s Seventh-day Adventists, we should be an example in the management of our finances. The reason is rather simple. All of what we possess has been entrusted to us. We are allowed to keep 90 percent of it and return to God 10 percent. Yes, it is God who provides for the lilies of the fields or the birds of the sky and He will also provide for us.<sup>1</sup>

The way we manage our financial resources must be an example of good stewardship, but why you may ask? Here are few things to consider.

**1. God is the provider.** God has provided for you and it is your responsibility to manage what He has provided and not to squander

those blessings. It is not important how much you have. It can be one talent or a million talents

**2. Budget wisely.** To be able to manage what God has given you, you need to know how much you have and how you use it. The psalmist says, *“Through wisdom is a house builded; And by understanding it is established; And by knowledge are the chambers filled with all precious and pleasant riches.”*<sup>2</sup> In order to manage your financial resources you must keep and maintain a budget. Keep records so you can tell where and how your funds are being spent.

**3. Savings** is a key to successful management of God’s resources

## Table of Contents



2	Perspective
4	What Does the Bible Say About My Finances?
8	What’s Your Soul Stewardship Status?
12	From the Counselor’s Desk
14	It’s the Little Things
18	A Commando Serves God and Country
22	Honoring Charles Martin
24	NAD Director’s Thoughts
26	Honoring Our Fallen
28	Adventist Chaplain Receives Excellence Award

All of what we possess has been entrusted to us. We are allowed to keep 90 percent of it and return to God 10 percent.

that have been entrusted to us. As a family grows, needs constantly change. We may need to send our children to college, be ready to confront tragedies—such as the loss of a job, disease, funerals, or any other eventualities. Having a healthy savings will provide the family with a solid foundation and stability. Once again, the psalmist provides a reason for it. *“There is precious treasure and oil in the dwelling of the wise; But a foolish man swalloweth it up.”*<sup>3</sup>

4. **Avoid unnecessary debt.** There are needs in life such as transportation, a car, and a home. Those debts are understandable as long as they are within the budget and means. Borrowing money for vacations, entertainment, or to pay other debts create a situation where the person becomes a slave to those whom money is owed. By borrowing you will be spending money in interest that can be better used if put into savings or given as charity.
5. Last, but more important of all, is **giving**. Giving back to God what is His. This is how we put God first in our lives. It is one way to worship God. Giving to charity is

a way to better the world in which we live. The more that we give, the more that we will receive.

*“Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, shall they give into your bosom. For with what measure ye mete it shall be measured to you again.”*<sup>4</sup>

As you prepare your budget, the giving should be at the top of your budget. Consider this *“Money is not necessarily a curse; it is of high value because if rightly appropriated, it can do good in the salvation of souls, in blessing others who are poorer than ourselves.”*<sup>5</sup>

In the pages of this issue you will find other articles that will help you in the management of your homes and lives. I pray that you carefully consider your priorities, especially the biblical aspect that’s associated with budgeting. Do not forget God within everything you do, especially your resources—all of them from money to time. Your eternal life may depend on it.

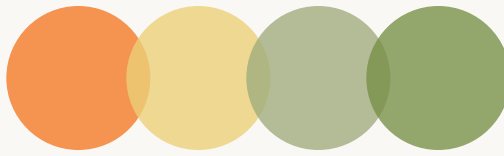
<sup>1</sup>Matthew 6:26-31

<sup>2</sup>Proverbs 24:3,4

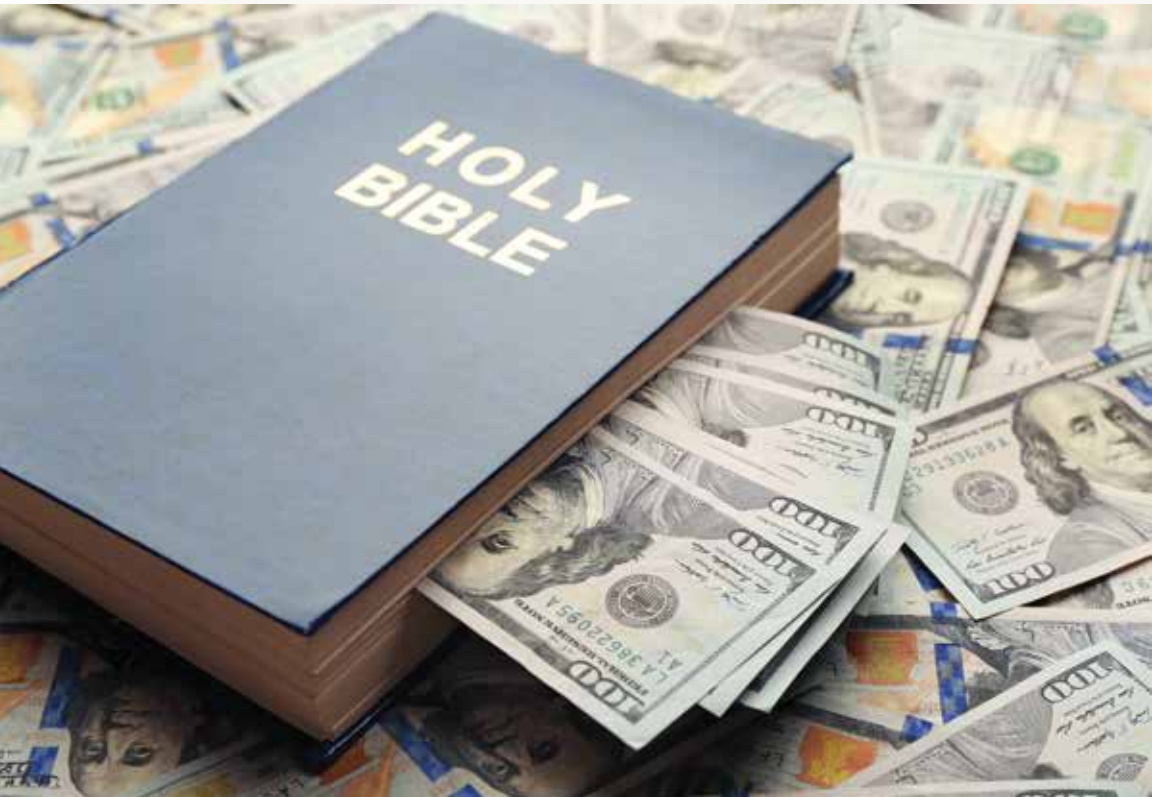
<sup>3</sup>Proverbs 21:20

<sup>4</sup>Luke 6:38

<sup>5</sup>White, Ellen G., *The Adventist Home. “Principles of Family Finance.”* Review and Herald Publishing, p. 372.1



# WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT MY FINANCES?



**By Ruthven R. Phillip, Esq.,**

Tax Attorney, Stewardship and Philanthropy Ministry Advisor at  
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**F**inancial management is perhaps the most challenging aspect of our Christian experience. I believe most Christians struggle in two areas when it comes to financial management. They struggle with the decisions of how much to give or spend and how much to save. Individuals who agonize over how much to spend, believe they are temperate and a good steward of what God has entrusted them with to manage.

Those in the saving camp, are concerned about whether or not they are storing too much of their treasure on earth and not giving enough to the naked, the hungry, and those in need. I believe that the biblical reasons Christians should take care of their finances are found in the stories of both Genesis Chapter 41 and 2 Kings Chapter 4.

The first biblical reason for taking care of your finances is because there will be times in your life when your earning power will be tremendous. Then there will be times when your earning potential will be diminished. Therefore, a financial plan is necessary.

## PREPARE DURING THE PLENTIFUL SEASON

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In the story of Genesis Chapter 41, Joseph shares with Pharaoh the news that famine is imminent, and preparation will be needed to survive.

Each one of us as Christians should have a financial plan. Why? The reality is our earning years, when we are either employees or entrepreneurs, only endure for a season. This is the period of our lives when we have the opportunity to generate the most income. Therefore, having a retirement plan and managing your finances is the most critical and foundational step you must develop to avoid a financial famine.

Once Joseph was able to interpret the dream and was tasked with saving the nation, he immediately developed a plan. Review your retirement plans such as your 401K, 403B, life insurance, or other retirement savings. If your employer is matching what you contribute, go ahead and max out on your contribution. It is easy and free money!

## BUDGETS AREN'T RESTRICTIONS

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There is another biblical lesson from the story of Joseph in Genesis 41. To achieve your goal, not only must you have a retirement plan, but you must also have a daily, weekly, and monthly strategy to get there. This is called a budget!

According to Genesis 41:49, notice that “Joseph gathered corn as the sand of the sea, very much, until he left numbering; for it was without



The reality is our earning years,  
when we are either employees or  
entrepreneurs, only endure for a season.



Your emergency fund is not just for you and your family, but it is an opportunity to demonstrate unselfishness and unconditional love towards your brothers and sisters.

number.” The process of numbering, storing, and saving requires each of us as Christians to develop a budget to stay on task.

Too many Christians view a budget as a restrictive tool or process. Having a budget does not take the fun out of life or the joy out of shopping, vacation trips, or fancy cars. Your budget only means that you are placing a label or tracking system on where your money is going and aiding you in achieving your goals.

The late Billy Graham said it best.

“Your checkbook is a theological document; it tells us who you worship and when you worship.” Start a budget!

## FINANCIAL EMERGENCY PREPS

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A final biblical reason for taking care of your finances is to prepare you for emergencies. In Genesis 41: 57<sup>1</sup> we learn that citizens from the surrounding countries who were experiencing the famine traveled to Egypt in search of food. Some of the nations and people who came





were not prepared and therefore did not establish an emergency fund or supplies.

Many Christians today are following the pattern of individuals and countries at that time. Establishing an emergency fund positions you to withstand the temporary loss of employment, sickness, or death of a family member. A second reason an emergency fund is essential is that it allows us to model the example of Jesus by sharing and blessing others during a time of crisis. Your emergency fund is not just for you and your family, but it is an opportunity to demonstrate

unselfishness and unconditional love towards your brothers and sisters.

## BE THE EXAMPLE

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As Christians, we should lead by example in demonstrating these three principles of financial management. The next time you think biblical financial management is not critical, consider the widow's plight in 2 Kings 4:1<sup>3</sup>. She lived in a household where she was left with the bills and creditors calling. If financial management is not significant to God, why then is it the most talked about subject in the Bible?<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Genesis 41:49, KJV

<sup>2</sup>"And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph for to buy corn; because that the famine was so sore in all lands."

<sup>3</sup>"Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, 'Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the Lord: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen.'"

<sup>4</sup>"Sixteen of the thirty-eight parables of Jesus deal with money. One out of every ten verses in the New Testament deal with this subject. Scripture has 500 verses on prayer, less than 500 verses on faith, but over 2,000 verses on the subject of money."

by Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries Staff

# What's Your SOUL STEWARDSHIP STATUS?





Overloaded lives seem to have become the de rigueur of society today. Cell phones, instant messaging, overnight mail services, social media, videos, and online chats keep us constantly connected. Days are filled with activities, appointments, and responsibilities from the moment our feet hit the floor until late at night when we finally collapse into bed. The next morning the alarm sounds, and the process starts all over again.

## HAVEN'T GOT THE TIME? THINK AGAIN

Time is an enigma. Managing time is probably a misnomer. It seems one always has either too little time or too much time. It can't be saved to use later, and it can't be hurried up. No one has learned how to gather time in a corral and train it to serve them. Time won't jump through hoops, fetch, or sit up and shake hands. So, why talk about stewardship of time?

The answer is even though we can't control time in the least, we must control our use of time. Since you can't save or adjust time, stewardship of time doesn't exist. Stewardship of time really means prioritizing activities according to your pre-determined evaluative criteria. It has nothing to do with time, but completely with which criteria you use to evaluate your activities.

People often choose the wrong priorities because they are more concerned about pleasing people rather than God. The early church leaders learned this. They said, "It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to wait on tables." (Acts 6:2) They not only ordered their own priorities, but also organized the church to more effectively use time personally and corporately. It is a

lesson that needs to be relearned in the church today.

People speak of using quality time for their relationships. This is a faulty concept. It was designed to make people feel good who have wrongly prioritized their activities, but are not willing to re-evaluate. Squeezing out fifteen minutes of touchy-feely time for a son or daughter and calling it quality time still leaves the child feeling they are not important.

## WITHERING FROM NEGLECT

When a Christian thinks about stewardship, one life area that is often overlooked is that of the stewardship of the soul. This is the care and nurturing of the quiet moments in our personal lives that renew us to face the daily grind of work and other responsibilities.

Have you ever had the experience that you were so overbooked with tasks and events that you had no time to savor the special moments in your life? If so, the stewardship of your soul was probably withering away from neglect.

Spiritual renewal must be tended and nurtured in several different ways for our souls to be truly refreshed and ready to listen for God's direction in the quiet times of our lives. These include daily prayer, Bible study, weekly worship time and an annual retreat from the demands of daily life.

## WHAT DID JESUS DO?

Examine the life of Jesus. For three and a half years He ministered full-time to those around Him. There were days when He couldn't get away from the crowds. They pressed in, wanted His attention, grab at His clothes, and saw no need to allow Him time to be alone or even physical personal space. It also seems like His

*Spiritual renewal must be tended and nurtured in several different ways for our souls to be truly refreshed and ready to listen for God's direction in the quiet times of our lives.*

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disciples were with Him 24/7.

In spite of the demands, the crowds and the closeness of those whom He had chosen to be His inner circle, Jesus found time to be by Himself. He used this time to pray and hear God's voice.

## STEAL AWAY TO JESUS

How often have you said you wanted to grow closer to God and become more intimately tuned to His desires for your life? That is soul stewardship crying out for attention. In prayer time we can share our joys and worship, gratitude, hearts desires, our sorrows and pain. Prayer can be the soothing balm much needed in weary lives that are crying out for a break.

A part of prayer that can become a fascinating journey is that of keeping a prayer journal. It doesn't have to be complex. Your journal might record your praises and concerns. It can be a place to jot the thoughts and leadings that God impresses you with during your prayer time.

Families can also keep a prayer journal by listing the people and situations they are praying for daily. Children are excited when they see answers to their prayers being recorded in such a tangible manner.

Bible reading is another soul stewardship method that shapes our relationship with God. It is one way for God to communicate to us and show us how we belong to Him. From Bible study we can find the meaning and purpose for what we do in our daily work.

For this to be effective, choose a Bible study method that works best for you. Perhaps you want to read the Bible chronologically to understand what order events occurred. Another method is to read the Bible along with the books *Patriarchs and Prophets*, *Prophets and Kings*, *Desire of Ages*, *Acts of the Apostles* and *The Great Controversy*.

The inductive Bible study method uses the Bible as the main source of information. As you read a passage of several verses, observe what is happening in the story, interpret what it means, and finally how it applies to your life today.

## REST IN GOD'S PROVISION

Don't forget that humans are called to another soul stewardship practice—that of spending 24 hours with the God who made us. Does this mean a list of do's and don'ts for the Sabbath and putting our time of pew sitting in at church? No. Rather it is a time to consciously choose to set apart time to rest and worship God and remember His act of creation. It's a time to choose to let that which is not urgent be set aside for completion on another day. It's a time to be available to God, to family, friends, and neighbors.

A Sabbath's rest renews us for another six days of labor and helps us refocus our priorities on that which is truly important—our relationship with God, our families, and fellow human beings.

An annual retreat, more popularly known as a vacation, should be planned with care. Have you ever

crammed a vacation so full of activities and travels that you were relieved to get back to the schedule of work? This kind of retreat doesn't take care of the soul. Choose a slower pace, with less stress and savor the time that you are taking away from the craziness of life.

Soul stewardship better equips humans to practice stewardship more completely in the other areas of life. It provides a foundation of building our spiritual priorities from which all other priorities should grow.

## WHAT'S YOUR COMMITMENT LEVEL?

A person's life priorities are known by seeing the activities they choose to fill their time with. These actions betray the level of commitment to God and to the family. Everyone can tell what is important to you by watching what you do in your time – especially your free time.

None of this means that we must spend all our time praying or reading the Bible. Work is part of the command of God to man. There is a *time* when God judges His place in one's life by our work.

It is found in His strongest statement on time. "You must work for six days, and on the Sabbath day you shall rest." This measure of time for the Christian steward is the workweek and the Sabbath.

For true time stewardship, one must ask, "If my relationship with God is the most important thing in my life, how does my schedule show it? Where do I prioritize my family in relation to my work and the other things I enjoy doing for myself?" Being honest with ourselves may lead us to re-evaluate our use of time.



# FINANCIAL PLANNING AN OXYMORON?

By LTC (CH) Dan Bray, U. S. Army, Retired, MS, MDiv.  
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Financial planning. To some people, those two words can appear to be an oxymoron.

The mental and reality parts of us understand that to have a certain degree of financial security and stability we ought to make plans for it. The so-called “fun” part of humanity tells us that we should spend what we have in the present time because we “only live once, so we need to spend all that we have because we may not be alive tomorrow.”

Perhaps we should view our financial choices with the thought that whatever we decide to do with our assets could positively or negatively impact our relationships at home, work, and potentially our self-worth.

To be fair, it is safe to declare that concepts such as having a system in place for savings, maintaining a regular and consistent salary, and establishing a certain standard of living are goals of many people. Now, this does not always mean that a person is happy or content, but it can certainly set the stage for a high degree of satisfaction.



## A lack of appropriate financial planning could even have consequences on where we live, how we live, or even who we marry or date.

Clichés such as “save something for a rainy day” or “a penny saved is a penny earned” are often lost in the mind of a secular society.

A lack of appropriate financial planning could even have consequences on where we live, how we live, or even who we marry or date. Poor financial choices can sometimes take years to undo. Bankruptcy can make it difficult to secure financing for a home or vehicle. Plus, having a negative credit report can dictate our next job promotion or career move.

So, what do these things mean for us?

Financial planning, or even admitting that we do not have a plan at all, can force us to take a review of our priorities. Having a sound financial foundation can drastically reduce the number of arguments and disagreements in any relationship. In my years of working as a marriage and family counselor, arguments about money often rank high in relationship concerns and issues. But, there is usually an unwillingness in the hearts and minds of many of these couples to admit that they have a financial concern or even how they might wish to resolve that issue.

Becoming transparent in our relationships with others can allow those uncomfortable financial discussions to transform into positive results. These honest conversations with those who are dear to us will not automatically solve everything. But during that process, we just might even learn things about ourselves that have been hidden even to us. We might discover that we have a tendency to buy items on an impulse and thus it would be beneficial to have another credible person to help hold us accountable for our actions.

Money, or even a lack of it, can cause stress. What we decide to do with it is a call to action. Whether or not a person is in a relationship, these few principles can help determine financial success.

One, avoid the temptation of the type of lifestyle that is beyond your means. Second, have a suitable tracking mechanism for your finances.

Capital or wealth, by itself, is not an evil thing. It is what we do with what has been entrusted to us to be the critical consideration. What we decide to do with our gifts can truly have eternal ramifications.



# It's the LITTLE THINGS

By **Kelly Scott**, Lieutenant (Retired)

Modesto Police Department, Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department,  
with Deena Bartel-Wagner

**E**xcitement and not being bored in a day-to-day job were two requirements Kelly Scott outlined when he began to think of a lifetime career. "I didn't want to be in a job that would be the same day in, day out. I didn't want repetition" says Kelly. "I grew up watching television

shows like *T.J. Hooker* and *CHiPs*. Between the excitement on these shows and watching daily newscasts, I often wished that I was in the middle of those scenarios. My early mentors and role models included Chief McKinsey. Today, I'm still close friends with his son, Tim who is a retired detective and continues to be a role model to me."

Those thoughts and dreams led Kelly into a law enforcement career, which continues to energize him today. "I began my career working in parking enforcement," says Kelly. He made his way through the ranks to sergeant, became part of a gang taskforce, served as an investigator, a field training officer, and firearms training officer. He also added to his job titles that of SWAT team member and eventually team leader, working on the SWAT team for seventeen years. Ultimately, Kelly held the position of area commander at the Modesto Police Department in Modesto, California. "I served with



Commander Kelly Scott spent 17 years as a SWAT team member, including serving as team leader.

the Modesto Police Department from 1985-2017,” says Kelly.

During his law enforcement career, Kelly found the challenge, the excitement, and sense of newness in every situation he dreamed of as a young child. “Working in law enforcement still excites and energizes me, even after all these years,” says Kelly. Today, he works with the Stanislaus County Sheriff’s Department in special investigations and holds the rank of HIDTA Commander. Kelly, and the twenty-three officers who report to him work with law enforcement personnel at the local, state, and federal levels in high-level cases.

Reflecting on the path he’s taken, Kelly admits there was a very rocky time in his life. “Early in my career, I drank a lot and made some terrible decisions,” says Kelly. “I didn’t surround myself with people who gave me sound advice. Those choices could have cost me my career. They did cost me some close relationships.”

## She Saved Me From Myself

Then, Kelly met Laura, and they married in 2001. “My wife saved me from myself,” says Kelly. “She is a stellar human being and saw things in me that I didn’t see in myself.”

As their relationship grew, Laura introduced Kelly to Pastor Clark McCall. “Laura is an active member of the Oakdale Adventist Church,” says Kelly. “Pastor McCall spent time with me and led me to a relationship with Jesus and ultimately, baptism.”



Officer Scott had the privilege of swearing in the members of his daughter’s Girl Scout troop.

With changes in his spiritual life, Kelly realized other areas of his life needed reassessment, too. “I began to rethink who I socialized with and how I socialized,” says Kelly. He decided he needed to be proactive in how he lived his life around both colleagues and friends.

Kelly uses his personal experiences to mentor others. “I use my back history as an example when talking to others who are struggling,” says Kelly. “There can result in mixed reactions His desire is to guide individuals away from dubious choices that can have disastrous consequences. As Kelly began to look at work with a different vision, he realized there were times it was only through divine intervention

“Working in law enforcement still excites and energizes me, even after all these years.”



Kelly Scott served with the Modesto Police Department from 1985-2017.

that kept people from acting out in ways that could be disastrous for them.

There are other times when his faith is a stabilizing factor that sees him through painful moments. “Early in my career, we responded to a SIDS death,” says Kelly. “That moment was a hard one for me. My children were infants and to see that lifeless little body was so difficult.”

Death notifications are another part of the job that Kelly says officers never get used to. “How do you prepare someone when you know

the words you are going to say will change their lives forever?” These types of encounters take their toll through cumulative stress if officers don’t have a belief in something greater outside themselves.

## Ethics, Communication, and Moral Codes

Law enforcement officers, including members of the Stanislaus Sheriff’s Department and the Modesto Police Department, work under a code of ethics. These include ideals such as *“maintaining courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn or ridicule; developing self-restraint; and being mindful of the welfare of others; and enforcing the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice, or ill will.”*

“I’ve often told officers under my leadership that we can’t take what happens in the field personally, whether it’s a comment or a physical act,” says Kelly. “I remind them that they are doing the right things for the right reasons.” During his years on the force, Kelly has witnessed changes to law enforcement in general. His reminders to his officers become increasingly relevant with the changes in society and working in local communities. “In the past 10 years things have changed dramatically in law enforcement,” says Kelly. “Today, officers are expected to fill the roles of social worker, mental health assessor, clergy, disciplinarian, as well as being a friend. We have to be able to read

“Today, officers are expected to fill the roles of social worker, mental health assessor, clergy, disciplinarian, as well as being a friend.”



a person and often, in a split second, make an assessment and follow through with a decision.”

As an area commander for the Modesto Police Department, Kelly was responsible for the safety of nearly 30,000 citizens and the officers who served and protected the area.

Kelly encourages young officers he mentors that communication is key to their success. “Being a good communicator and a good listener makes a huge difference in our work,” says Kelly. “I’m always asking how we can better equip our team?”

Kelly also believes that officers need to make sure their moral compass is set right. “God and family need to be high on your priority list,” says Kelly. “Your family and your soul are the things that last eternally.”

Work hours can be long and unpredictable. “I’ve had cases that took me away from home for days at a time,” says Kelly. “My wife has been very supportive of the long hours and keeps everything going at home.”

Finding balance and downtime is equally important as being passionately involved at work. Kelly unwinds with close friends and his brother. “We tie fishing flies, and hunt and fish,” says Kelly.

## You Want to Serve? Think on This.

When talking with young adults who are considering a career in law enforcement, Kelly stresses many of the same attributes he talks about to his officers. “They need to understand the commitment they are making to their organization and how that will impact their family,” says Kelly. “Is their spouse fully on board with the idea? Where are they at in their spiritual walk and how is their moral

compass? When you don’t have strong values guiding your decisions, you can make poor choices that can lead to disastrous outcomes.”

## A Man of the Church

Giving back to his church is also a part of the ministry that Kelly participates in. He serves as a deacon and contributes to the congregation in other tangible ways. “Our church participates in the Adventist Risk Management Safety Sabbath programs,” says Kelly. “I’ve taught on the subject of active shooters and personal safety. One of the things I stress to members is to always pay attention to what is going on around you. Secondly, don’t look like a victim. Present strong body language and walk confidently. And always leave room for an escape path—whether walking, driving, or in any situation. Have a plan of action. You can’t come up with a plan when you are in the middle of an incident.”

## Just a Little Thing

The excitement and work variation have been all that Kelly Scott hoped for when he first began in law enforcement. “Many times, people have thanked me for something I did,” says Kelly. “In the moment, it didn’t seem like it was that big of a deal. But it was important to at least one person and made a difference. Those are the thanks that I pass on to my fellow officers. I remind them that the silent majority supports them.”

Those words of thanks and that overall support buoys the spirit and helps officers like Kelly Scott face another day in the field to enforce, prevent, and educate as they serve their community.


A portrait of SSGT Mukata Frank Wamundila, a Black man with a shaved head, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a blue and white striped tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a wall made of irregular, light-colored stone tiles.

# A COMMANDO SERVES GOD AND COUNTRY

By **SSGT Mukata Frank Wamundila**, Zambia Defence Forces with Deena Bartel-Wagner

**S**taff Sergeant Mukata Frank Wamundila joined the Zambian Special Forces as a commando in 2005. “I entered the special forces directly as a civilian,” says Mukata. “Typically, soldiers will train for four months and receive all of the basic

military training. Then, they are chosen to become commandos and proceed through that training.” This was a stressful time for Mukata, but he relied on his faith and the training he’d received as a teenager to help him achieve his goals.



Mukata was born into a polygamous marriage and soon his parents were unable to care for him. “Although my mother was a Seventh-day Adventist, she made lifestyle choices that demonstrated that she wasn’t committed to her faith. I had an Adventist cousin who was a bachelor,” says Mukata. “He took me into his home and raised me as his son.”

Life centered now around faith and living out biblical principles. “My cousin was so rooted in Adventism. I didn’t know that slowly I was growing into these same beliefs. Everything in the home reflected Adventism,” says Mukata. “Each week in the hours before the Sabbath we prepared for the Sabbath. Up until the time that my cousin married, I was in his house. I completed my junior and senior secondary school. He sent me to college where I did my training as a primary school teacher.

### **PATHFINDERS CREATES SUCCESS**


After completing his training to become a primary school teacher, Mukata and his fellow graduates discovered it was difficult to find work in local schools. “I was worried about my future. My friends and I couldn’t find work,” says Mukata.

As the weeks and months passed, Mukata grew more concerned about his lack of employment. “One day, I learned that the Special Forces was recruiting,” says Mukata. “At the time, I just saw this as a job. The longer I’ve been in the Special Forces I see that

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this is where God led me to be able to represent Him. I have always found it curious that soon after I joined the military, all of my friends were able to obtain teaching jobs.”

As Mukata went through the rigorous military training, he was particularly grateful for the time he had spent in Pathfinders and the training he received there. “When I joined the military, I discovered that much of the Army basic training is what I had learned in Pathfinders. There were things that were not foreign to me, because I had learned them in Pathfinders. In the Army, I began to learn in more detail some of these same trainings,” says Mukata. “For example, in Pathfinders we learned how to pull ourselves along a rope that was stretched between two points. In the Army, the rope was



**“FOR ONE TO BE A  
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longer and the height off the ground was higher, but the basic principles of navigating it were the same.”

Mukata already experienced the rigors of sleeping in locations other than a bedroom. “In Pathfinders, we went on campouts so sleeping in the bush was nothing new to me. I was much more prepared for these kinds of activities than other recruits because of my Pathfinding experience. Even though there are some differences, it made some areas of my training much easier.”

Standing for his beliefs, while maintaining loyalty and obedience to the military was one of the challenges Mukata faced early in his career. “In the military, you encounter instructors and officers who tell you that you can’t do things in the normal way you would do them in your civilian life,”


says Mukata. “They insist you have to adapt things to fit your new military life. They use this to try and motivate you as a soldier. As an Adventist, I would think to myself, ‘No, this is not right.’ I stood my ground with a few of my friends. There was temptation because of the difficult training that we were having to do. I managed to go through without compromising my beliefs and completed my training. For that, we are respected as Seventh-day Adventists.”

### **I CAN SERVE GOD AND NATION**

After serving 13 years in the Zambian Defence Forces, Mukata says, “This is a job that one can to do and still feel free to serve God. We are changing men’s lives in the Army. The system is very serious about its operations. But when I need to attend church programs or church services, I go to my commanders to ask for permission. They typically allow me to attend.”

Mukata believes that the military and Christianity are a good combination. “The integration of Christianity and the Army is the best. I look at the principles that make up a true Christian—loyalty and obedience,” says Mukata. “For one to be a Christian before your God, you have to be loyal to your God. You also have to be obedient to your God. Those two principles are actually uplifted in the Army. You cannot serve in the Army if you are not loyal. You cannot serve in the Army if you are not obedient. Those are obvious things.





As Christians, we are called to loyalty and obedience before our God. So, to me, the integration of Christianity and the Army, it is the best.”

When Mukata first became a commando, his cousin felt as though he had failed. “My family and friends worried that I was throwing away my Christianity and my relationship with the Seventh-day Adventist Church,” says Mukata. “My response to each of these expressed concerns was, “What I was taught, I cannot throw away.”

### CHANGING THE PERCEPTIONS

Although his family came to accept his new role, other friends weren’t as acquiescent.

“I did have some difficulties with church members initially not accepting my role in the military,” says Mukata. “This taught me to be very conscious when I am talking to fellow church members who don’t know me. In most cases, when I go into a gathering, I try not to reveal my job to my new friends. I want them to get to know and understand who I am as a Seventh-day Adventist Christian first. Then they can understand that even though I’m in the Army, my life is all about Jesus Christ. “I want to change the way people look at Christians who serve in the military. When many people see a commando dressed for combat, they see wrong things. The most powerful Christians you find should be those who serve in the military.”

Serving his church in addition to serving his country is an important part of who Mukata is in his personal

life. He is an ordained elder in his local church and has filled the role of the District Youth President of his church district and District Mission Chairman (assistant to the Pastor). Currently he is the District Secretary to the local pastor.

Today, Mukata serves as a Staff Sergeant in the Zambia Defense Forces 1 Commando Battalion in Ndolo, Zambia. “I’ve participated in many operations for my nation that I can’t talk about,” says Mukata. “When commandos are not training or deployed on an operation, they are assigned to various jobs.”

Mukata’s training as a primary teacher is helping him fill the current role he’s been assigned in the Ndola Barracks. “Today, I’m working as a classroom teacher in the Ndola Barracks,” says Mukata. “I have a classroom of 57 students, between the ages of 10 and 15 years old. I teach seven different subjects, including math, English, Integrated Science, social studies, expressive education, civics, technology, and home economics.”

While he teaches children at school, he also teaches his young children at home. “My wife and I have a daughter and a son,” says Mukata. “I am instilling in them the love of God and serving Him, just as my cousin did for me when I was a child.”

As a soldier in the Zambian Defence Forces, Staff Sergeant Mukata Frank Wamundila does not forget he is also a member of the Lord’s Army. He carries both titles proudly.

# CHARLES D. MARTIN

April 23, 1923–January 7, 2018



**O**n January 7, 2018, Charles D. Martin fell asleep in Jesus at the age of 94. He served as the first General Conference director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries.

Born in Anaheim, California, Martin attended Adventist schools in the area until his graduation from LaSierra University in 1945. His degree in theology equipped him for his pastoral work in the Southeastern California Conference. In 1947, Charles and Pearl were married.

In just five years, Martin was tapped to be the conference youth director. His first work with the National Service Organization occurred during this time. In an interview in 2010, Martin reminisced, “It was a time when conference youth directors were also assigned to work with the church’s National Service Organization (NSO). Our activities in NSO focused on counseling young Adventists who faced the possibility of being drafted.”

## RESPONDING TO A MISSION CALL

In 1957, Charles accepted a call to serve as the youth director of what was

then the Far Eastern Division. Charles, and his wife Pearl, along with their three children spent nine years in Singapore.

In 1966 Martin was asked to serve as an associate youth director of the General Conference. “My previous work with the NSO at the conference level built the experience that I would need in my new position as a General Conference associate youth director,” Martin said in a 2010 interview.

## ADVENTIST CHAPLAINCY MINISTRIES—THE BEGINNING

Imagine being asked to coalesce the efforts of several different ministry groups into one organization which would eventually serve as the resource for chaplains who minister in the areas of health care, campus, military, corrections, and community.

Additionally, the role would include an exposure to the work of the National Service Organization (NSO). These roles were precisely what Charles Martin was called to do when he was appointed the first Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries director.

In 1985, during the General

Conference Session in New Orleans, Louisiana, Martin was appointed the first director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries. During an interview in 2015, Martin recalled that educating others about the role Adventist chaplains could play in non-Adventist settings was necessary. “In the minds of some church leaders and many church members, many questions were asked regarding the involvement of an ordained Seventh-day Adventist minister working with the military or with a non-Adventist hospital.”

As Martin worked to educate church leaders and members of chaplaincy, he also supported professional growth in the chaplaincy. Under his leadership, annual professional growth conferences were established, specifically designed to meet the needs of Adventist chaplains.

In 2015, during one of his last public interviews, Martin reflected on the growth of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries during the 30 years of operation. “When it was first

organized, Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries was primarily in North America, because this is where we had a variety of chaplains,” Martin said. “Gradually it has expanded and became more international. I’ve been really pleased and thrilled to see the expansion internationally.”

Martin retired in 1987, and three years later he and Pearl once again engaged in ministry outside the United States. They operated the National Service Organization’s Adventist Servicemen’s Center in Seoul for two years.

Pearl died in 2009, after sharing, according to Martin, “62 years of marriage, ministry, and the joys of raising two daughters and a son.” In January 2010, Charles married Eleene, who preceded him in death in 2015.

Funeral services for Elder Martin were held at the Redlands Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sunday, January 14, 2018.

Charles Martin’s memorial service can be viewed at <http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/111898833>.





## LEGACY

So far, 2018 has been a good year. However, I have already attended three funerals. Reflecting on the deaths of Charles Martin and Arline Bracebridge Marley has led me to consider the enduring effect of legacies.

Charles Martin blazed the trail of chaplaincy and the National Service Organization within the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Arline Bracebridge Marley supported her husband, Budd Bracebridge, as he built upon the legacy that Elder Martin started. If you are reading this magazine, you are standing upon the shoulders of chaplains and their spouses who left the path and legacy of excellence for us.

So, what comprises a Legacy? I have devised an acrostic as a tool to help explain it.

### **LIFE IN ABUNDANCE.**

The legacy builder must be one who lives fully with an expectation that miracles and wonders will occur in his or her sphere of influence.

### **ENGAGEMENT.**

The legacy builder will lead in the pursuit of peak performance in his personal life and organizational functions. He/She will be engaged with pivotal and ancillary relationships with peers and other trailblazers.

### **GUSTO.**

Gusto is defined as enthusiasm and vigor for the issues of life. Most people who enjoy something will do it again and get better at it. What we do with gusto becomes exemplar to those who observe and follow.



## ANTICIPATION.

Anticipation is a hope filled, optimistic posture in the stream of life. Anticipatory people proved that the world is round. Those who face life with dread and pessimism rarely venture far from secure shores because they fear the horizon.

## CHRIST-CENTERED FORWARD FOCUS.

A Christo-centric focus is the catalyst of visioneering. Nothing is impossible with God. Just because it has never been done does not mean that it can't or shouldn't be done. Maybe, now is the time and you are the one. Maybe, you are called to sow, or maybe, it is your time to reap where someone else planted. A mentor, years ago, shared with me what his mother told him; "...the finger of God never points where His hand has not already made a way."

## YEARNING TO IMPROVE A SET OF CIRCUMSTANCES.

Legacy builders often see with prophetic clarity, injustices that cry to be confronted, or new realities travailing to be born.

Each of us, by virtue of our call, enjoys the imprimatur of God to be inspirational. What trail are you blazing? What legacy will you use 2018 to build?

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Paul S. Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping loop at the end of the last name.

## Honoring OUR FALLEN

They are dead; but  
they live in each  
Patriot's breast, And  
their names are  
engraved on honor's  
bright crest.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

**By Washington Johnson,**  
Assistant Director, Adventist Chaplaincy  
Ministries—North American Division

**R**ecently, Dr. Paul Anderson, Director/Endorser, Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries—North American Division (ACM-NAD), coordinated a trip to Dover Air Force Base, Dover, Delaware, where the Dignified Transfer of remains is conducted. He was joined by several NAD colleagues and a chaplain candidate. Chaplain Saul Castillo, Major, United States Army led the informative and educational tour. Chaplain Castillo, an ACM-endorsed military chaplain, proudly serves as The Family Support/ Liaison Chaplain at Dover AFB.

Chaplain Castillo explained the sequence of the dignified transfer starts with the fallen being returned to Dover by the most expedient means possible, which may mean a direct flight from the theater of operation,



Major Saul Castillo, Chaplain, U. S. Army, Joint Personal Effects Depot, Dover Air Force (far right) hosted ACM-NAD staff and guest during a visit to Dover Air Force Base.

or a flight to Ramstein Air Base, Germany, and then to Dover. It is the Department of Defense's policy to return America's fallen to their loved ones as quickly as possible.



ACM-NAD Staff and guests visited with military personnel during the tour.

Once the aircraft lands at Dover, service-specific carry teams remove the transfer cases individually from the aircraft and move them to a waiting mortuary transport vehicle. The dignified transfer is not a ceremony; rather, it is a solemn movement of the transfer case by a carry team of military personnel from the fallen member's respective service. A dignified transfer is conducted for every U.S. military member who dies in the theater of operation while in the service of their country. A senior ranking officer of the fallen member's service presides over each dignified transfer.

After lunch the group had the privilege of visiting the Fisher House where families await the arrival flight carrying their loved ones. The Fisher House for Families of the Fallen at Dover Air Force Base is a unique facility among the Fisher House Foundation's other facilities. It is the only one of its kind designed for families of the fallen and is also managed by uniformed personnel. The 8,462 square-foot house is equipped with nine suites,

which include private, handicapped-accessible bathrooms, common areas that include a multi-cooking station kitchen, a large communal dining area, and family rooms. It is designed to provide short-term, on-base lodging to families who travel to Dover to witness the dignified transfer of their loved one.

The group also visited The Charles C. Carson Center, the Mortuary Affairs facility that houses the Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations Center (AFMAO). The Mortuary stocks every badge, patch, ribbon, or decoration used by the U.S. Air Force, Army, Marine, Navy, and Coast Guard in order to appropriately dress the fallen based their service rank and achievement of awards. The Port Mortuary is the largest mortuary under the Department of Defense (DoD), and the only DoD mortuary located in the continental United States.

The day concluded with an informative and interactive debriefing of the tour that heightened appreciation immensely for this special service to the fallen and their families provided by the United States Military. Moved by the day's experience, the words of the Prophet Isaiah resonated strongly in my thoughts. He wrote, *"And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore,"* Isaiah 2:4 KJV

But, until that day we will continue to honor the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice, along with their families.

## ADVENTIST CHAPLAIN Receives **EXCELLENCE AWARD**



Celebrating with Dr. Mansfield Edwards at the award presentation were: (L to R) Detective Don Yerinki, Superintendent Robertson Rouse, staff services commander, York Regional Police, Chaplain Dr. Mansfield Edwards, Sharon Edwards, and Inspector Chris Bullen, York Regional Police.

Chaplain Dr. Mansfield Edwards was one of 16 individuals to receive an Afroglobal Television award for excellence on October 21, 2017. Dr. Edwards, president of the Ontario Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, received the Visionary Award for his outstanding contributions to his church and local community.

Speaking to the significance of this achievement, Edwards said, “It’s always humbling because there are scores of unsung heroes out there

making their contribution but not being noticed.”

Among the other distinguished recipients being recognized for excellence by Afroglobal Television were the Honourable Tony Ince, Minister of Public Service Commission, Nova Scotia, and Michael Thompson, Toronto City Councillor.

Edwards, who has served the York Regional Police as a volunteer chaplain since 2005, has received numerous other awards for his



service to the community over the years including the Mayor's Award in Markham, Ontario, in 2006 and 2010.

He has a passion for communications as well as community service, tracing back to his years in pastoral ministry in Jamaica. Combining these interests, he founded Discover the Power, a television ministry program aired on Vision TV, Hope TV, Afroglobal Television, and worldwide via satellite, enacting Jesus' mandate to "go ye into all the world."

Over the course of his diverse career, Edwards also served as chaplain for the Association of Black Law Enforcers (ABLE), co-chair of the Montreal Black Ministers Executive Council, and committee member and chaplain of the Canadian Federation of Inter-Cultural Friendship.

The Visionary Award, which spans

all of Canada and was presented by an organization outside of the Adventist sphere, is a testament to Edwards' "sensitivity to the responsibility of the church to the community."

He is particularly pleased that his wife of 33 years, Sharon, was there to celebrate with him. Family is everything to Dr. Edwards, who says, "part of my responsibility to serve the community is the fact that I have to model that to my [two] sons, [ages 23 and 26]."

In his continued work as a chaplain for York Regional Police, as well as other community engagements, Edwards bears in mind that "the world is our parish. It's the mission field to which we have been assigned. We exist for the purpose of the world, not just for the purpose of ourselves and our own needs."

## WHAT IS YOUR STORY?

Many Seventh-day Adventists have faithfully served God and country through military service. This is a legacy that should be shared with family, friends, and the church at large.

The World Service Organization is seeking stories about Adventists serving on Active Duty, in the Guard or Reserve, or from veterans about their service experiences. Please contact the editor at [ACMEditor@gc.adventist.org](mailto:ACMEditor@gc.adventist.org) to learn how your story can be told.





Trust in your money and  
down you go!  
But the godly flourish like  
leaves in spring.

Psalm 11:28

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The National Service Organization is the official military-relations office of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Its primary mission is to provide pastoral care and religious resources to support the spiritual well-being of Seventh-day Adventist military-related personnel.

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"Beware  
of little  
expenses—a  
small leak  
can sink a  
great ship."

— Benjamin Franklin



For  
God &+  
Country

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