



## About Sabbath School Alive!

Sabbath School is the heart of the church! It is a common thread that helps bind together Seventh-day Adventists from every part of the world. The Sabbath School Alive! initiative highlights three vital components of thriving Sabbath Schools:

- ✔ **BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER**—discover the power of Bible study and prayer in Sabbath School
- ✔ **FELLOWSHIP**—experience the joy of fellowship through study and service in Sabbath School
- ✔ **MISSION**—gain world mission education and community outreach training in Sabbath School

The power of Sabbath School is that it follows the divine model for true discipleship—Bible study and prayer, fellowship, and mission. Sabbath School Alive! is a worldwide initiative of the General Conference Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department helping local churches to rediscover the power and purpose of Sabbath School. On this website you will find a growing number of helpful plans, resources, tools, and tips to revitalize Sabbath School in your local church.

“From children we as Seventh-day Adventists have been told that the Sabbath School is the heart of the church, and so it is” (Robert H. Pierson, former General Conference President, *The British West Indies Visitor*, June, 1948).

### ☰ Bible Study & Prayer

The *foundation* of Sabbath School is the study of God’s Word.

- The Word is what gives power to Sabbath School. Members should be encouraged to dig deep to understand the Bible for themselves.
- Teachers should base their teaching and example on the Bible and possess a soul-winning spirit.
- “Never should the Bible be studied without prayer” (*Steps to Christ*, p. 91). Emphasize the importance of personal and intercessory prayer.

### ☰ Fellowship

The *format* of Sabbath School promotes fellowship.

- Sabbath School is for teaching, not preaching. Small group classes should be formed where discussion is encouraged.
- Classes form special bonds when they meet together outside of class time for social interaction and group outreach.
- A spirit of care and concern should result in classes that minister, through visitation and reclamation ministries, to those who are inactive or going through difficulties.

## Mission

The *focus* of Sabbath School is the mission of making disciples.

- Churches should conduct a vibrant Mission Program, separate from the class study, that includes world mission updates, local outreach reports, and personal ministries training. Mission Program
- Sabbath Schools around the world show their sacrificial nature by giving financially to support world mission projects.
- Classes should adopt a quarterly local mission project for outreach or member care. Spend 10-15 minutes of TMI time at the beginning of class to pray, plan, and report.