

LOUD CRY
MAGAZINE

THE YOUNG MESSENGER



2023

April - June
VOL. 1 NO. 2

Feature

Encounter at the Well

Meditation

The Heart That Burns:
How Can I Restore My Passion?

Q&A

Voice of the Youth
Part. 2

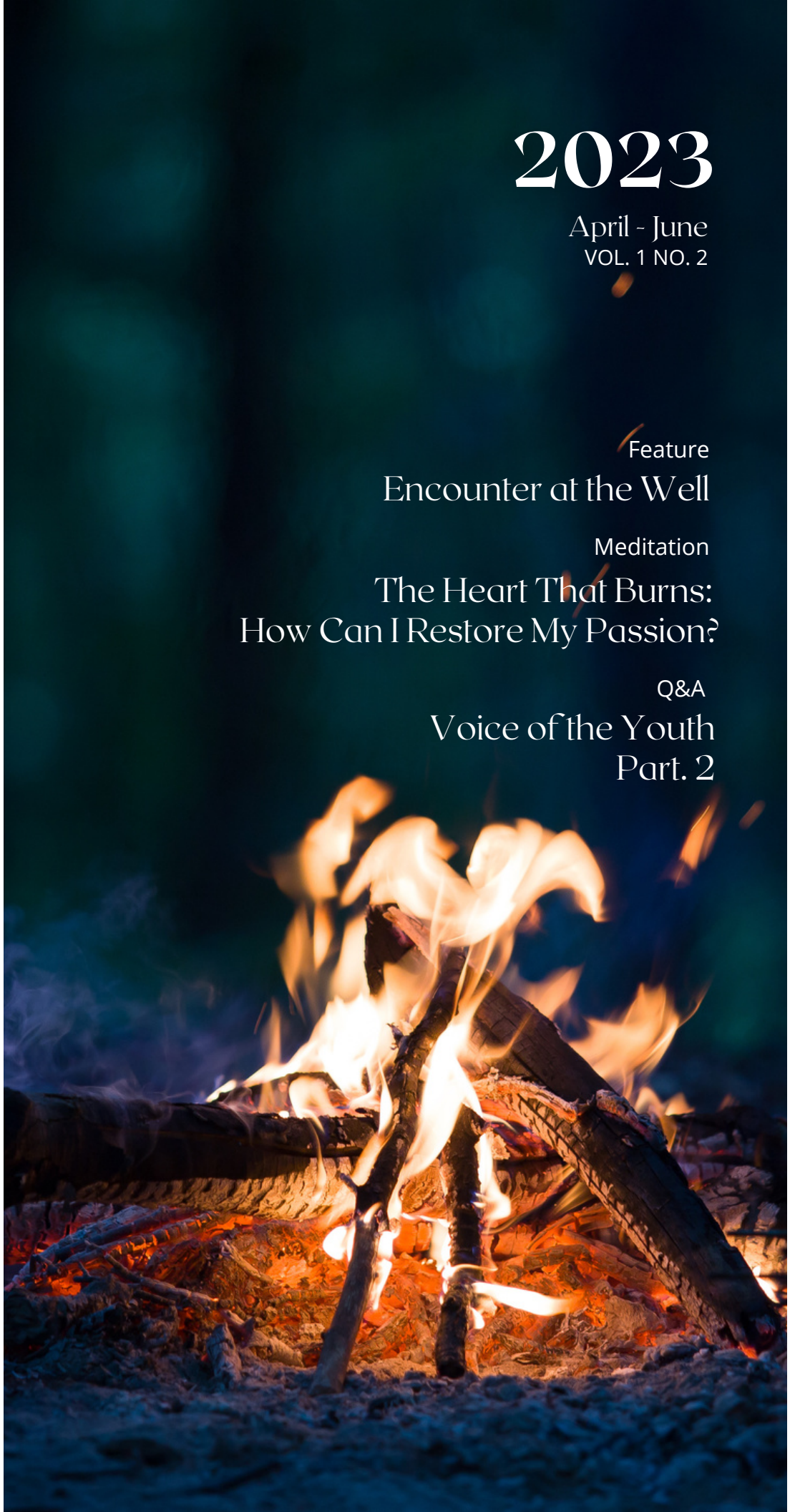


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Director: Makoto Matsumoto
Proofreader: Melissa Avila
Review: CF Literature Review Committee
Design/Layout: Makoto Matsumoto

"Remember now thy Creator
in the days of thy youth."
Ecclesiastes 12:1

Web: 4truth.ca/youth
Email: canadianreformyouth@gmail.com
Facebook: [canadianreformyouth](https://www.facebook.com/canadianreformyouth)
Instagram: [loudcry.youth](https://www.instagram.com/loudcry.youth)



Dear Young Friends,

At the close of my previous article... I stated that I would tell you something of the beauties of the New Earth, in the next paper, and now I will fulfill my promise.

The glorious City of God has twelve gates, set with pearls most glorious. It also has twelve foundations of various colors. The streets of the City are of pure gold. In this city is the throne of God, and a pure, beautiful river proceeding out of it, as clear as crystal. Its sparkling purity and beauty makes glad the City of God. The saints will drink freely of the healing waters of the river of life.

On either side of this beautiful river is the tree of life. And the redeemed saints, who have loved God and kept His commandments here, will enter in through

the gates of the City, and have right to the tree of life. They will eat freely of it, as our first parents did before their fall. The leaves of that immortal wide-spread tree will be for the healing of the nations. All their woes will then be gone. Sickness, sorrow and death they will never again feel, for the leaves of the tree of life have healed them. Jesus will then see of the travail of His soul [Isaiah 53:11] and be satisfied, when the redeemed, who have been subject to sorrow, toil and afflictions, who have groaned beneath the curse, are gathered up around that tree of life to eat of its immortal fruit, that our first parents forfeited all right to, by breaking God's commands. There will be no danger of their ever losing right to the tree of life again, for he that tempted our first parents to sin, will be



destroyed by the second death.

All faces will reflect the image of their Redeemer. There will then be no anxious, troubled countenances, but all will be bright, and smiling in spotless purity. The angels will be there, also the resurrected saints with the martyrs, and the best of all, and what will cause us the most joy, our lovely Saviour who suffered and died that we might enjoy that happiness and freedom, will be there.—His glorious face will shine brighter than the sun, and light up the beautiful City, and reflect glory all around.

Children will be there. They will never be engaged in strife or discord. Their love will be fervent and holy. They will also

have a crown of gold upon their heads, and a harp in their hands. And their little countenances, that we here see so often troubled and perplexed, will beam with holy joy, expressive of their perfect freedom and happiness. They will express in child-like purity their wonder and delight, as they behold every thing around them so new and lovely. They will look to the blessed Saviour who has given himself for them, and, with admiration and love for him who is smiling upon them, raise their voices and sing to his praise and glory, while they feel and realized the matchless depths of a Saviour's love.

This earth, dear children, is to be purified with fire; then it will be much more beautiful. The grass will be living green, and will never wither. There will be roses and lilies, and all kinds of flowers there. They will never blight or fade, or lose their beauty and fragrance.

The lion, we should much dread and fear here, will then lie down with the lamb, and everything in the New Earth will be peace and harmony.—The trees of the New Earth will be straight and lofty, without deformity.

The saints will have crowns of glory upon their heads, and harps of gold in their hands. They will play upon the golden harp, and sing redeeming love, and make melody unto God. Their former trials and suffering in this world will be forgotten and lost amid the glories of the New Earth. And they will ever have the approving smiles of Jesus upon them, and their happiness will be complete. There will be glory, glory all around.

Dear children, the future abode of the saints will be all over glorious, and will you strive to be there? Let your minds dwell upon the glories of heaven, for this you may do with safety, and this will bring substantial joys, and will make you heavenly minded. If you have trials here, and feel lonesome, look away from this dark world to the bright glories of heaven. Set your affections upon heavenly joys, and then you will not feel so deeply the trials and disappointments of this life, for you will feel that you have a home in glory, a crown, a harp, and a lovely Saviour there. Strive for that blest inheritance which God has promised to those that love Him, and keep His commandments.

From The Youth Instructor, October 1, 1852

Ellen G. White




**Do you want to be a blessing
for your fellow believers around the World?**

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Encounter at the Well

By Teresa Corti

A wooden bucket with a handle, likely made of bamboo or similar wood, is resting on a grey stone ledge. The bucket is tilted, and its handle extends towards the left. The background is a blurred natural setting with green foliage and a dark, possibly water-filled, area.

It was evening. In the outskirts of a city in Mesopotamia there was a well where “the daughters of the men of the city” (Genesis 24:13) went to draw water for all their family’s needs. Elizer, Abraham’s servant, was sent on a very important mission. He had to find a wife for Isaac, his master’s son, within his relatives. He did not go to a place of amusement, or to a beach, but to a well. He was looking for a hard-working and diligent young woman. The story of how he met Rebecca is well known to all of us.

Another important encounter took place at a well. Jacob was fleeing because he had deceived his brother. Isaac, his father, advised him to go to Mesopotamia to look for a wife among his relatives, because he feared he would take one of the daughters of Canaan, like his other son Esau had done. At a well, Jacob met a nice looking shepherdess, who later on became his wife.

Someone else who was also fleeing met his wife at a well. Moses had killed an Egyptian in order to defend his Hebrew brothers and he was forced to flee the country to save his life. When he came to the land of Midian, he sat by a well and seven young girls, the daughters of the priest of the region, came to draw water. One of them, Zipporah, became Moses' wife. A great change took place in the life of Moses after this encounter at the well; from heir of the throne of Egypt he became a shepherd in the steppes of Midian.

There is a turning point in the life of each person. From one moment to the other, the situation that we have today may change. Sometimes a happy event, others a tragic one force us to take a certain decision that leads our life in a completely different direction. Whether joyful or traumatic, these experiences are indispensable since they lead us to self-knowledge, liberation and growth.

Surely, each one of us has such kind of commemorative monuments in his life and when we look back we can understand that they were quite necessary and

enriching.

Rebecca, Rachel and Zipporah, these three nice-looking, young women went everyday to the well to draw water, thus fulfilling their family duty. How many dreams and questions about their future life occupied their thoughts! Would they ever meet the elected of their heart that would change their life completely and make them happy? How? Where? When? And the moment came in which the wonder took place, the important meeting that brought a great change in their lives. Not all were roses on their way, but all trials had a purpose, even the ones that did not come from God, taught them something.

But there is an encounter at the well that is more important than all of these together because the Husband to be here is God Himself in human form and the covenant will remain in eternity.

It was noon and the sun was in the zenith when Jesus, weary and thirsty, came to the well in Samaria. Shortly after He had sat at the edge of the well, a Samaritan woman came to draw water. We are acquainted with the story and know why she did not come in the evening, with the other women from the village. This woman was not a virgin who dreamt of meeting the man of her life to be happy with him thereafter. She had had a life full of broken dreams and bitter disappointments. Her heart was full of mistrust and a polite aggressiveness, which was nothing else but her self-defence and was sensed in her words and



the tone of her voice. She did not hurry to quench the thirst of the stranger, as Rebecca did when she met Elizer, but she spoke of separation and prejudice. You are a Jew; I, a Samaritan. Her heart was hardened by sin and the rejection and scorn of the people in town, so the appearance of that weary and thirsty man did not move her to compassion.

She did not have anything to give to others, not even water, because she herself was dry. Her spiritual thirst was thousand times more serious and painful than Jesus' physical need. Her soul longed for a little understanding and genuine love and she was not even aware of the needs of others and even less care for them. Her own needs were so great and they were never satisfied! Her life was a great burden, and her daily duty made her more exhausted than the journey that Jesus was taking!

Jesus, the Healer of the human soul, understood everything, knew everything, and lovingly and mercifully offered her immediately what she needed: living water. He forgot His own thirst, or maybe this was only an excuse to enter into a conversation with her. The woman had never heard that there was such a thing as living water and she found still another subject for controversy. He had no pail to take the water. How could He offer her such water? Was he greater than Jacob who had dug up that well? Jesus explained to her what quality was the water He was ready to give her. She would never again need to walk in the heat of the noon hour to the well, but she herself would be a fountain of water that would never dry up. Although she could not quite understand such manner of speech, she could not refuse such an offer and answered: "Sir, give me this water"

John 4:15. But Jesus was not offering her a glass or a bottle of water, not even a pail, but a well of flowing water “springing up into everlasting life” John 4:14. He had to dig deeply, because as David says in his Psalm 51:6: “Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts” Psalm 51:6. So Jesus touched now another subject, her private life and He did it in a very tactful ways. “Go, call thy husband, and come hither. The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband: For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly” John 4:16-18.

Jesus did not expect any public confession or deep repentance, but only that she might acknowledge Him as the Messiah, the Redeemer of the World, something that the Jews had not been able to do in three years He had been serving them. The woman was amazed, “Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet” John 4:19. Perception is a subjective attribute quite developed in most women. Prophets knew everything before hand and they usually did not bring good news.

But she would not allow this stranger to enter into her private life. He had no right to do that. She could simply turn the conversation and speak about something else, for example: religion. Surely she never went to the temple where the believers gathered together to worship God. She was the black sheep of the town, but that issue was a good excuse to



distract the attention of the Prophet from her private life.

Where should a believer worship, in the mountains of Samaria or in Jerusalem? - she asked him. Her thoughts moved in the physical world, she could not see further than what was before her eyes; introspection was unknown to her. She wanted to know: where, not how. Where is your pail? Where is the true temple? But Jesus wanted to lead her to look deeper. How is your heart? How do people need to worship?

“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him” - said Jesus. (John 4:23). This high estimation of worship which she could not quite understand, reminded her of something: “I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when He is come, He will tell us all things” John 4:25. Slowly, but surely, the greatest missionary of all times reached His goal. That was enough. He had led the woman to take a short look at herself and then to concentrate her whole attention on Him and what He could give her.

The disciples came back. They were bound to the letter of the Scriptures and could not understand why Jesus was speaking with a woman. The important conversation was interrupted and the woman went to town to preach the good news; she left her pitcher at the well. What use had the water that she had

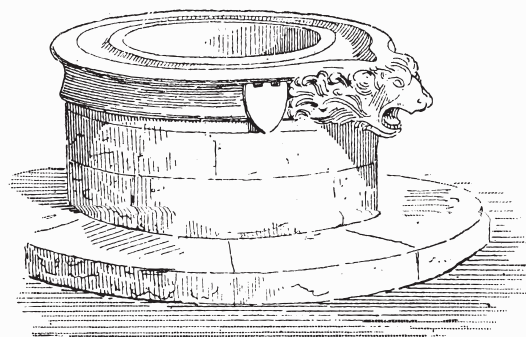
drawn? She had found something much better! Now she could talk to others about the living water. She herself was already turning into a fountain of flowing water, although she still had a long way before her. She had not yet understood the gospel, the power of God that saves those who believe in it, but in the depth of her souls she knew that Jesus was the solution to all her problems and to the longing of her soul.

The stranger at the well was first acknowledged as a prophet, then as the Messiah, and at the end of the story as the Redeemer of the world.

Four women in different times in history had a special encounter at a well that changed their lives; outwardly or inwardly? That is actually what counts.

The Lord is still at the well. He is thirsty for your soul. He, the Redeemer of the world tells everyone, “Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come... incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you” Isaiah 55:1-3.

COME! Nobody has ever regretted having accepted His invitation. Amen.





The Heart That burns

How Can I Restore My Passion?

By Makoto Matsumoto

We are youth, and one of the most significant features of youth is our passion. We might not have experience. We might not have money. But we have a passion, which is a priceless property that enables us to go forward and achieve our dreams and visions.

However, we do experience discouragement sometimes, which is very natural. In our life, there are many moments we feel weary and tired. However, we do not want that to happen, especially in our spiritual life, as it would allow Satan to

break into our hearts and separate us from Jesus. Then how can we keep our passion for Christ? If I'm downhearted right now, how can I restore my passion?

Let's see two men who used to be passionate but are now downhearted:

"Late in the afternoon of the day of the resurrection, two of the disciples were on their way to Emmaus, a little town eight miles from Jerusalem. These disciples had had no prominent place in Christ's work, but they were earnest believers in Him. They had come to the city to keep the

Passover, and were greatly perplexed by the events that had recently taken place... They were now returning to their homes to meditate and pray. Sadly they pursued their evening walk, talking over the scenes of the trial and the crucifixion. Never before had they been so utterly disheartened. Hopeless and faithless, they were walking in the shadow of the cross.

They had not advanced far on their journey when they were joined by a stranger, but they were so absorbed in their gloom and disappointment that they did not observe Him closely. They continued their conversation, expressing the thoughts of their hearts. They were reasoning in regard to the lessons that Christ had given, which they seemed unable to comprehend. As they talked of the events that had taken place, Jesus

longed to comfort them. He had seen their grief; He understood the conflicting, perplexing ideas that brought to their minds the thought, Can this Man, who suffered Himself to be so humiliated, be the Christ? Their grief could not be restrained, and they wept.” – Desire of Ages p.795

They were so sad and tired. They used to be earnest, but now they lost their passion. Their hearts were so discouraged that they did not even realize when Jesus – who hid His features – came close to them. Jesus knew their sadness. Oh, how much He should have wanted to show Himself to them and comfort their hearts.

“Jesus knew that their hearts were bound up with Him in love, and He longed to wipe away their tears, and fill them with joy and gladness. But He must first



give them lessons they would never forget.” – Desire of Ages p.795

He asked them a question, “What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad?” (Luke 24:17). They were surprised. How could this man not know about the event that had shaken the entire Jerusalem? One of them answered, “Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?” (Luke 24:18).

Jesus wanted to make them realize what they were missing, so He continued asking, “What things?” So these two disciples started telling Him stories about how Jesus was caught by priests and rulers and was crucified. They thought Jesus was the Messiah, but it seemed they were wrong. Now even His body is gone, and just some women, who are apparently out of their minds, are saying Jesus has risen again. Poor women! They should be so sad and shocked by Jesus’ death that they start seeing hallucinations.

But even while they shared all these stories, they did not realize that’s what exactly Jesus had foretold them. Even priests remembered what Jesus had spoken about His resurrection in three days and went to Pilate asking to seal His tomb. Then how come these disciples did not realize it?

It was because their passion originated from placing their hearts on the world. They wanted to hold a high position in



the kingdom they thought the Messiah would build. Because of this wrong idea about His kingdom, they disregarded what Jesus had spoken contrary to their idea. Jesus had told them He would die. However, these words came into one ear and left through the other, as they did not pay attention to it. Since their hearts were full of their idea already, there was no space for Jesus’ words to enter. But now, as Jesus died, their dreams were broken. Their love for the world left their hearts, and they were ready to receive the words of God. It was time for Jesus to teach the words of God again.



"Then He said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into His glory?' The disciples wondered who this stranger could be, that He should penetrate to their very souls, and speak with such earnestness, tenderness, and sympathy, and with such hopefulness. For the first time since Christ's betrayal, they began to feel hopeful. Often they looked earnestly at their companion and thought that His words were just the words that Christ would have spoken. They were filled with amazement, and their hearts began to throb with joyful expectation.

Beginning at Moses, the very Alpha of Bible history, Christ expounded in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. Had He first made Himself known to them, their hearts would have been

satisfied. In the fullness of their joy they would have hungered for nothing more. But it was necessary for them to understand the witness borne to Him by the types and prophecies of the Old Testament. Upon these their faith must be established. Christ performed no miracle to convince them, but it was His first work to explain the Scriptures. They had looked upon His death as

the destruction of all their hopes. Now He showed from the prophets that this was the very strongest evidence for their faith." - *Desire of Ages*, p. 796

It would have been easier to make them happy if Jesus had just shown himself to them. However, if so, their hearts would not have been on a strong foundation. Their hearts would not have been redirected to heaven. Therefore, Jesus did something else - leading their minds toward the words of God.

As they heard the Bible, their hearts were filled with joy and hope. Everything started to make sense, and it gave them a new dream. Now they saw that the Messiah came to this earth to build the kingdom of grace. Now they understood that Jesus is the Saviour.

A new dream came into their hearts. They wanted to share this good news with others. They could not wait to let

others know that we have a future. They could not wait to tell the world that Jesus won a victory over sins and death to give us the same strength.

We started our conversation by asking, "How can I restore my passion for Christ?". Fire cannot burn without firewood. Our bodies cannot have energy without food. To keep our passion burning, we need fuel for it. And in the story of two disciples heading to Emmaus, we can see the fuel for passion. When their hearts could not receive the words of God, their hearts became weak and discouraged. But when it was filled and guided by the words of God, it started burning again, never to stop for the rest of their lives.

If our passion stops, it is either way. It got the wrong fuel, or we stopped providing the fuel. Our passions might come from the wrong motive. It could be

a success in the world, it could be love for honour, or it could be pride. That was the reason why disciples lost their passion.

Or it could be because we might not have read the Bible recently. When was the last time you listened to the words of God? When was the last time you read the Bible? When was the last time you talked to God? If you do not provide new firewood, a campfire will eventually vanish.

Let's go back to the story of two disciples, and see what happened next.

And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went... And he went in to tarry with them. And it came to pass, as He sat at meat with them, He took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew Him; and He vanished out of their sight. And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while



He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the scriptures?” (Luke 24:28-32).

Here we can see how their hearts were full of a new passion and a new dream. “Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the scriptures?” Their hearts were so hot that they could not stay still. They had to go! They should go share this new hope.

“But with this great news to communicate they cannot sit and talk. Their weariness and hunger are gone. They leave their meal untasted, and full of joy immediately set out again on the same path by which they came, hurrying to tell the tidings to the disciples in the city. In some parts the road is not safe, but they climb over the steep places, slipping on the smooth rocks. They do not see, they do not know, that they have the protection of Him who has traveled the road with them. With their pilgrim staff in hand, they press on, desiring to go faster than they dare. They lose their track, but find it again. Sometimes running, sometimes stumbling, they press forward, their unseen Companion close beside them all the way.

The night is dark, but the Sun of Righteousness is shining upon them. Their hearts leap for joy. They seem to be in a new world. Christ is a living Saviour. They no longer mourn over Him as dead. Christ is risen—over and over again they repeat it. This is the message they are carrying to the sorrowing ones. They



must tell them the wonderful story of the walk to Emmaus. They must tell who joined them by the way. They carry the greatest message ever given to the world, a message of glad tidings upon which the hopes of the human family for time and for eternity depend.” – *Desire of Ages*, p.801

My dear friends, my dear youth, we have a message to carry. The greatest message ever given to the world. A message of glad tidings upon which the hopes of the human family for time and for eternity depend. Does not this gospel start a fire in our hearts? Let us go forward with a passion. Let us go and spread the words of God. Jesus is alive and working for us in the most holy. His words of prophecies have been fulfilled and are fulfilling. Time is near. He is alive. He is coming again. We’ve got a story to tell the world. My dear youth, Go forward with a fire in your hearts. Amen.

VOICE OF) YOUTH BOX **PART. 2**

"Voice of Youth Box" is a unique online space where you can share your voice.

It can be questions about faith, requests for advice about your concern, suggestions about the youth department plan, or any voice you would like to make! It is all anonymous, so feel free to share your deep thoughts.

Do you have anything to share? Please scan the QR code.

In this article, we would like to share our answers to some suggestions/questions sent through this box.



Questions about God

1. Does God get annoyed with us? And does He count how many sins we commit?

The characteristic of God is written as the following:

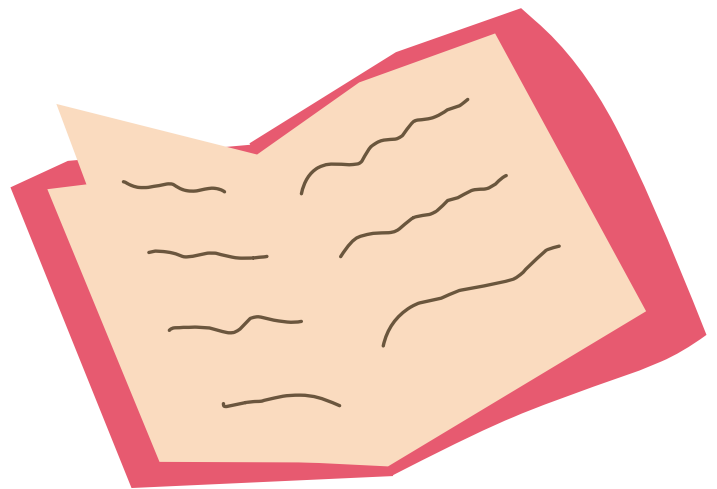
“And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, The Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth” - Exodus 34:6

“Nevertheless for Thy great mercies' sake Thou didst not utterly consume them, nor forsake them; for Thou art a gracious and merciful God.” - Nehemiah 9:31

God is merciful, gracious, and long-suffering. It means He is forgiving and patient. And for these reasons, He does not “consume nor forsake” us.

Of course, If we choose the path of sins and do not repent nor turn away from it, we will eventually be consumed by the fire. But it is not because God is angry, but “For the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). God is life. And sin is the opposite characteristic of God’s law. There is no God in sin. Therefore, there is no life in sin. It is a natural consequence for sinners to reach death, but it is not because God is angry or annoyed. Rather, God always tries to bring people back to Himself. All His efforts to save us are from His love for us.

So answering the first question, God does not get annoyed with us.



Now let’s talk about your second question together. We can see that God is recording all our sins.

“And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.” Revelation 20:12

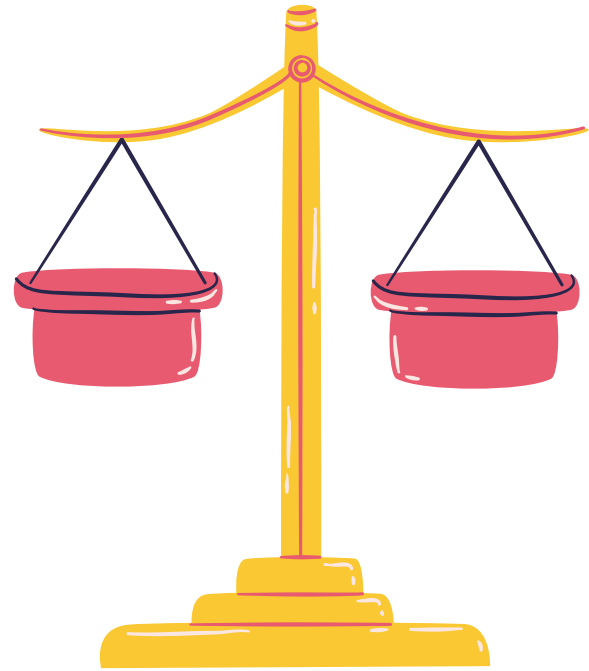
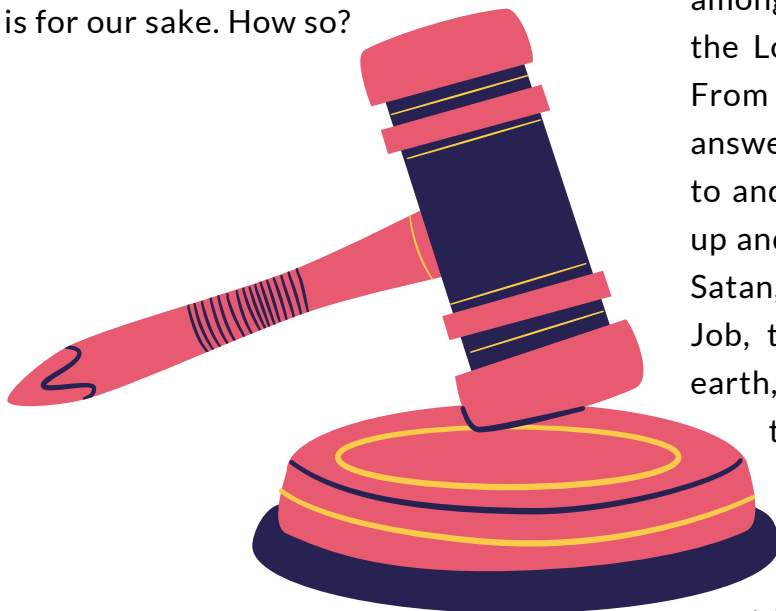
“Another book was opened, wherein were recorded the sins of those who profess the truth. Under the general heading of selfishness came every other sin. There were also headings over every column, and underneath these, opposite each name, were recorded, in their respective columns, the lesser sins.

“Under covetousness came falsehood, theft, robbery, fraud, and avarice; under ambition came pride and extravagance; jealousy stood at the head of malice, envy, and hatred; and intemperance headed a long list of fearful crimes, such as lasciviousness, adultery, indulgence of animal passions, etc. As I beheld I was filled with inexpressible anguish and

exclaimed: 'Who can be saved? Who will stand justified before God? Whose robes are spotless? Who are faultless in the sight of a pure and holy God?' - Testimonies for the Church, vol. 4, pp. 384, 385.

"Opposite each name in the books of heaven is entered with terrible exactness every wrong word, every selfish act, every unfulfilled duty, and every secret sin, with every artful dissembling. Heaven-sent warnings or reproofs neglected, wasted moments, unimproved opportunities, the influence exerted for good or for evil, with its far-reaching results, all are chronicled by the recording angel." -The Great Controversy, p. 482.

As we can see, all our sins are written in heaven. And when we repent, God crosses out our sins on this book with a red line. But this does not mean that God is "counting" our sins because He holds grudges or does not forgive us. Rather, it is for our sake. How so?



To begin with, we can see Satan being an accuser against us in many Bible verses.

"And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him." Zechariah 3:1

"Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the Lord. And the Lord said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered My servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one

that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst Me against him, to destroy him without cause. And Satan answered the

Lord, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse Thee to Thy face. And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life.” Job 2:1-6

Satan speaks against us in front of God and all heavenly beings. He says, “This person committed this sin and that sin. Therefore, it is unrighteous of God if He lets this person enter heaven! How is it fair for this person to go to heaven?” Does God know we are forgiven and can enter heaven? Yes, He does. Can He still make us come to heaven? Yes, He does. Actually, God has already given us the right to enter heaven. But what if God just ignores Satan’s argument? God knows, but people from the unfallen worlds and angels do not know. Satan told them that God was bringing us to heaven unfairly, and what if God does not show proof that Satan is wrong? Will we be sincerely welcomed by them? Will God’s kingdom still be peaceful and perfect?

This is the reason why God is recording our sins. Not to show us that we are sinners but to show everyone that we are forgiven. God wants to prove that we can come to heaven. God will be justified in bringing us back to heaven.

“And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down,

which accused them before our God day and night.” Revelation 12:10

“To declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: that He might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.” Romans 3:26

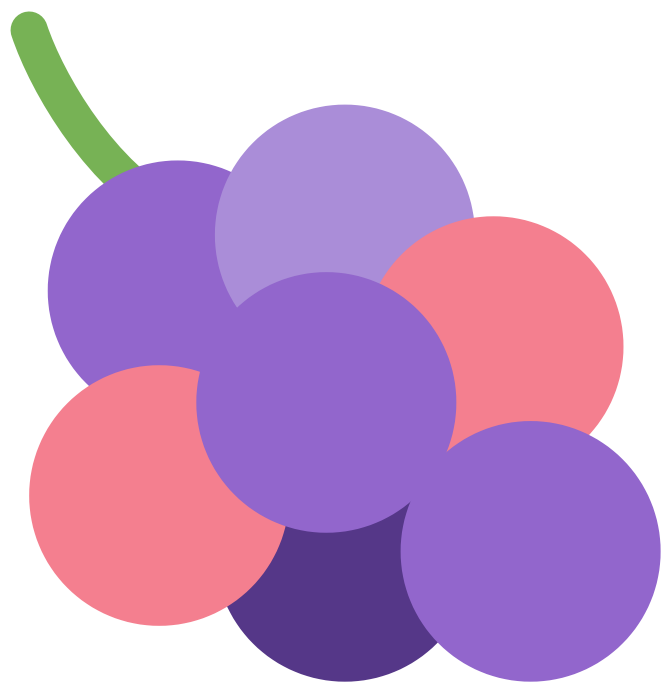
For further study, I would like to recommend the following reading:

- The Great Controversy, chapter 28 – Facing Life’s Record

2. Does God eat?

From the story of Abraham, we can see a scene where God eats food.

“In the records of Genesis we see the patriarch at the hot summer noontide resting in his tent door under the shadow of the oaks of Mamre. Three travelers are passing near. They make no appeal for hospitality, solicit no favor; but Abraham does not permit them to go on their way unrefreshed. He is a man full of years, a



man of dignity and wealth, one highly honored, and accustomed to command; yet on seeing these strangers he 'ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground.' Addressing the leader he said: 'My Lord, if now I have found favor in Thy sight, pass not away, I pray Thee, from Thy servant.' Genesis 18:2, 3. With his own hands he brought water that they might wash the dust of travel from their feet. He himself selected their food; while they were at rest under the cooling shade, Sarah his wife made ready for their entertainment, and Abraham stood respectfully beside them while they partook of his hospitality. This kindness he showed them simply as wayfarers, passing strangers, who might never come his way again. But, the entertainment over, his guests stood revealed. He had ministered not only to heavenly angels, but to their glorious Commander, his Creator, Redeemer, and King. And to Abraham the counsels of heaven were opened, and he was called 'the friend of God.'" - Testimony Treasures, vol. 2 p. 568

Also, Jesus said He would drink with us in the heavenly kingdom: "But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom." (Matthew 26:29).

So we can say that God eats. However, God does not need to eat or drink to sustain His life as we do. He is the life and creator of life. He does not rely on food to continue His life.



Questions about the church life

3. Is it OK to not go to church on Saturday sometimes if you're tired or just don't feel like it?

There are times when we cannot attend church due to unique situations (e.g., illness, living too far from the church, delivering a baby, taking care of a sick family, being in prison for His name, etc.). In those cases, God will always be with you and give you a double portion of His spirit even if you cannot go to church.

However, if your tiredness is not because it is a symptom of sickness and you are accessible to the church and still decide to skip the church just because you don't feel like going to church... you are missing a lot! There are certain blessings that you can receive only by going to church. Let me show you just a small portion of it.



1. Blessing of Fellowship

God has assigned the church as a unique place where different people can come together and experience divine love toward each other. Blessing of fellowship among family of faith exists in the church.

“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.” - Hebrews 10:24-25

2. The Message from God

Jesus shows Himself in two perspectives regarding our relationship with Him. 1. As the Lord of individuals and 2. As the Lord of Israel (the church). If we meet Jesus only in the church and not in our personal lives, we are not meeting Jesus fully. If we meet Jesus only in our personal lives and not in the church, we are not meeting Jesus fully either. God does not give light to individuals He didn't give to the church. God gives different parts and aspects of the truth to different individuals and calls them to come together to the church to learn

from each other and deepen their understanding.

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” - Colossians 3:16

“Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.” - Hebrews 13:7

“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily...” - Acts 2:42-47

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” - Romans 10:17

3. Spiritual Health

Also, skipping church is not a good spiritual signal. If you prefer to rest at home to save energy for school and work rather than going to church, it is a sign that you think work and school are more important than spiritual matters. Sister White commented as follows:

"None should permit themselves, through the week, to become so absorbed in their temporal interests, and so exhausted by their efforts for worldly gain, that on the Sabbath they have no strength or energy to give to the service of God. We are robbing the Lord when we unfit ourselves to worship Him upon His holy day. And we are robbing ourselves as well; for we need the warmth and glow of association, as well as the strength to be gained from the wisdom and experience of other Christians." - Child Guidance, p. 530

“It is displeasing to God for Sabbath-keepers to sleep during much of the Sabbath.” - Counsels for the Church, p. 270

“If there is a neglect in attending evening meetings or the meetings on the Sabbath, it should be inquired into, and if valid reasons are not given, they should be urged or admonished to attend these meetings, so essential to their spiritual strength.” - Pamphlet, p. 152

What would your employer think if you have a meeting at work and decide not to go because you are too tired or just don't feel like it? We have a meeting with Jesus every Sabbath. Is it okay to skip that meeting because we just don't feel like it? Jesus won't fire us as an employer would, but we would lose much spiritual ground. For these reasons, many times, skipping church for not proper reasons is an indication that our interest and commitment to spirituality are weakening and, sometimes, even backsliding. Therefore, except for unique cases we mentioned at the beginning, skipping church is either because of physical or spiritual illness. That's why it is our duty to visit those who skip the churches and see if their physical or spiritual illnesses are fine.

We might think, “No, I am still committed.” However, remember, every spiritual disease starts little by little. It does not happen at once. It might be an early sign of our disease. But every disease has a cure. If you find yourself skipping church for not proper reasons, let us come to Jesus and ask Him to give you the desires to commune with Him more in His temple.

Following are sister White's writings about how we can visit, counsel, and encourage those who skip church. If you have anyone around you who skip the church, please take a look and bring it to our actions.

- Testimonies for the Church volume 9, p. 191-193



4. Let's say I invite someone to church. They say they will visit our church only if I visit theirs. Should I go or not?

I would like to share the experience of one of our ministers regarding this question. He had a friend from the Pentecost church who said exactly the same thing. The minister invited him to our church, and he said, "I will come to your church only if you would come to mine." The friend came to our church, and to keep the promise, the minister visited his friend's church. It was his first and last time going to a Sunday church, and he said he regrets it up to this day. It was full of noise and shouting, and his friend eventually did not come to the truth anyway. Based on his experiences, he found that accepting this kind of suggestion barely works.

One of our literature review committee members also shared an experience of a big Adventist member that he/she knew. "He visited a Pentecostal church at the invitation of a friend. During the meeting, he began to speak in tongues like the rest of them, against his will. Another spirit took control of him, and he could not help himself. After that, he was never as strong in faith as before."

The following Bible verses show us a light on these situations:

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." - 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

We invite others to our church because that is where the truth is. Why would we go to another person's church when we know they do not have the truth or partial truth mixed in with error? This is not a trade-off where you come to mine, and I'll come to yours.

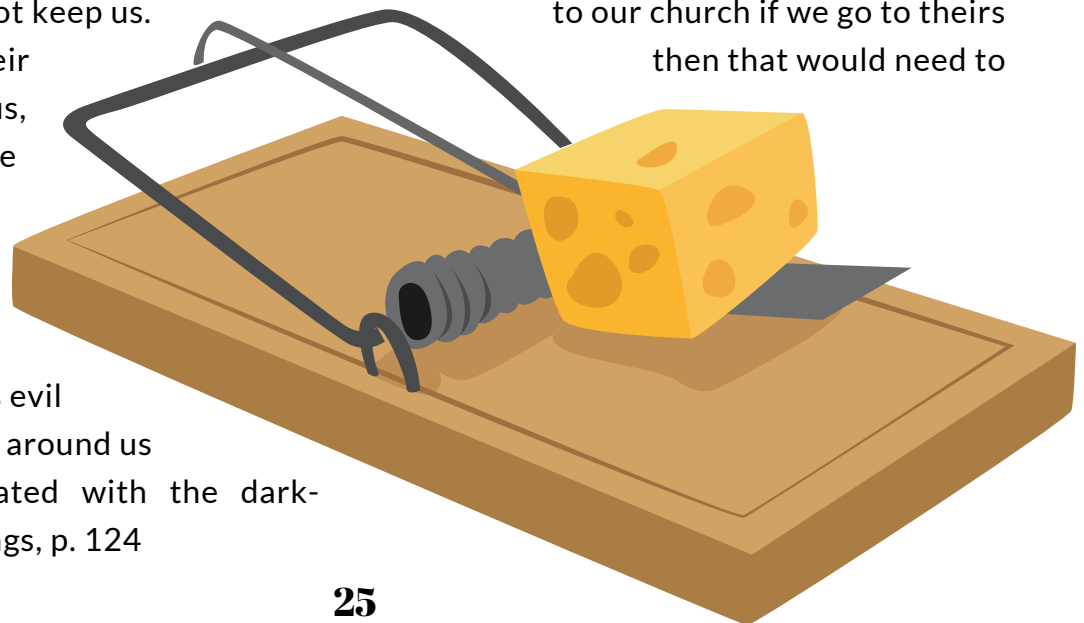
"I was shown the necessity of those who believe that we are having the last message of mercy, being separate from those who are daily imbibing new errors. I saw that neither young nor old should attend their meetings; for it is wrong to thus encourage them while they teach error that is a deadly poison to the soul and teach for doctrines the commandments of men. The influence of such gatherings is not good. If God has delivered us from such darkness and error, we should stand fast in the liberty wherewith He has set us free and rejoice in the truth. God is displeased with us when we go to listen to error, without being obliged to go; for unless He sends us to those meetings where error is forced home to the people by the power of the will, He will not keep us.

The angels cease their watchful care over us, and we are left to the buffetings of the enemy, to be darkened and weakened by him and the power of his evil angels; and the light around us becomes contaminated with the darkness." - Early Writings, p. 124

There are only limited circumstances where anyone would go to another church, and that would be primarily to bring them the message. There is nothing wrong with visiting the other church for a missionary. We should never miss a chance when we are invited to preach there. Many times, pioneers started their missionary by visiting other churches. Many histories show how the church of God was opened in new countries. Sometimes, even the whole church has been converted. In other words, God will never be there for us if we are in other churches to worship, knowing where the truth is. But He will be with us if we are there to bear the message.

However, let us remember that we are still young and need more learning and experience. It is not advisable for us, as youth, to put ourselves on dangerous ground. We don't go to other churches because of our friendship with the individual. Satan can easily use that friendship to his advantage. If the person's condition is that they will come

to our church if we go to theirs then that would need to



decline politely. Going to another church is different from visiting someone else's house. We believe God has one church, so we should not step into a place where God is not. There may be faithful believers in other churches, but we are told to call them out and bring them to our church where the truth is.

There was a time when the enemies of Israel invited Nehemiah to come over to their places to "make friends," while in reality, they were plotting to kill him. That time, Nehemiah realized their plot through the Holy Spirit.

"...our enemies, heard that I had builded the wall, and that there was no breach left therein; (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates;) That Sanballat and Geshem sent unto me, saying, Come, let us meet together in some one of the villages in the plain of Ono. But they thought to do me mischief. And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?" – Nehemiah 6:1-3

"Pretending to desire a compromise of the opposing parties, they sought a conference with Nehemiah, and invited him to meet them in a village on the plain of Ono. But enlightened by the Holy Spirit as to their real purpose, he refused." – Prophets and Kings p. 651

Nehemiah was a man of prayer who was constantly connected to God. It is well known how he continued his prayer to speak to the king about Jerusalem and

how he had a moment of silent prayer when that chance finally came. (Nehemiah 1:4-11; 2:1-8) It is reported that "Like King Hezekiah, Nehemiah "clave to the Lord, and departed not from following Him, but kept His commandments.... And the Lord was with him" (Prophets and Kings p. 677). Follow the example of Nehemiah. Pray constantly and cleave to the Lord all the time. Then the Holy Spirit would show you what to do.

It is very natural for us to think, "If I accept this suggestion, my friend would come to our church, and that would open a way for he/she to come to the truth." Unfortunately, the reality is that if a friend has a mind to see the truth, he or she will not invite us to their church. The Holy Spirit would move their heart toward the church with the truth. It is the experience of many brethren who came from other churches to ours that somehow they felt like they needed to come to our church, which they later realized that it was the Holy Spirit. If your friend is really looking for the truth, they should not be feeling satisfied in their current churches because the Spirit causes them to feel unsatisfied thirst.

I strongly recommend bringing your case to responsible and experienced adults in your church, such as elders, missionaries and ministers. They would listen to your case and give you the most suitable advice. Upon your prayer, God also uses His servants so the Holy Spirit would talk to you through them.



Questions about Marriage

5. What is our stand on sexual intercourse before marriage? Will God bless a wedding/marriage when one goes to the altar while already being "impure"?

We believe that sexual intercourse before marriage is a sin. Some examples of the words of God that our stand is based upon are as follows:

“Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled” - Hebrews 13:4

“Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.” - 1 Corinthians 6:18

“Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.” - Jude 1:7

“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.” - Galatians 5:19-21

As we can see here, sexual intercourse before marriage is considered a serious sin under the name of fornication.



But your next question is very important. Will God still forgive and bless me?

Jesus said “All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.” (Matthew 12:31).

No sin is so big that it cannot be forgiven when brought to the cross. Jesus can forgive even the sin of fornication when we ask in His blood. Let’s think about Jacob, who received a blessing from the Lord. Even though his sin was big, God still forgave and blessed him when he truly repented. We should come to Him trusting His character, which is “merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.” (Exodus 34:6).

However, let me point out that it does not mean we can continue fornication and “repent” our sins on the night before our wedding to be blessed. God will neither accept such prayers nor bless the marriage. If we continue our sins, it means we did not truly repent. Repentance does not merely means a prayer asking for forgiveness. It includes a change in our lives and leaving sin.

“Repentance includes sorrow for sin and a turning away from it. We shall not renounce sin unless we see its sinfulness; until we turn away from it in heart, there will be no real change in the life.” – Steps to Christ, p. 23

When many people were ready to stone the woman committing adultery, Jesus forgave her sin and never asked about it. However, we should remember His instruction as He sent her off. “Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.” Repentance means understanding how shameful our sin is. It should lead us to hate sins and thus “sin no more.”

To conclude, sexual intercourse before marriage is a sin. However, God will still forgive and bless your marriage if you truly repent, leave the sin, and change your life by yielding to Jesus.

I recommend the following chapters from testimonies for your further study:

- Testimonies on Sexual Behavior, Adultery, and Divorce. Chapter 15—Petting and Premarital Sex
- Steps to Christ. Chapter 3 – Repentance

6. If I have a spouse and catch them cheating, should I stay with them or break up? In that case, is it healthy to stay with your partner for the sake of your child/children?

In general, I really wish to give a simple yes/no answer, as I understand there are moments when we need to hear those. However, unfortunately, I cannot do so to this question. It is because every case is different on this. I will introduce two main answers, which are both from the Bible:

1. Breaking up

The Bible permits divorce if there is adultery. Your spouse cheating on you can break your marriage vow. It might bring tremendous unhappiness to the family. If parents do not separate, they might keep having problems over this issue, in other words, your relationship might be unhealthy. In this case, it would be better to divorce, as the couple and the children would be negatively impacted. Many couples are examples of this. The Bible and testimonies on this point are written as follows:

“But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery” – Matthew 5:32

“A woman may be legally divorced from her husband by the laws of the land and yet not divorced in the sight of God and according to the higher law. There is only one sin, which is adultery, which can



place the husband or wife in a position where they can be free from the marriage vow in the sight of God.” – The Adventist Home, p. 344

“I would say that there is only one thing for which a husband may lawfully separate from his wife or a wife from her husband, and that is adultery” – The Adventist Home, p. 345

Though we are talking about divorce in this question, I do need to mention remarriage, as it is a very common question that comes together with this issue. We should remember that if divorce has happened, remarriage is forbidden as long as the other party is alive. We can see this principle in the following Bible verses:

“For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress,



though she be married to another man." - Romans 7:1-3

"And the Pharisees came to Him, and asked Him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife? tempting Him. And He answered and said unto them, What did Moses command you? And they said, Moses suffered to write a bill of divorcement, and to put her away. And Jesus answered and said unto them, For the hardness of your heart he wrote you this precept. But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. And in the house His disciples asked Him again of the same matter. And He saith unto them, Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery." - Mark 10:2-12

"Therefore shall a man leave his father

and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh" - Genesis 2:24.

2. Staying Together

On the other hand, the Bible also teaches the importance of forgiveness. Your spouse might show sincere repentance, and you might choose to forgive your spouse. You might choose to leave the past behind and stay together, especially to protect your family and children. There are many couples in this case too. The story of Hosea could be an example, too (Read Hosea chapters 1-3)

"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." - Ephesians 4:32

"Then came Peter to Him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven." - Matthew 18:21-22

"There is hope for every man who humbles his heart before God and confesses his sin. If a man has given himself up to lust and lasciviousness, if he has been unfaithful to his marriage vow, his case is not hopeless. If he realizes that he has violated the law of God, if he repents and confesses his sin to his Maker and to those he has injured, and earnestly strives to make restitution for the past by kindness and sympathy, he will receive forgiveness." - Letters and Manuscripts, vol. 14 (MS 52, 1899).

Conclusion

I can't tell which would be the answer to your question. Every case and every couple is different. When your spouse commits adultery, continuing the marriage might lead to an unhealthy relationship or restoration of the relationship, depending on the individual couple and situation.

Therefore, you would need many prayers to answer this question. It is a very challenging situation, but put your negative feeling aside, humble your hearts, and pray to God. Seeking counsel from a Godly person who knows your situation well might help too.



Questions about Suicide

7. Can people that commit suicide go to heaven?

Not much writing in the Bible or Testimonies directly shows the connection between suicide and heaven. However, we can see some indications:

“I appeal to Christian mothers to exercise their reason and judgment in dressing their children in a manner to secure health rather than for display. The health of children and youth demand a

complete revolution in female dress. The present style is contrary to the laws of health, therefore is not in accordance with the law of God. In consequence of following absurd fashions, health and life are sacrificed. If we pursue a course to lessen our vitality, and sickness and death are the result, it is a violation of the law of God. To shorten life by self-murder is a breach of the sixth precept of God's law. He has not granted us permission to commit suicide gradually any more than

He has given us a permit to commit suicide suddenly. While one puts out existence at once, the other does the work according to approved fashion. The fashionable suicides, by wrong and sinful habits, commit suicide gradually, prolonging their own suffering, and casting a heavy burden upon sympathizing friends. Which is the greater sinner?" - The Health Reformer January 1, 1873

"Do not, I entreat of you, sit down in hopeless despair and do nothing. Do not heed any further the great tempter, that it is no use for you to try. You could but perish if you came to Jesus just as you are, sinful and polluted, vile and depraved; but Jesus is amply able to save the very hardest and the most wicked and defiled sinner.

You say you are tempted to cut the brittle thread of life; but if you do, then your case is hopeless, for you add the sin of murder to all your other sins. But if you come just as you are, helpless and sin-polluted, and cast yourself at the foot of the cross, poor, miserable, blind, and naked, there is a Saviour to lift you up. I know that you have not for many, many years been in harmony with God. You have for a long stretch of years been following another leader, which is the prince of darkness; but if you will cast off the works of darkness, if you will now look unto Jesus, you will live." - Testimonies on Sexual Behavior, Adultery, and Divorce p. 143

Our life does not belong to ourselves.

It belongs to God. Therefore, taking it away is another form of murder, and thus is a sin. And since suicide means their life has ended, it is not possible to repent of the sin. This is why it is often said that it is not easy for people who commit suicide to go to heaven.

However, this is spoken by human logic and human technicality, based on our knowledge. We can never fully know God's judgement and how He makes conclusions. There might be some background we do not know about, and God might save them. Maybe He won't. We cannot tell.

Though it is not the case of suicide, we can talk about an example of William Miller. Being weary, old, and heartbroken from his experience, William Miller did not accept the third angel's message. Technically, according to human logic, based on what we know, he should not be saved as he rejected the light. However, God counted the situation that made it difficult for him to accept the message, and God will still give him eternal life.

"My attention was then called to William Miller. He looked perplexed and was bowed with anxiety and distress for his people. The company who had been united and loving in 1844 were losing their love, opposing one another, and falling into a cold, backslidden state. As he beheld this, grief wasted his strength. I saw leading men watching him, and fearing lest he should receive the third angel's message and the commandments of God. And as he would lean toward the

light from heaven, these men would lay some plan to draw his mind away. A human influence was exerted to keep him in darkness and to retain his influence among those who opposed the truth. At length William Miller raised his voice against the light from heaven. He failed in not receiving the message which would have fully explained his disappointment and cast a light and glory on the past, which would have revived his exhausted energies, brightened his hope, and led him to glorify God. He leaned to human wisdom instead of divine, but being broken with arduous labor in his Master's cause and by age, he was not as accountable as those who kept him from the truth. They are responsible; the sin rests upon them..... Moses erred as he was about to enter the Promised Land. So also, I saw that William Miller erred as he was soon to enter the heavenly Canaan, in suffering his influence to go against the truth. Others led him to this; others must account for it. But angels watch the precious dust of this servant of God, and he will come forth at the sound of the last trump.” – Early Writings, p. 258

Therefore, we can't know whether certain people would be saved or not. Another thing to think about is: let's say someone did not receive the light about suicide and did not know it was against the law of God. Will they be saved or not? They might be, or they might not be. We can't tell. What do you think about Samson? He knew his life would be taken when he broke down those two pillars.

However, Samson, who had repented of his sins and learned his weakness, asked God to give him the strength to destroy the temple, and his prayer was responded. Will he be saved or not?

To conclude, suicide is another form of transgression against the sixth commandment. However, the judgment about whether someone can be saved is in God's hands. As the only sin that Jesus said couldn't be forgiven is a sin against the Holy Spirit, we can't establish a connection between suicide and heaven. We can't say anything about the salvation of other people who, unfortunately, took their lives.

However, one thing is sure. As we – that means me writing this article and you reading this article – now know that suicide is a sin, we won't have any excuse for suicide. If we do so, we won't be saved. So, no matter how hard it might be, do not dare to take your own life. Remember, God is always with you, right next to you. He is always ready to give you strength and help with His almighty hands that can cause miracles.



Do you have any further/other questions? Please feel free to ask through Voice of Youth Box!

CANADIAN REFORM YOUTH

LOUD CRY NEWS

WHAT HAPPENED, IS HAPPENING AND WILL HAPPEN



MUSIC DAY

In collaborative work with Canadian Field Music Department and Media Department, the youth held a special music program of praise and music at Bloor Street Church on April 8th.

Youths took roles in sharing their musical talents, leading the programs, and recording the program to praise God.

This program was recorded and made available to watch on 4truth Canada Facebook/Youtube.





YOUTH CANVASSING DAYS

Two youth canvassing days were held, along with online training, in March and April.

On March 11th, the first online training was led by the Canadian Field Missionary Department with the title "Cracking the Code." Youths learned about different personality traits of people they can encounter as they canvas.

On March 12th, youths went to Nathan Phillip Square to distribute 'Steps to Christ.' Books were distributed, and new contacts were made.

On April 22nd, the second online training was held. Youths had a guest speaker from the General Conference Canvassing Department who shared some secrets on successful canvassing.

The following day, youths distributed 'The Great Controversy' at Jane Finch Mall.

Videos of Online training and Canvassing Days are available on 4truth Canada Youtube or at 4truth.ca/youth

VOICE OF YOUTH: NEW FEATURE

The Canadian Field Youth Department introduced a new feature on the 'Voice of Youth'. Youths are now able to keep track of their questions.

With this feature, youths can check the following:

- What questions were asked?
- What questions were answered in Zoom meetings?
- What questions were published in magazines?
- When will my questions be answered/published in future?

This information is accessible through the Google Doc link on 4truth.ca/youth

LOUD CRY SOCIAL MEDIA

Are you interested in seeing more posts about bible verses, meditation, bible facts, health information, church events, etc? Follow the official social media accounts of Loud Cry (Canadian Field Youth Department).

Facebook: [CanadianReformYouth](https://www.facebook.com/CanadianReformYouth)
Instagram: [LoudCry.Youth](https://www.instagram.com/LoudCry.Youth)

INVITATIONS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES:

International Youth Conference in
Spain (December 27 - January 1)
Registration: URLY.IT/3VOP7

American Union Youth Seminar
(June 21 - July 1)
Registration:
www.normancollege.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Here are the dates of some major youth events! There are going to be more events and seminars added! Stay tuned!

Also, please keep in mind that these are Field events only. Please refer to your local church leader or youth leader for your local church activities and events. All dates are subject to change.

August 27-30: Camping Trip in Ontario
September 1-3: Canadian Field Conference (Youth Choir and Youth Orchestra) at Toronto

NEW CF YOUTH LEADER

There will be a change in Youth Department Leadership. As of June 5th, Brother Jason Climaco will be our new Canadian Field Youth Department Leader for the remainder of the term.

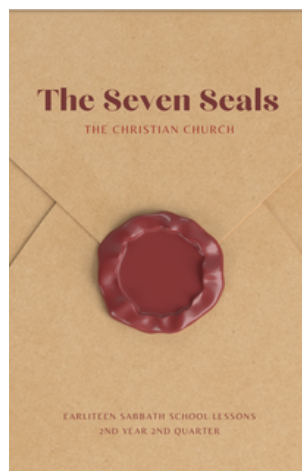
For more details about the change and messages from Brother Makoto and Jason, please watch the video through the QR code:.



JOIN OUR GROUP!

We have group chats on Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, and Discord. To join, please send your contact information to us at our email address! canadianreformyouth@gmail.com

NEW LESSON BOOK



Our new sabbath school lesson is available!

We will study 'The Seven Seals' in the second quarter (April-June)." The lesson book and contact form for Zoom meetings are both available on our website!

May God bless you as you study His words!

NEWS FROM DIFFERENT PARTS OF CANADA:

WOODBIDGE

Woodbridge youths are holding 'youth day' every 3rd sabbath, when youths take most roles in church programs, along with youth afternoon meetings. Different youths have shared their inspirations and studies about 'Encounters with Jesus.' Their topics have been: 'Children with Jesus,' 'Paul,' 'Abraham and God,' 'Barabbas,' 'Moses and the Burning Bush,' and 'Romantic God:: Peter and Jesus.' Also, on February youth day, youths shared their knowledge about first aid in collaborative work with Woodbridge Family Department and Health Department.



Pictures:

[Left] Sister Melissa presenting her topic about Moses.

[Centre] Sister Jasmine sharing special music.

[Right] Sister Brenda presenting her topic about Abraham.

Credit: Makoto Matsumoto

BLOOR

Bloor Youths are holding afternoon youth programs with a variety of topics every 2nd sabbath. Some of the topics shared include testimonies hour and pictures taken during their visit to other countries.



Pictures:

[Left] Brother James visiting Germany to attend a youth conference in Portland.

[Right] Sister Tiffany volunteering at our church's elementary school in Tanzania.

Credit: James & Tiffany Bessec

HAMILTON

Hamilton Youths organized a special afternoon program for two couples newly getting married in June. During the program, married couples from different regions (Woodbridge, Bloor, Hamilton, London) and different marriage years (from 2+ years to 50+ years) shared their experiences and gave advice to two soon-be-married couples and other youths who will get married in future.



Picture: A group picture during the walk after the program. Credit: Elizabeth Clark

LONDON AND GRANBY

At least once a month, London and Granby youths visit other local churches, thus promoting the connection between youths and encouraging the spiritual family they meet. In this way, they are also supporting activities and programs of different local churches and field youth departments.

Pictures: Group picture of London youths during a sabbath afternoon walk. Credit: Yohana Monsalve



CALGARY & EDMONTON

This year, each youth has been assigned topics about different departments of the church, such as education, health, missionary, family and music.

So far, Calgary youths have shared about:

- Music: What kind of music should be sung at church and consumed in the everyday Christian life
- Missionary: What is Canvassing Work, The Importance of Medical Missionary
- Family: How to be a successful family, What is Love in the Family
- Health: What is Health Reform?

Also, in April, youths and members of Calgary church visited our spiritual family in Edmonton to worship God together and spend a special time of fellowship.



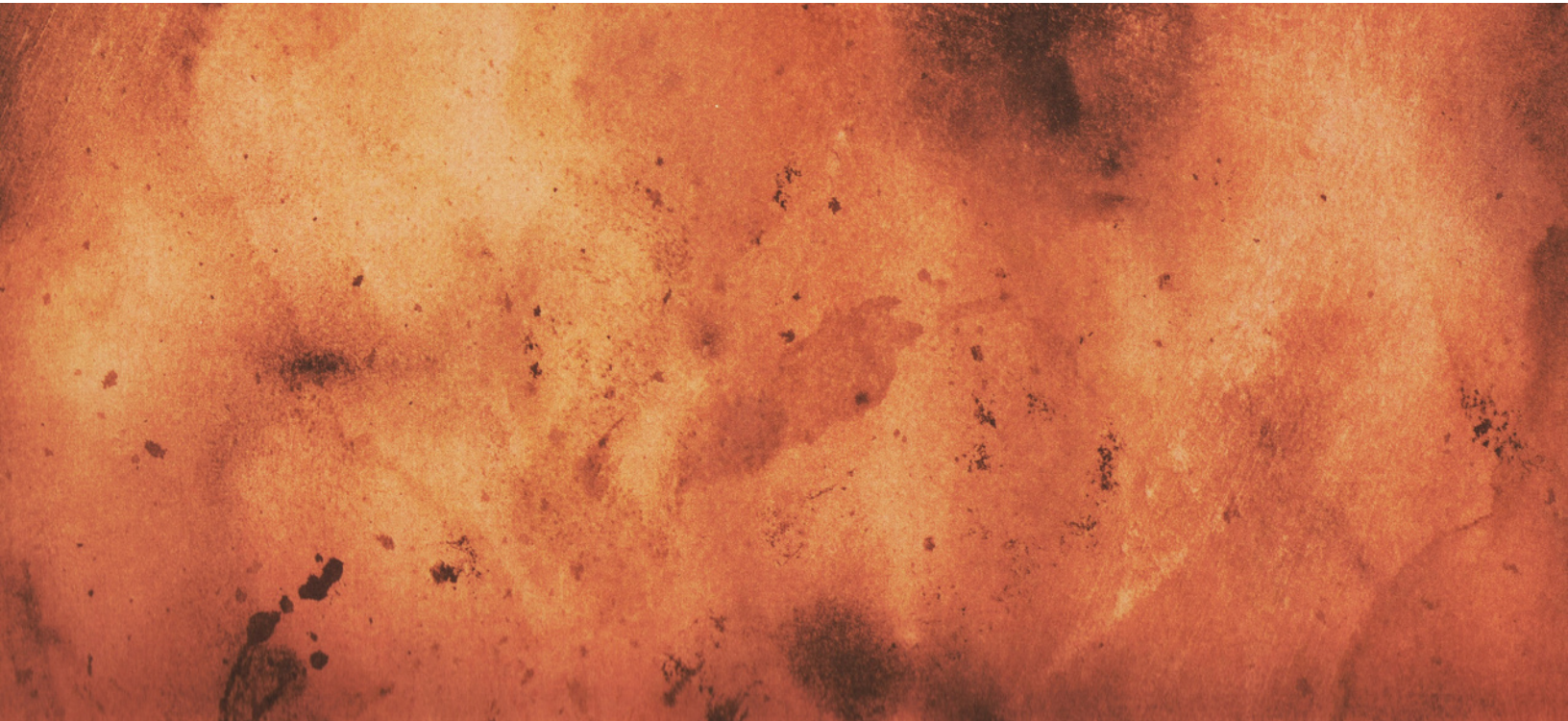
Pictures: Group picture during a sabbath afternoon walk in Edmonton. Credit: Edward Anca

VANCOUVER

In Vancouver, it became challenging for youths to see each other in person due to the unique geographical characteristic of many islands. On May 6th, by the grace of God, youths, members, and guests had an opportunity to reunite despite this physical barrier.

Picture: Youths in Vancouver having a conversation together. Credit: Michael Mitov





DID NOT OUR HEART BURN WITHIN US,
WHILE HE TALKED WITH US BY THE WAY,
AND WHILE HE OPENED TO US THE SCRIPTURES?

LUKE 24:32



THE YOUNG MESSENGER

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