

## **COUNSELS FOR THE CHURCH**

### **Chapter 1: A Vision of the Reward of the Faithful**

1. What similarities do you notice between the Advent people in Ellen White's first vision and the Adventist people today?
2. When the saved started to tell those who died earlier about their greatest trials, they decided not to mention them. Why? What did they exclaim instead?
3. The vision of heaven and the new earth included flowers, grass, woods, animals, homes, and people. How did each of these differ from the way they had been in the old earth?
4. All the people whom the vision portrayed in heaven seemed totally absorbed in the wonders and glories of the place. What can you do to become less absorbed with the cares of this life and more absorbed with the attractions of the world to come? See Luke 21:34-36.

### **Chapter 2: The Time of the End**

1. Describe the events and conditions that characterize the time of the end.
2. How does God feel about the extreme contrast between the destitute poor and the uncaring rich?
3. What is the relation between God's purpose and the human or demonic agencies He permits to act temporarily before the Second Coming? See Habakkuk 1:5, 6, 13; 3:3, 4, 12, 13. What other Old Testament prophecies will find their fulfillment in the Second Coming of Christ?
4. Why is it that the leaders of nations are unable to solve the problems of moral decline, economic instability, poverty, crime, and war? Who has the responsibility of showing the world the only solution to its overwhelming problems?

### **Chapter 3: Prepare to Meet the Lord**

1. Describe in detail Christ's preexistent heavenly majesty and His amazing condescension to the lowest depths of earthly humiliation. Contemplate the motives that impelled Him to become Savior.
2. Compare and contrast the "first death" of the faithful Christian with the "second death" of the unrepentant sinner.
3. All heaven is in urgent activity to save sinners. Why are many professed Christians careless and indifferent about their own salvation and that of others?
4. How does the example of Jesus provide a pattern for effective Christian witness?

### **Chapter 4: Union With Christ and Brotherly Love**

1. God clearly desires unity among His children. What results do union or disunion produce in the church?
2. Revelation 2:4 talks about early Christians' loss of their "first love." How did this loss take place?
3. Christian coworkers are not to see themselves as "independent threads" but as "threads that must be woven together to help form the pattern." What varied motives are mentioned as hindering cooperation?
4. What sin stands in the way of all Christian growth? Why is it so deadly?

### **Chapter 5: Christ Our Righteousness**

1. Read 1 John 1:9. What is promised to all who will confess their sins to God? Read Acts 5:31 and Romans 2:4. If repentance is as much a gift as is forgiveness, what additional element besides forgiveness is implied in the promise of 1 John 1:9?

2. What comfort do you receive from knowing that “God does not give us up because of our sins,” even though we “make mistakes and grieve His Holy Spirit”? See 1 John 2:1.
3. “When we repent and come to Him with contrite hearts, He will not turn us away.” See John 6:37. What comfort does this passage bring to you?
4. What counsel is given to those who feel they “must prove to the Lord that they are reformed, before they can claim His blessing”?

### **Chapter 6: The Sanctified Life**

1. In giving “our all” to Christ, which is more important— striving or surrendering? What are the results of these different emphases?
2. How does Ellen White define sanctification? In what sense is it a goal and/or a process? What is the relation between sanctification and assurance? See 2 Peter 1:5-8, 10-11.
3. What counsel would you give to one who seeks assurance of God’s acceptance?

### **Chapter 7: God Has a Work for You to Do**

1. What three things can even uneducated Christians do to help the work of God? See Psalm 119:130; Ecclesiastes 9:10; James 1:5-6.
2. What should be the “first interest” of every believer? How do your priorities compare with this standard?
3. What promises are made especially to women who engage in the work of witnessing?
4. How does the “colonizing” of Christians in large centers hinder the work of the gospel?

### **Chapter 8: “Here Am I, Lord, Send Me”**

1. What divine judgments were types of the end of the world? See Genesis 6 and 19.
2. “Are we to wait until the fulfillment of the prophecies of the end before we say anything concerning them? Of what value will our words be then?”
3. What is the purpose of the talents God bestows? What is the sure result of not using them?
4. What is “the greatest help that can be given” to build up the churches? What is your local church doing to meet this need?

### **Chapter 9: The Publications of the Church**

1. What is the purpose of Adventist publishing? What promise guarantees the success of this work? See Isaiah 55:11.
2. Have you ever sold or distributed Adventist literature? Recall an experience that strengthened your faith that God was leading you in this work.
3. What should be the relationship between ministers and literature evangelists?
4. What are some ways your church can support the literature ministry?

### **Chapter 10: Belief in a Personal God**

1. What evidence exists that God is a personal being?
2. What is the distinction between God and nature?
3. God’s creation (Psalm 19:1-6) and His Law (Psalm 19:7-11) reveal God’s glory, but neither reveals its fullness. In what way did God give His fullest self-revelation?
4. What is the significance for human salvation that “Christ took with Him to the heavenly courts His glorified humanity”?

## Chapter 11: Christians to Represent God

1. In what way was the purpose of God for ancient Israel the same as it is for today's church?
2. Does the statement, "God's ideal for His children is higher than the highest human thought can reach," mean that God's goal for us is unreachable or that, in Jesus, our potential exceeds our ability to imagine it? Explain.
3. Read 2 Corinthians 3:18. What does this suggest about an intentional method of character development?
4. What are some ways that professed Christians commonly deny Christ? Which of these is a temptation to you?

## Chapter 12: In the World but Not of the World

1. When believers lack the experience or ability to manage their finances well, what is the wisest course to follow? Why do many not follow this counsel until they are in debt?
2. What problems result from believers forming business partnerships with unbelievers?
3. Name some biblical characters who were faithful in business.

## Chapter 13: The Bible

1. List three suggestions for daily family Bible study.
2. What attitudes can make Bible study actually harmful? How can you make sure this does not happen to you?
3. Both the Old and New Testaments contain the gospel. How do you see the gospel presented in the Old Testament?
4. Have any interests drawn your mind away from the Word of God? If so, what has caused this problem, and how can you return to putting God first in your life?

## Chapter 14: The Testimonies for the Church

1. Read Proverbs 3:11-12; Hebrews 12:5-11; and Revelation 3:19. What light do these texts shed on the purpose of the *Testimonies*?
2. Why did Mrs. White publish letters originally written to individuals?
3. Point out several expressions in this chapter that make a distinction in function between the Bible and the modern gift of prophecy.
4. What are some wrong uses of the *Testimonies*?

## Chapter 15: The Holy Spirit

1. What was the main concern of the disciples just before Pentecost in A.D. 31? What relation did that have to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit?
2. The outpouring of the Spirit on the apostles was "the former rain," but the "latter rain will be more abundant." In what ways do you think the latter rain will be more abundant than the early rain?
3. Name some of the results to be expected "when the Holy Spirit controls the minds of our church members"?
4. Read 2 Peter 3:12. "It is the privilege of every Christian, not only to look for, but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." In what specific ways do you believe we can hasten the coming of Jesus?

## Chapter 16: Keep Clear God's Connection With Man

1. All God's communications with human beings must pass through one medium. What is that medium, and
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how does one keep it clear?

2. Read Genesis 1:26-27. Human beings were created in the image of God. What has been Satan's most effective device to destroy the image of God in humans?
3. Fewer drug medications would be needed if people made greater use of the natural means of health. What are some of these natural health practices?
4. According to 1 Corinthians 10:31, what should be the Christian's primary motivation for living healthfully? How could your congregation use health as a means of witness?

### **Chapter 17: Purity of Heart and Life**

1. According to 1 Corinthians 3:16; 6:19, and 2 Corinthians 6:16, to whom does the believer's physical body belong?
2. Read Matthew 5:8, 27-30. Why is it essential for the Christian to cultivate pure thoughts?
3. As parents and church leaders, what can we do to protect our children from and teach them about the physical, mental, and spiritual damage caused by "self-abuse"?
4. Some people conclude that it is impossible for them to overcome their wrong habits. What biblical counsels or promises could you share with someone who is tempted to give up? See John 3:16-17; 6:37; 8:10-12; 10:27-28; 15:4-7; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Philippians 1:6; 4:13; 1 John 1:7-2:2.

### **Chapter 18: The Choosing of a Husband or Wife**

1. What three questions are to be carefully considered before making a decision to marry? Why are these questions important?
2. What qualities should one look for in a future husband or wife?
3. Marriage is a sacred ordinance, instituted by God. Are you willing to submit your will to God and conform your courtship or marriage to God's purpose?

### **Chapter 19: Marry Not an Unbeliever**

1. Read Deuteronomy 7:2-6; 1 Corinthians 7:39; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18. What direct biblical commands are violated by believers who marry unbelievers? Though an unbeliever may appear to be of good moral character, what fact is "sufficient reason" for not entering into marriage with him or her?
2. Read Matthew 18:19. What precious privilege and powerful advantage is missing from the marriage of a believer with an unbeliever? What are the consequences in the home life of a believer married to an unbeliever?
3. What should a believer do who is engaged to marry contrary to the commands of Scripture and the will of God?
4. What obligation does a believer have has married before being converted?

### **Chapter 20: Marriage**

1. During His earthly ministry, how did Jesus indicate His approval of marriage?
2. What is the Christian's secret of ever-deepening love through years of marriage? See 2 Corinthians 3:18.
3. Harmonize the following statements. "As the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything" (Ephesians 5:22-25). "Neither husband nor wife is to make a plea for rulership."
4. How can two strong-willed spouses cultivate love and harmony in their home?

## **Chapter 21: A Happy, Successful Partnership**

1. Read Ephesians 5:22-29, 33. “The wife is to respect and reverence her husband, and the husband is to love and cherish his wife.” How has this biblical principle been misapplied or disregarded by wives and husbands, and with what results?
2. What should spouses do who, after their wedding, find previously unknown defects in each other?
3. What thought should never be harbored by husband or wife? What proactive steps can they take to protect their unity and increase their love?

## **Chapter 22: The Relationship Between Husband and Wife**

1. According to Genesis 2:23-25, what was God’s original ideal in marriage?
2. Read Proverbs 5:18-19; Matthew 19:4-6; Hebrews 13:4. What other passages affirm the innocence and goodness of the marriage relation when entered according to the will of God?
3. What is the difference between love and lust? Is the distinction primarily physical, or is it a difference of selfish or unselfish motives and priorities?

## **Chapter 23: The Mother and Her Child**

1. Read Colossians 3:18. Though “the husband is the head of the family,” who is the wife’s final authority?
2. A mother’s attitudes and habits begin to influence her child even before its birth. How does this statement support the following biblical texts: Exodus 20:5-6; Deuteronomy 7:9; Judges 13:7, 24?
3. A clash of wills is a crisis in relationships. Whenever possible this crisis should be avoided. By what method can conflicts be resolved without harm to either person?

## **Chapter 24: The Christian Father and Mother**

1. How does the role of the mother compare in importance and in sacredness to the role of her husband?
2. In what diverse ways does a wife and mother exert a controlling influence on the home environment?
3. The father is characterized as the “center” of the family, the “lawmaker,” priest, protector, and “houseband.” What is the significance of each of these roles?
4. How can the father’s confession of sin exert a positive influence on his children?

## **Chapter 25: The Christian Home**

1. What benefits come to a child from having a garden to plant and care for?
2. Name some physical qualities essential to a healthful home.
3. Explain the advantages to children of having sturdy furniture “that can be replaced without much expense” and a “few playthings” that are “strong and durable.”
4. Through what simple methods can children be taught neatness and order?

## **Chapter 26: Spiritual Influence in the Home**

1. How can parents make sure that the promise of Acts 16:31 will be realized in their home?
2. Why is it important to have regular times for daily family worship?
3. How can parents ensure that family worship is a precious time, “intensely interesting,” and not dry, tedious, or irksome to the children?

## **Chapter 27: Finance in the Home**

1. “Economy,” as used in this chapter, implies self-denial and thrifty management of resources so as to avoid unnecessary waste or expense. What two extremes should the Christian seek to avoid? Read Mark 8:19-20; John 6:13. How did Jesus teach economy?
2. What simple rule would prevent most debt?
3. Economizing does not come naturally for most children. Suggest some practical ways of teaching economy to children and youth.

## **Chapter 28: Family Activities During Holidays and Anniversaries**

1. How can Christians make holidays and anniversaries enjoyable and useful to their families, especially to the children?
2. What false idea about holidays is widely believed by both Christians and non-Christians?
3. Genesis 2:2 presents the Sabbath as a holy day and an anniversary of Creation, and Exodus 20:8-11 prescribes how it should be observed. According to these texts, what are some principles of true, meaningful observance of holidays? See also Nehemiah 8:10.
4. What are some practical ways to make birthdays and Christmas be more about God and less about ourselves?

## **Chapter 29: Recreation**

1. By what criteria can we know whether our recreation is dangerous to physical, mental, or moral health?
2. What principles for choosing beneficial recreation do you find in Romans 12:1-2; Colossians 2:8; 3:1-10; James 4:4; and 1 John 2:15-17?
3. How can recreations, such as simple outdoor games, innocent and beneficial in themselves, become harmful to body, mind, or soul?
4. What are the recreations and amusements you engage in? How will each of them affect your relationship with God and your salvation? See Titus 2:11-12.

## **Chapter 30: The Avenues to the Mind Which Must Be Guarded**

1. What are Satan’s chief means of access to the mind and heart?
2. Read Genesis 39. How did Joseph successfully resist temptation? What lessons from this story can you apply to your life?
3. “We should carefully guard” our eyes and ears so that the “iniquity” practiced in the world “shall not enter our minds.” How does this statement support the following passages: Job 31:1; Philippians 4:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:22?
4. How are the impressions and influences you receive through your senses affecting your relationship with Christ? In order to live wholly for God, what areas in your life can you ask God to help you change?

## **Chapter 31: Choice of Reading**

1. How does the saying, “garbage in, garbage out,” relate to the feeding of the mind?
2. If Christians are to avoid “fictitious stories” that “impart false views of life” and “foster a desire for the unreal,” would a movie with the same characteristics be more or less harmful than a book? Why is it dangerous to read books by infidel authors or books containing a “perversion of truth”? Would movies by infidel authors be safer than books by the same authors?
3. What can people do or not do to strengthen their spirituality?

4. How can the principles of this chapter be presented to youth in a way that will appear winsome, sensible and wise, rather than negative and arbitrary?

### **Chapter 32: Music**

1. To what high purpose was music originally devoted?
2. What important area of musical education should not be neglected?
3. How can one's choice of music either reinforce or distract from spiritual growth?
4. What two great needs of the Christian are not met by listening to secular music?

### **Chapter 33: Criticism and Its Effects**

1. Read Matthew 5:21-24, 43-48; 6:14-15; 7:1-5. How did Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount relate unkind criticism to salvation? Give at least three results of unkind criticism.
2. How should one deal with a brother or sister who has done wrong?
3. What is the effect on children of hearing their parents criticize the church or institutional leaders?
4. What kind of criticism should be encouraged?
5. What intentional strategies can you devise for increasing your expressions of appreciation and encouragement to family members, church members, and those bearing leadership responsibilities?

### **Chapter 34: Counsel Concerning Dress**

1. Give some principles for rejecting or adopting current dress styles.
2. Read 1 Timothy 2:9, 10; and 1 Peter 3:3-5. What principles of dress and adornment are taught in these Scriptures?
3. "Many need instruction" on how to dress for Sabbath worship in God's house. Every person should have special clothes for the Sabbath and not wear their weekday clothing. Why is this important? How can such instruction best be given?
4. What qualities of dress and of conduct will surround a young woman with an "atmosphere of sacred reserve which will be to her a shield from a thousand perils"?

### **Chapter 35: An Appeal to Youth**

1. What warning is given to those who neglect to begin their day with prayer?
2. The intentional, purposeful cultivation of spiritual life is compared to "education" and "business." In these terms, why do many Christians find a religious life hard and a worldly life easy?
3. For those who determine to "educate" themselves to love spiritual things and make it their life's "business" to seek and serve God, what should they do to put these resolves into action?
4. What work will make us in the highest sense coworkers with God?

### **Chapter 36: The Proper Discipline and Education of Our Children**

1. What should parents do when they disagree over how to discipline their children?
2. Why do some children appear to be well trained while under their parents' authority at home, but on leaving home seem to be incapable of thinking or deciding for themselves?
3. It is said that an idle mind is the devil's workshop. What makes the idle mind more vulnerable to temptation than the mind that is engaged in useful activity?
4. If "properly instructed," at what age are children old enough to "have correct views of their state as sinners and of the way of salvation through Christ"?

### **Chapter 37: Christian Education**

1. What is meant by the education of the “whole being”?
2. In what ways can Adventist schools “be of an altogether higher order” than worldly colleges and seminaries or even the schools of other churches?
3. What advantages come to children who do not begin school at too early an age?

### **Chapter 38: The Call to Temperate Living**

1. What is the relationship between “natural law” and the third angel’s message?
2. What is the role of health reform in preparing for the Second Coming of Christ?
3. How does harboring sin in the life impact one’s health?
4. Explain how the assurance of “security in Christ” improves physical health.

### **Chapter 39: The Importance of Cleanliness**

1. Explain the special uses of warm, neutral (tepid), cool, and cold baths.
2. What is the correlation between “scrupulous cleanliness” and physical, mental, and spiritual health?
3. It has been said that the lengthening of the human life span since the eighteenth century has resulted more from advances in sanitation and cleanliness than from advances in medical technology. Explain why you agree or disagree with this idea.

### **Chapter 40: The Food We Eat**

1. According to Genesis 1:29 and 3:18, what classes of foods were included in God’s original plan for humans? How can the diet be adapted to individual needs?
2. How long should the stomach rest between meals?
3. “One person cannot lay down an exact rule for another,” but all “should exercise reason and self-control, and should act from principle.” How would following this instruction change how persons relate to each other about health reform?
4. Since “diet reform should be progressive,” what are ideas that represent “progress” in healthy living?

### **Chapter 41: Flesh Foods**

1. Read Exodus 16:2-4, 12-16, 31 and Numbers 11:31-33. During the Exodus from Egypt, how did God reaffirm the value of the original diet?
2. What results came to Israel as a result of their rejection of the divinely appointed diet?
3. What additional factor makes flesh-eating “doubly objectionable” today?
4. Read Leviticus 3:17; 7:22-27; 11:1-23, 44-47. What additional prohibitions did God give to reduce the negative effects of flesh foods?
5. When flesh food is discarded, what should take its place? What situation makes “good cooking an essential requirement”?

### **Chapter 42: Faithfulness in Health Reform**

1. What spiritual goal for the “remnant people of God” undergirds the call to “simplicity in diet”?
2. When professed believers accept part of the prophetic counsel as a message from God, but reject parts “that condemn their favorite indulgences,” what are the results to them, to the church, and to unbelievers?
3. In presenting health reform to the public, what foods of animal origin may be recommended as good sources



of essential nutrients, especially for the poor and others lacking access to a wide variety of plant foods?

### **Chapter 43: The Church on Earth**

1. If evils exist in the church, and will until the end of time, how can the church be the light of the world? See Matthew 13:24-30, 36-40.
2. How is the church on earth united with the church in heaven? Mention several aspects they have in common.
3. Read 2 John 10-11; 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 14; Titus 3:10. How should we relate to persons who proclaim a message independent from and critical of the church?
4. What are the prerequisites for the sons and daughters of God to become channels of light?

### **Chapter 44: Church Organization**

1. Mention three similarities between ministers and soldiers, and between human believers and angels.
2. What “grave peril” attends those who “regard their individual judgment as supreme” and “neglect or despise those whom God has appointed” to lead the church?
3. Read 1 Timothy 5:17-22 and Titus 1:5-7. What correlations do you see between these Scriptures and your local church leadership?
4. How would you convince someone who has never attended a camp meeting or other large gathering of God’s people that the benefits of attendance far exceed the cost? What blessings have you received?

### **Chapter 45: The House of God**

1. Mention three attitudes that should prevail in the house of God and three attitudes that should be avoided.
2. Note the reactions of people when visited by divine agencies. Should we feel similarly in church? Why? Back your answer with Scripture. In what ways is worship in your church like or unlike the biblical examples that you found?
3. What are some ways that your church can promote and increase the attitude of reverence in the place of worship?
4. In regard to dressing for worship, how would “neat, clean, and orderly” be defined in your local church?

### **Chapter 46: Treatment of the Erring**

1. Considering the tact and tenderness required to lovingly correct the erring, why do you think we neglect such correction? Lack of sympathy? Lack of courage? Unwillingness to take time for the long conversations needed for gentle, yet thorough, correction?
2. The loss of “first love” in Revelation 2:4 refers partly to believers’ love for people. What relational behavior gives evidence of a “revival of the first love”?
3. In dealing with others, what three things should never occur? What lesson is taught by this threefold “never”?
4. What is Heaven’s prescribed procedure for dealing with the erring? What are the results of following it faithfully? See Leviticus 19:17-18; Proverbs 25:8-10; Matthew 18:15-17.

### **Chapter 47: The Observance of God’s Holy Sabbath**

1. Read Ezekiel 20:12, 20; John 17:3. List three purposes of the Sabbath.
2. Read Exodus 31:13-17; Isaiah 56:1-8; Hebrews 13:20; 4:9-10; Revelation 14:6-7. How do these passages link the Sabbath with the “perpetual” or “everlasting” covenant?

3. How can employers help their employees be ready for the Sabbath?
4. Make a list of Sabbath activities interesting to the various age groups in your family or church. Set a time early in the week to plan and prepare some of these for next Sabbath.

### **Chapter 48: Counsels on Stewardship**

1. In what ways does giving contribute to Christian growth?
2. Read Psalm 50:10-12. How does this passage show that God is not dependent upon humans for the support of His cause?
3. Read Luke 12:48; 2 Corinthians 8:2-4, 12-15. What principle of proportionate responsibility applies to both tithes and freewill offerings?

### **Chapter 49: The Christian Attitude Toward Want and Suffering**

1. What kind of behavior is conclusive evidence that “we have no assurance of eternal life”? See James 1:27; 2:1-10, 15-17; 1 John 3:16-22.
2. Why is it that “God cannot cooperate” in character development with those who neglect the poor and suffering?
3. Orphans are often placed in large institutions. Why is this “not the best plan” for their care?
4. “God calls not only for your benevolence, but for your cheerful countenance, your hopeful words, the grasp of your hand.” How might you put this counsel into practice?

### **Chapter 50: Christians in All the World Become One in Christ**

1. Why is it essential for diverse nationalities, cultures, and ethnic groups to “mingle together”?
2. What was accomplished by Stockbridge Howland’s kneeling before the fisherman? Is there anyone with whom you could be reconciled by humbling yourself?
3. Read 1 John 3:14, 15; 4:20, 21. If professed Christians cannot get along without continual friction and strife, what does it show about their claim to conversion?

### **Chapter 51: The Prayer Meeting**

1. “One or two minutes is long enough for any ordinary prayer.” Read Matthew 6:7-13. Is this statement supported in Matthew?
2. When are longer prayers appropriate? Can you cite some biblical examples of long sessions of prayer?
3. What physical posture reinforces our sense of reverence, humility, and dependence on God?
4. What blessing is promised to those who tell Jesus all their cares because they feel they “need the presence of Christ at every step”?

### **Chapter 52: Baptism**

1. Read Romans 6:3-11. In what sense is baptism a death, burial, and resurrection?
2. When faith goes beyond belief to full surrender, what mighty change takes place in the life? What results from a failure to lead the baptismal candidate to full surrender? See John 3:3-8 and Romans 8:1-17.
3. Who are to act as faithful shepherds and stewards to guide and guard baptized children?
4. What foundational elements of prebaptismal instruction are absolutely essential but often neglected?

### **Chapter 53: The Lord's Supper**

1. What parallels can you identify between the Passover and the Lord's Supper?
2. Explain the purpose of the foot washing in relation to the Lord's Supper.
3. What changes in spirit, thought, and attitude are to take place at the foot washing?
4. Read Luke 22:15-18 and 1 Corinthians 11:26. To what two events does the Communion service point?

### **Chapter 54: Prayer for the Sick**

1. Read James 5:15. What special expression of faith and obedience are we invited to use with the prayer for healing? Note that the first verb can be translated "heal" or "save," and the second verb can mean "raise up" from the sickbed or "raise up" in the resurrection.
2. Is Christ as able to heal today as He was during His earthly ministry? Why, then, are not all healed?
3. Read Hebrews 11:21-22; 35-39 and Revelation 14:13. If you do not receive a direct and immediate answer to prayer, does this imply that your faith is defective?
4. Read Isaiah 28:21. When praying for healing, is it a denial of faith to also use remedial agencies?

### **Chapter 55: The Medical Work**

1. Read Matthew 10:7, 8. What was "Christ's way of presenting truth," the way that "cannot be improved upon"?
2. What two lines of ministry are to "blend" in Adventist healthcare institutions?
3. What combination of vocations is most effective for evangelism?
4. What kind of medical missionary work can be done by a person who has no special medical training? See Matthew 10:42; 25:34-40.

### **Chapter 56: Relations with Those Not of Our Persuasion**

1. What two conditions should determine whether we mingle with unbelievers?
2. What counsel of Jesus is particularly relevant to associations with ministers of other denominations? See Matthew 10:16; Mark 9:38-40; Luke 9:49-56; John 10:16.
3. For what class of people is Christ especially interceding, and for whom should Adventist ministers be especially praying and laboring?

### **Chapter 57: Our Relations to Civil Rulers and Laws**

1. What should be the attitude of believers toward civil authorities?
2. In what specific case are believers justified in disregarding civil law? See Acts 4:19, 20; 5:29.
3. When laws are passed compelling Sunday observance, how should Adventists respond?

### **Chapter 58: Satan's Deceptive Work**

1. What role does prayer play in the battle for the soul? How do Satan and his host react to fervent prayer?
2. From the story of King Ahaziah in 2 Kings 1, what lessons can we learn about deliberately venturing onto Satan's ground?
3. Read Matthew 4:1-11. Satan does not approach people now in the same way that he did with Christ in the wilderness of temptation. How and why has he changed his strategy? What are his goals?
4. Give practical examples to show why it is impossible to serve two masters.

### **Chapter 59: False Science—Satan’s Modern Robe of Light**

1. How can a person evaluate the true character and tendency of knowledge that claims to be light?
2. How do “spiritualistic theories concerning God” make of no effect the power of the blood of Christ and undermine the whole plan of salvation?
3. Satan’s strategies will change in the future. What form(s) will they take? What is his primary purpose in changing them?
4. Read Revelation 2:4, 5. What spirit destroys “first love” and needs to be repented of?

### **Chapter 60: Satan’s Lying Wonders**

1. Mesmerism and animal magnetism were forms of hypnotism. Why are these and similar types of practices wrong? What are the results of yielding the mind to the control of another human?
2. Phrenology was a nineteenth-century theory of character analysis based on the shape of one’s head. What was phrenology used for? Why are practices such as phrenology wrong?
3. What does Scripture say about the dead in Ecclesiastes 9:5? If you accept this text as truth, who are those who pretend to be “dead friends now angels in a higher sphere”?

### **Chapter 61: The Coming Crisis**

1. Read Hebrews 3:7, 8, 15. When is the time to prepare for life’s crises?
2. What is the difference, if any, between patterning after people who follow Christ and patterning after Christ Himself?
3. How is the seal of God especially connected with the seventh-day Sabbath? See Revelation 7:1-4; 14:9-12.
4. Read Exodus 14 and Luke 23:43. How do these examples illustrate how God chose to use extreme and desperate circumstances for the “manifestation of His power”?

### **Chapter 62: The Sifting Time**

1. Why will God’s angels help one person and leave another during the sifting or shaking time? See 2 Chronicles 15:2; James 4:5-10; 1 Peter 4:17; 5:8-10.
2. What is the “testimony upon which the destiny of the church hangs”? Why has this testimony been “lightly esteemed, if not entirely disregarded”? See Revelation 3:14-22.
3. How long will confederacies of opposition to God’s message continue?
4. How can you prepare for the shaking or sifting time?

### **Chapter 63: Some Things to Remember**

1. Why does Providence keep the righteous and the ungodly in contact to the very end?
2. What knowledge should cause Adventists to “fear and tremble” for their own souls and the souls of others?
3. Read Matthew 24:48-51. What attitude causes many to yield to Satan in their heart, even though they appear “outwardly devoted to the service of God”?
4. Why is the promise, “Ask and it will be given to you,” of special importance in these last days? How does this promise help us to deal with our doubts and fears? See Matthew 7:7-12 and Luke 11:9-13.

### **Chapter 64: Christ Our Great High Priest**

1. Read Hebrews 4:14-16; 7:24-25. What is the foundation of the Seventh-day Adventist faith? Explain your answer.

2. Read Exodus 25:8, 9; 2 Chronicles 6:18-21; Hebrews 8-10. How do these passages show that the earthly sanctuary was a type of the original that is in heaven? Read Revelation 1:12; 6:9; 11:1, 2, 19. Name some of the objects that John saw in the heavenly sanctuary.
3. For Satan, “everything depends on his diverting minds from Jesus” as the “atoning sacrifice and an all-powerful Mediator.” What are some of the diversions Satan tries to use in your life, and how have you been able to resist them? See 2 Corinthians 4:3, 4.
4. Christ says in Matthew 11:30 that “My yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” In our day-to-day lives, how are Jesus’ yoke and burden easier than the alternative? See Proverbs 13:15; Acts 26:14.

### **Chapter 65: Joshua and the Angel**

1. In the vision of Zechariah 3, we recognize the figure of Satan. Whom do Joshua and the Angel represent? What do the “filthy garments” symbolize?
2. What are at least three benefits that would result if the veil separating the visible and invisible worlds could be lifted to directly reveal God’s work to rescue humans from sin?
3. Read Zechariah 3:4. Why are the new garments not simply placed over the old? What implications does this have for our lives?

### **Chapter 66: “Behold, I Come Quickly”**

1. Describe the methods and the sense of urgency of Adventists in 1843-44. How should our motivation compare with theirs?
2. By permitting natural disasters and other calamities, what does God seek to accomplish?
3. 1 Corinthians 13:12 proposes that in heaven “things hard to be understood will then find explanation.” When you get to heaven, what is one thing you would most want to ask Jesus?
4. “We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.” Review some of your own experiences of God’s leading in your life.