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Some people aspire to be leaders—class officers, mayors, governors, church leaders, the CEO of a multi-billion dollar company, and the president of a country. Others shy away from responsibilities saying they can’t handle it or they don’t like to be in the limelight. But what does it really mean to be a leader? Does this mean that you get to command everyone around and get paid the most?

The mission of AIIAS is to develop leaders through distinctively Seventh-day Adventist graduate education excelling in spirituality, scholarship, and service. So, what qualities make a leader? As you read the following articles, you will discover what it means to be a leader and the challenges that come with leadership.

Behind every successful event, prestigious company, and winning strategy stands a leader who guides, motivates, and succeeds through challenges. Good leaders have a vision that can address the urgent needs of people yet are also disciplined to differentiate right from wrong and safety from danger. Leaders demonstrate excellence, possess rich insights, and develop other people’s potential to achieve goals and build trust. A servant leader addresses the needs of others while and focuses primarily on their well-being.

In this issue, we feature leaders in the academic world whose knowledge and passion have directed them to continue serving in Christ’s ministry. You will read about AIIAS students who have taken an extra mile to lead and help those who are in need—physically, mentally, or spiritually. You will leaf through ideas about leadership and its impact on society.

Learn about how philanthropy can make you smile. Read more about servant leadership. Find that seeking God’s path in leadership is essential in successful goal setting. Discover what leaders should do when faced with challenges. Seek guidance from the scriptures and from the advice of seasoned leaders here at AIIAS who have, through the years, gained vast experience in different fields.

I hope this issue of Flags will inspire you as you advance through your leadership journey. Whether you are already a leader or just aspiring to be one, remember that the Lord will bring you to the waiting world only if you say, “Lord, here I am, send me.”
Having lived in several countries in Asia, I have sometimes encountered beggar children that come to my car in ragged clothing, holding out their hands for a coin. I have mixed feelings about encouraging begging, so sometimes I just ignore them. Other times I’m more compassionate and give them a coin.

One day I was sitting in my car at a stoplight, and I saw some kids begging at the cars in front of me, and I wondered about the largest gift they had ever gotten and the stories they had to tell about that.

On a whim, I decided to give the child that came to my window the equivalent of $10. Although $10 was not a great amount of money for me, it was of great wealth to the child who probably wouldn’t get that much in a year. I gave it to a raggedy little girl. The child was delighted. Her face lit up and she danced about and ran to tell her friends.

The light turned green and I had to go, but the memory of her delighted face remains with me. It was a satisfying feeling, a cheap thrill, and it inspires me to do it again just for the joy of seeing the excitement on someone’s face.

In the Bible, we read several stories like that. You know them well. Jesus is by the pool of Bethesda. He sees a man who has been crippled since he was a child. Jesus has compassion on him and heals him. He then watches the man jumping and laughing and showing everyone that he has been healed. I can just imagine the smile on Jesus’ face.

Remember the funeral procession that Jesus and his disciples came across? They saw a widow whose only son had died. The mother was devastated. The whole village was there empathizing with her. Jesus sees the situation and thinks to himself, “Wouldn’t it be great to just bring this boy back to life and give him to his mother and see the look on her face?” And so, he does it. He stands there beaming with joy, watching the mother embracing her son, now with tears of joy streaming down her face.

Then there was the time Peter and John went to the temple. There was a beggar, lame from birth, waiting for someone to give him a coin. Jesus calls to Peter and John. Peter knows that they don’t have any money, but he also knows the power of God and steps forward and takes the man by the hand, and in the name of Jesus, lifts him up and heals him. Walking and leaping and praising God, the healed man enters the temple to everyone’s surprise. Peter and John are there smiling, enjoying the delight of what God has done through them.

God has given us opportunities to bless others and knowing the joy that it brings.
This is the joy of philanthropy. It is the satisfaction of knowing and seeing what God does through our generous, gracious gifts. Imagine experiencing the joy that Jesus, Peter, and John had in healing and blessing those people. Wouldn’t you like to experience those smiles knowing God has done some good thing through you?

Throughout the Bible, there are verses encouraging God’s people to engage in gracious, sometimes sacrificial giving. Here is just one. “The righteous will be remembered forever. He will not fear evil tidings; . . . He has given freely to the poor; His righteousness endures forever; His name will be exalted in honor” (Psalm 112:5–9).

God has given us opportunities to bless others and to have that Godly satisfaction of seeing and knowing the joy that it brings. When it happens to you, it becomes very habit forming and you want to do it again. It’s a gift from God to have that experience. It’s a Christian value. The Bible says that Jesus lived to bless others. God calls us to do the same.

In servant leadership, it is service that justifies the basis for position and leadership. He who serves best, leads best. Isn’t that why God deserves to be God above all? He is our Creator, Sustainer, and Savior who blesses us continually. He calls us to lives of service, lives that bless others. He graciously gives us the satisfaction of seeing the smiles of joy that it brings through us.

You would think that at an international graduate institution like AIIAS, the students would all be well supported with scholarships and sponsorships. But the truth is, there are surprisingly many whose resources have run short. Some actually need help with their food and living expenses. You might enjoy the smile of satisfaction by giving a scholarship for worthy students. I know it would bring a smile to the student, and would make God smile as well.

For more information on how to give to AIIAS, visit https://www.aiias.edu/aiias-scholarship-fund
My first contact with AIIAS was through a promotional leaflet that somehow got into my hands as I was leaving church in Harare, Zimbabwe years ago. Because of that, I am a firm believer in the value of promotional materials which is why I saw a service request from Zambia as an opportunity to promote AIIAS there.

The occasion was a week-long camp meeting for Kabulonga Mission District under the leadership of Pastor Mulendema where members of the four churches in the district were camped. The meetings were held in Lusaka, the Zambian capital which also has the highest density of Seventh-day Adventists of any major city in the world. The highest attendance was on Sabbath, with a turnout of about 5,000 attendees. This is the day on which AIIAS promotion was done with prior arrangement with the pastor as well as the leaders of the program.

A brief introduction on AIIAS was given, highlighting the on campus and online programs offered by the institution, its excellence in academics and service, as well as its being a melting pot of cultures from all around the world. After this promotion, all four of the education secretaries from the gathered churches were called to the front and each was given 25 copies of the latest Flags to share with their respective churches. The education secretaries were each given folders containing copies of Flags Magazine, application forms, and business cards with contact details of the institution. Some of the promotional materials were given to the Conference education director and the executive secretary, the district pastor, and the other leaders.

The 110 copies of Flags that were distributed proved to be limited as many were still unable to receive a copy of the publication.

There was one pastor who expressed strong interest to study at AIIAS who said “I have always wanted to study at AIIAS. I know it may not be easy for me to get the necessary approval for the study leave I will need, but I also know that the Lord can make a way. One day I will be at AIIAS,” shared Pastor Mazaka*

A few other persons expressed their desire to one day study in AIIAS. At least one person is already working hard to make this dream a reality.

*Name changed for privacy

About 5,000 church members attend the Sabbath worship at a camp meeting in Lusaka, Zambia, where AIIAS is promoted via printed materials.

Church members attending a camp meeting in Lusaka, Zimbabwe, pose for a photo with Flags in their hands.
The General Youth Leadership Congress in Kassel, Germany, from July 31 to August 3, 2018, brings together AIIAS Alumni (left to right), Gerald Stroek ’14, Schick Wolfgang ’18, Keo Rivera ’12, Hyun Joon Woo ’18, Kemil Yalyshev ’18, and Bruce Sumendap ’00.

AIIAS MBA Student, Denise Saludo (center), gathers with AIIAS Alumni (left to right) Koberson Langhu ’18, Samuel Martinez ’17, and Hamengamon Kharsynniang ’17 in Spicer Adventist University, India.

Union communication and media leaders from Indonesia, Harry Waworuntu ’98, David Panjaitan ’05, and Michael Palar ’10, meets for the Global Adventist Internet (GAIN) Conference in Goyang, South Korea.

AIIAS Chaplain Mi Hyang Song, meets Il Hoe Koo ’14 and Myeong Ho Park ’06 at the AIIAS Booth in Kintex Exhibit Hall, Goyang, South Korea, during the International Mission Congress, August 5, 2018.

AIIAS Alumni, (left) Edward Moyo ’12 and (right) Warren Simatele ’15, both professors at Rusangu University in Zambia, pose a photo during a visit of AIIAS student, Watson Mbiniri (second from the left).

AIIAS PR Administrator, Bruce Sumendap meets AIIAS Korean Alumni Association President, Sang Rak Lee ’87 in Goyang, South Korea.

WE CARRY YOU ALONG: ALUMNI SNAPSHOT

Alumni Connection

AIIAS is a global community, and we would like to hear from you:

email us at flags@aiias.edu

or write to

Flags, AIIAS, Lalaan I, Silang, Cavite 4118 Philippines

ALUMNI ➤ Send news that can be shared in upcoming issues of Flags. Please include your picture, full name (indicate if it has changed since you were at AIIAS), degree completed at AIIAS, and year of graduation.

FORMER FACULTY AND STAFF ➤ Send us your recent photo, the dates that you were at AIIAS, your position, your current mailing address and e-mail address, along with any news notes for publication in Flags.

EVERYONE ➤ Come be a part of AIIAS with the many opportunities to become involved! More information is available at www.aiias.edu and on Facebook: www.facebook.com/aiias.

AIIAS offers services for students including scholarships. Financial support is greatly appreciated. It will help students have an opportunity to experience AIIAS as they prepare to further God’s work throughout the world. Tax-deductible donations may be sent to:

AIIAS, c/o Treasury
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike,
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EQUIPPED WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

BY STKESWORTH SHADEED

STUDENT-LED MISSION TRIP TO MINDORO ISLAND PROVIDES FIRST HAND EXPERIENCE OF HAVING “A HEART FOR MISSION”
The slogan “Graduate Education with a Heart for Mission” is part and parcel of the AIIAS Seminary and Graduate school. Inspired by the passion of our professors and fellow students for mission, the AIIAS Student Association (SA) officers decided to initiate a student mission trip to keep the fire of the AIIAS slogan burning. This trip was planned to provide students with an opportunity to serve outside of their comfort zones, as well as to prepare them for future ministry in the ripe harvest fields of the Master. It was also to be an opportunity to share our knowledge and resources, to work together, and to build and strengthen relationships.

Concerning the selection of the location for this trip, it was brought to the attention of the SA officers that there was a people group on the island of Mindoro that was in need of the services that AIIAS students are equipped to provide. The necessary connections and preparations were then made by AIIAS Seminary student, Albert B. Camingao III, and Lantuyan Baco district pastor, Hanz John Bacolod, while the SA officers recruited willing students to embark on this mission.

On December 20, 2018, 22 student missionaries along with our sponsor and AIIAS Seminary student, Liang Chuanshan set out on a four-day mission trip to Lantuyan Baco, Oriental Mindoro with the determination to share the love of Jesus through meaningful service. Our small but enthusiastic group engaged in activities such as community cleanup, lectures on health and hygiene, stewardship, and agriculture. We fed the local community and distributed clothes, dietary supplements, and medicine. We also engaged in children’s ministries, health screening, distributing gospel tracts, and ministry of the Word. More than 150 individuals were directly benefited by this outreach. The barangay officials welcomed us to their office and expressed their appreciation for our willingness to serve their people. The local community leaders and church elders also expressed their gratitude to our group for the services that were provided as well as for our commitment to continue sharing the love of Jesus with others.

The people of Lantuyan Baco were grateful for our ministry. I believe that we were blessed by their warm reception, humility, and dedication. At the pinnacle of our journey, we arrived at the mountain village of Bituin. After climbing a steep and slippery path, we were amazed to see that the only permanent structure on the mountainside was a large Seventh-day Adventist church. The church was constructed by the villagers who carried all of the building materials up that steep mountain with their hands. It was a great blessing to witness such dedication and to serve and fellowship with the people of Lantuyan Baco. It is also a great privilege to learn at AIIAS where we can practically experience graduate education with a heart for mission.
Behind every successful student is a teacher who strives for one to succeed. Dr. Arceli Rosario is one of them. She has a 36-year experience in mentoring students in the secondary, college, and postgraduate levels. Her rich background in leadership positions include serving as vice president for academic affairs at Mountain View College and president of South Philippine Adventist College. She has served at AIIAS for seven years as faculty in the Graduate School and chair of the Education Department.

Dr. Rosario holds a PhD in Education with a major in educational administration. Her research interests include leadership and educational administration, church issues, plight of marginalized groups, and qualitative research. She teaches educational administration and TESOL courses. She has served as executive secretary of the Asian Qualitative Research Association (AQRA).

We asked Dr. Rosario about her thoughts on leadership.

Flags: So what has inspired you to become a leader? Who did you look up to?

My mother. My understanding of leadership was shaped by the way she lived her life. She would say, “This week, we will do this and that.” And she made sure that what we agreed to do was done. There were times my sister and I would say, “Nay, we’re tired;” but she’d prod us to keep on: “We’re almost done. Hold on for a little while.” Or we’d say, “This stuff is too heavy.” “Okay, add some of your stuff to my load.” She was always positive and encouraging and willing to make a sacrifice. I grew up in a home that was solution-driven. You see a problem, you find a solution. You don’t whine; you don’t complain; you do your work cheerfully. My mother told us stories—every night, without fail. We slept to the rise and fall of her sweet voice. Every story was a rich treasure of life lessons. In addition to the power of her life, I learned what leadership is from the characters in her stories. She only finished third grade, but she was an avid reader. She’d say, “Fill your head with knowledge. One of the best ways to do that is to read.” I understood the wisdom of her words later—if you read, you lead.

Leadership is influence. It is not position. It is one’s way of thinking and behaving. A person may not have a position but when he or she is able to influence others to achieve a goal, then that person is a leader.

| Flags: What is your definition of leadership? |
| Leadership is influence. It is not position. It is one’s way of thinking and behaving. A person may not have a position but when he or she is able to influence others to achieve a goal, then that person is a leader. |

| Flags: What kind of leadership did your mother exhibit as your role model in leadership? |
| I would say my mother was a transformational leader. She had a very powerful vision of what we should be, she modeled to us positive values, she encouraged us to always give our best, she challenged us to aspire higher than we thought we were capable of and she was generous with praise. One time, she sat beside me and with the wonderment of a child, she exclaimed, “How fast you do that! Your hands are gifted.” |

FacUtLy FoCUs: ArCeLi Rosario

By Ebenezer Danquah & Sharnie Love Zamora
**Flags: What is your ideal type of leader?**

I admire leaders who are driven by a powerful vision, are able to articulate it to other stakeholders, and can translate it to action; leaders who have the courage to question why I am doing something in a certain way and to correct me if I’m wrong; leaders who do not have any affectation, who are able to connect with all types of humanity and empathize with the plight of the disadvantaged and marginalized.

**Flags: Do you have any unforgettable experiences or moments in your leadership?**

When I was a principal, my biggest concern was that I did not feel competent to deal with disciplinary issues. One Friday afternoon, I was informed that a group of boys had had a drinking session. How to find out who these boys were was a big dilemma for me. I asked God to fill my inadequacies. On Monday morning, a group of boys asked if they could talk with me at my office. When we were at the office, one boy came. This boy would always come to share with me just almost anything. So I told him to go and come back at another time but he stood by the door and would not go away. I repeated that he should go as I had visitors. He said softly, “Ma’am, please don’t send me away. I am one of them.” The boys confessed that they were the ones who had had a drinking session and that they were willing to receive the consequences of their violation. God assured me through this experience that my shortcomings are His enablings.

**Flags: What gift has God given you so that students would come and be honest about what they have done?**

I think the gift of trust, of being trustworthy. When people see that they can trust you, they will come and tell you what you need to know.

**Flags: What challenges have you faced or may still be facing as a leader?**

My biggest challenge is myself. As I look back, I wished I had the courage to ask people how my performance impacted them. I believe I could have done better had I asked that question.

**Flags: Are there any areas that you would like to improve as a leader?**

Daily I strive to continue to grow as a person, to find my purpose and do it, to develop a high sense of self, and to effectively navigate through the intricacies of human relationships.

**Flags: What has helped to shape you to become a better leader?**

The Bible. The deep truths there are wisdom and life. They are relevant for all human problems.

**Flags: How are you training your students in the Education Department to grow with these traits of leadership?**

At AIIAS our mission is very clear—to develop leaders, not only intellectually, not only for the degree, but in all aspects of life. In the Education Department, we teach the art and science of leadership. The classroom is a very good platform where we can talk about concepts and experiences. And because we live together in one campus, we have lots of opportunities to model how to act and live as a leader. We also conduct training for leaders, curriculum and instruction, and teaching English. We organize research conferences, conduct research as teams, go for mission trips, and do many things together. We develop leaders not only in the traditional sense, but leaders whose decisions and actions are informed by research.

I would encourage everyone to intentionally develop their leadership skills. I believe God calls us to be leaders—in our homes, in the church, in our workplaces. It is a blessing to be a leader—to have the mind and the heart of a leader. It changes the way we see the world; it changes the way we live our lives.
“Some leaders are born; and some are made” is an old saying. From Biblical times until modern corporate times, we see different styles of leadership. However, there are certain characteristics of leaders that I have come to appreciate.

Transformational leadership typically inspires employees by creating a stimulating environment. Teachers prefer leaders who take care of teachers’ problems as well as provide ample opportunities to help them develop their expertise through intellectual stimulation.

I also appreciate it when visionary leaders enhance and encourage the performance of the teachers to an optimum level of expectations. Some of the specific skill areas of transformational leaders are being authentic, accountable, anointed, affirming, and accredited.

When a leader approaches a strong-willed teacher with authenticity, it encourages them to move forward. Teachers prefer a leader whom they can rely on without a second thought. A strong shoulder with a great focus is a leadership quality to be admired. Once the teacher feels the assurance of their leader, they are ready to try and execute their plans for the benefit of the students. An ideal leader is one who is always concerned about you. Teachers need someone who consistently expects accountability, not with a ruler with but with an understanding mind to help the teacher improve. Teachers also need a spiritual figure as a leader.

A school leader should present oneself to their teachers with fullness of the Spirit of the Lord. (Luke 4:18, 19) Teachers value leaders who stand by their side and affirm and boost their work to accomplish their vision-oriented goals. Teachers desire a leader who stands by the principles of God and inspires the team to move forward for the glory of God. These are the characteristic features that teachers appreciate in a leader to help us to attain the vision that God has bestowed upon each one of us.
Ingredients of a Godly Leader

Leadership does not only focus on leading subordinates but also transforming the institution by leading the right way. In transformational leadership, a leader would inspire, motivate, and engage people with the vision of an organization. Leadership is empowering others with the ability to solve problems in a creative way. As Seventh-day Adventist leaders, we are to exhibit the essential ingredients of Godly leadership. There are a few essential ingredients that would motivate leadership into action:

A. THE SOUL OF A SERVANT. Servant leadership is counting oneself less important and elevating others. Christ, Himself, set aside His heavenly attributes and took the penalty for sin to redeem humankind. As the Apostle Paul put it, “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 2:3-5).

B. GODLY MOTIVATION. A leader’s motivation should be driven by God. Jesus has set an example where His motivation is to do the will of His Father. “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work.” (John 4:34).

C. FOCUS ON JESUS. Leaders are to focus their eyes on Christ, and influence others to do the same. Looking to Jesus as the source of all wisdom in all things would bring success and adoration to His wonderful name.

D. HUMBLE. Humility is like a mild aromatic spice that engulfs the heart of a Godly leader. Godly leaders should exhibit humility, honesty, and integrity in their work and daily actions.

E. LEADING OTHERS TO DISCOVER IDENTITY IN CHRIST. Godly leaders are to share their own testimony and lead by being examples for others to walk in their footsteps. Godly leaders are to be real with their followers and help them walk with the Lord as they face challenges.

In conclusion, Christian leadership is founded on the Word of God and the principles laid down by our Creator, the Sustainer of all humankind. Leaders are to love, impact, and lead their followers to Christ.
A IIAS is in the business of training leaders. The institution’s Mission Statement is clear—To develop leaders through distinctively Seventh-day Adventist graduate education, excelling in spirituality, scholarship, and service.

There are several traits that would-be leaders should consider. Among those are gracious people skills. Personnel are often the greatest asset of an enterprise. Leaders must draw around them good, capable people whom they can trust and to whom they can delegate responsibility.

Seeking God’s Path in Leadership

By Stephen Guptill
Seeking wisdom from God is the most vital leadership task. It overshadows all else.

Leaders should lead by example in their personal, professional, and spiritual lives, showing people the way by modeling it themselves.

Next, leaders must have the information necessary to make good decisions. They must know where to gather the information they need. It may be from people sources or from the documents of the institution. Well informed leaders are more likely to make wise choices and avoid mistakes.

Rear Admiral Grace Murray Hopper stated that leaders manage things, but lead people. Leaders today must do both. They must support their personnel with the facilities, resources, and information, but they must also inspire and motivate them.

Every leader should plead with God for wisdom. God does not assess potential leaders as we might expect. God may call a fisherman or a king. Seeking wisdom from God, is the most vital leadership task. It overshadows all else.

Let’s consider a few principles of Christian leadership from the life of Nehemiah. When Nehemiah was led to rebuild the walls in Jerusalem, he spent days in prayer, seeking God’s will.

Nehemiah’s prayers accepted ownership for the sins of his people. He could have tried to separate himself from those who had failed to follow God, but he didn’t. Servant leaders carry the blame of others for mistakes, but distribute the praise for any success.

Nehemiah earned the trust of the king from a track record of Godly trustworthy service. Only because of this was the king willing to trust his life to a foreign cupbearer whose country his nation had destroyed. Leaders must earn trust if they want to be heard and respected.

Nehemiah did his homework before going to the king. He calculated what he would need in terms of supplies, transportation, and protection for his task. When the king asked what he wanted, Nehemiah was ready for a carefully considered response.

Leaders must prepare meticulously before addressing issues, solving problems, or talking with donors.

Nehemiah’s approach to the leaders in Jerusalem showed his efforts to win consensus in the task of building the wall. Rather than asserting his authority from the King, he inspired the Jerusalem leaders with the importance of the task and then rallied their support. Next, he divided the work among the different families, distributing responsibility, and building ownership.

Nehemiah faced internal and external challenges that could have distracted him from the primary task, but he focused on priorities. We recall his famous words, “I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down. Why should the work cease while I leave it and go down to you?” (Nehemiah 6:3)

Following the completion of the wall, we see Nehemiah leading a spiritual revival in Jerusalem. He assembled the people and had the scriptures read to them. The people were moved by the words from the scriptures and wept and confessed their sins. He led them to be faithful in their Sabbath observance.

In summary, servant leaders seek God’s path to guide their work, developing people skills, gathering essential information, and seeking God’s wisdom.

The challenge is to develop and use these skills in consideration of God’s call for leaders.
Former British Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, mused, “Being powerful is like being a lady. If you have to tell people you are, you aren’t!” Leadership can be very alluring but tricky. It comes with the influence, the spotlight, the power—and yet, it comes with a cost, which, if unpaid, will lead to failure. It is true not only in politics or business; it applies to every social situation, big or small, certainly to the spiritual realm and church life as well.

Jesus was on His final journey to Jerusalem, fully aware of what awaited Him there. He had forewarned His disciples about His death and resurrection, yet they had missed the point entirely. As Jesus was about to enter Jerusalem, with crowds progressively excited about the prospects of re-establishing the Davidic kingdom and ridding Israel from the hated Romans, two of His disciples, John and James, see a unique opportunity to secure for themselves leadership positions in the new ecclesiastical government. Carpe Diem! They approach Jesus in private and present their request to Him. “Jesus, we want to be part of Your leadership team, we desire to be important and work for You.”

In response, Jesus poses a strange question: “Can you drink the cup I drink...?” (Mark 10:38).

What was Jesus talking about? What cup? A clue is found in the garden of Gethsemane. Wrestling with the weight of our sin that’s about to be placed on His shoulders, in ultimate anguish, Jesus exclaims: “Abba, Father,... everything is possible for You. Take this

“If I want to be used by God, if I desire His power and seek spiritual influence—I need to experience brokenness.”
“Can you drink the cup I drink...?” The cup is the brokenness of Jesus. His body broken for those who rejected Him, His life blood poured out for those who dishonored Him. A true leader!

If you are a leader or someone who aspires to become one. Jesus asks you the same question “Can you, will you drink the cup? Will you allow your heart and soul to be broken for Me sometimes by the very people you’re supposed to lead? Will you allow Me to reshape your being so that you’re fit to lead My sheep?” Peter had to be broken before Jesus commissioned him to take care of His flock. Paul had to experience it too, before he could become the powerful messenger of the gospel.

Perhaps the greatest example of brokenness, aside from Jesus, is King David. He spent many years being hunted down by Saul, whose honor and life he had saved, persecuted for no fault of his own. He had to hide in caves barely escaping with his life.

“These were David’s darkest hours. We know them as the days before he became king, but he didn’t. He may have assumed this was his lot forever. Suffering was giving birth. Humility was being born. By earthly measure he was a shattered man; by heaven’s measure, a broken one.”

If I want to be used by God and if I desire His power and seek spiritual influence, I need to experience brokenness. There is no way around it. “Can you drink My cup?” Jesus asks me today, “Will you drink it, so that I can do within you something that you cannot do for yourself?” Jesus drank the big cup so that I would be able to drink my small cup, experiencing healing and transformation, readied to be a spiritual leader for God’s kingdom.

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A Glimpse of the Parables of JESUS

STUDENTS USE CREATIVE WAYS TO ENHANCE WEEK OF PRAYER EXPERIENCE

BY RAFAEL BAMPI DE OLIVEIRA/SHARNIE LOVE ZAMORA

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ince AIIAS is a place that nurtures leaders, it seeks to model spiritual patterns for the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church. The Student Association (SA) used innovative ideas as they planned the Week of Prayer themed, "The Parables of Jesus" on September 9–15, 2018.

The speaker of the Week of Prayer is the president of Friedensau Adventist University in Germany, Prof. Dr. Roland Fischer. Having experience and training in practical theology, as well as a rich pastoral background, Fischer touched on several of Jesus’ parables and presented a series of practical lessons from them. One distinct style of his preaching was to illustrate the parables by showing paintings by renowned artists.

“Jesus wants us to seek and earnestly search for His kingdom. If you receive the kingdom of God, you have to give back your old life by giving yourself to Christ. Seek first the kingdom and His righteousness, but thank God that He sought and found us first,” appealed Fischer.

The attendees of the Week of Prayer were blessed by the presentations. “Prof. Dr. Fischer was able to present the broad parables of Jesus in a detailed yet simple manner. His presentations were constructive with an introduction, development, body, and conclusion which helped to make it easy to retain and understand,” said Edivaldo Abel, a business student from the AIIAS Graduate School.

The SA Officers worked together in teams that coordinated all the necessary tasks for the event. The program and decoration teams provided continuous flow for the daily sessions. The prayer, music, and communion teams led the congregation in songs and solemn worship.

This Week of Prayer stood out with background stage panels depicting the blue skies which helped to set the scenery. A replica of the altar of incense was placed in the center of the church for special prayer requests during the evening prayer sessions. A replica of a Galilean fishing boat was built as an extension of the stage from where the speaker stood and preached on Jesus’ parables. The boat had two fish nets extended sideways where attendees brought their offerings and donations.

“Since I worked with the SA in organizing the event, I can see how God has worked miracles and enveloped our imperfections with His glory. Everything was timely and the messages were just on point. I also think that the elaborate preparations made an impression on the students that we are taking spiritual events with importance, and that our spiritual life as students at AIIAS really matters, not only our academics,” shares Lovely Sabsal, SA treasurer.

With the help of the Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA) Philippines and God’s Basket Ministry, these donations were distributed to those who were facing financial challenges in AIIAS and for those affected by Typhoon Ompong that made landfall in the northern Philippines.

Through the Week of Prayer, AIIAS aims to set higher standards for spiritual events on campus and to encourage attendees to replicate creative ideas and concepts in their home countries, local churches, and institutions.
To accommodate the increasing number of student housing needs, Tower R, the 18th student tower on the campus of Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIIAS) was inaugurated.

On October 1, 2018, AIIAS administrators, students, faculty, and staff gathered to celebrate and appreciate those who had contributed to the newly constructed addition on campus.

The new tower has 16 three-bedroom units. Each unit has two bathrooms, a granite kitchen countertop, and a built-in study desk. Tower R will provide on-campus accommodation for students who have come to AIIAS with their families.

Student Association 2018-2019 President Sanned Lubani remarked, “First, the construction of this tower confirms AIIAS administration’s commitment to the provision of decent accommodation for its students and their families. Second, the tower is also a confirmation of the selfless leadership God has given to AIIAS. Let us show how much we appreciate this favor by taking care of the housing units, by being responsible.”

The tower’s construction began in June 2017 through the commitment of the AIIAS Board and Administration to provide safe and comfortable accommodations for the students and through the generous donations from anonymous donors, the Southern Asia-Pacific Division, Northern Asia-Pacific Division, family, friends, and from the AIIAS Plant Fund.

“We give glory to God because it is He who has willed and made this possible. God provided this new tower so that workers in His cause would be trained and prepared to go out and to serve Him,” said AIIAS President, Dr. Stephen Guptill during his acknowledgment speech.

The AIIAS Administration thanks the donors and the combined efforts of Architect Augie dela Paz and his labor force; Mr. Elmer Brofas, AIIAS Physical Plant Director and his team; the Information Technology staff directed by Mr. Miguel Taipe, IT director; and many others who contributed to the construction of the new tower.
Recapturing the Importance of Making Disciples for Jesus

AIIAS THEOLOGICAL FORUM BECOMES A COMMON GROUND FOR EXPRESSING PRACTICAL CONCERNS AND THEOLOGICAL INSIGHTS

BY PAVEL ZUBKOV

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, says Jesus to His followers (Matthew 28:19). How well does the Seventh-day Adventist church respond to that charge? Along with the astounding number of more than 1.3 million newly baptized members for 2017, the church reports the alarming net loss rate of 42% which means four out of every 10 church members are slipping away. In response to the retention challenge in the Adventist church, the AIIAS Seminary dedicated its 21st Annual Theological Forum to the topic of making and growing disciples for Christ in a three-day event which took place in AIIAS on November 10, 2018.

According to the keynote speaker, Dr. G.T. Ng, executive secretary of the Seventh-day Adventist Church world headquarters, the topic of discipleship is “most contemporary, because it is the present issue.” “We’ve realised it for many years,” he added, “but we chose to keep silent.” “This forum is long overdue,” said Dr. Erik Carter, assistant professor and chair for Relational Studies in the School of Religion, Loma Linda University. This was proven to be true by the outstanding attendance of 330 delegates from the Philippines and beyond. Pastors, theologians, practitioners, and seasoned researchers shared their ideas about growing people through mentorship, prayer, Bible study, and other discipleship practices.

Oftentimes the church, in a fervent effort to carry out mission, gets preoccupied with the number of baptisms, thus compromising the quality of discipleship. “Number becomes the yardstick of success, but it misses the point,” noted Dr. Bienvenido Mergal, vice president for Nurture, Discipleship, Reclamation and Integrated Evangelism Lifestyle in the Southern Asia-Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventists. “A ‘numbers game’ produces inflated membership and shallow disciples or ‘rice Christians’ as those who accept faith for some other reason than personal conviction,” observed Dr. Abner Dizon, assistant professor of World Mission and Islamic Studies at AIIAS Seminary. “However, the main measure of fulfilling the Great Commission is not numbers of converts, but how many disciples we have taught to obey Christ,” added Mergal.

“What is the essence of biblical discipleship? According to Matthew 4:19, to be a disciple”, AIIAS Seminary professor for Mission, Dr. Cristian Dumitrescu pointed out, “is to take a mental decision to follow Christ, to allow Jesus to transform us, and to be committed to the mission of Christ.” “The disciples of Jesus,” says Dr. Ekkehardt Mueller, deputy director of the Biblical Research Institute, “were not there merely to learn from the teacher, but to share unrestrainedly in the totality of His life including suffering, slander, and persecution.”

One of the reasons for the discipleship crisis in the church is a long tradition of separation between church and academe, between theory and practice. According to Carter, church and academia are partners in disciple making. We need to always check how practical is our practical theology. We need a methodological change—a different level of thinking versus just “give me a program”. The discipleship forum has become a common ground for expressing practical concerns and theological insights.

What would be a remedy for restoring biblical disciple making? We need to move from reaching to making others the followers of Christ. Baptism then is the beginning of making a disciple. “We need to change the culture of non-involvement,” stated Ng. “Christ is not in the books,” noted Dr. Yuri Drumi, Master and Doctor of Ministry Programs Coordinator in Zaoksky Adventist University. “Christ is in you.” (2 Corinthians 13:5). According to Paul’s ‘technology of mission,’ the messenger is inseparable from the message. Thus, the primary tool of making disciples is us.

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The AIIAS 2018 Health Festival Weekend was a success. The theme “Mind Health Starts with Me” was chosen to emphasize the mental health focus of the health festival. Depression is considered the leading cause of disability worldwide. At present, more than 300 million people of all ages suffer from it (World Health Organization [WHO], 2018). Depression is a mood disorder that affects everyone regardless of sex, age, and race. This illness causes severe symptoms that affect how you feel, think, and handle daily activities. At its worst, depression can lead to suicide.

Sadly, year after year, the incidence and prevalence of depression is rising globally, calling all government and non-government organizations, institutions, and communities to take action. In 2017, the WHO campaigned for depression awareness. The goal of the campaign was for more depressed people to seek and get help. In line with this goal, AIIAS Public Health Department, in partnership with the AIIAS Church Health Ministries, conducted a Health Festival Weekend with an emphasis on Mental Health Awareness. Distribution of invitations, online and on-campus, raised the curiosity of the AIIAS community and the desire to take part in this unique and much needed health awareness event.

As part of the weekend, a health expo was conducted on the first day which was a highlight of the weekend. Over 150 participants joined and experienced lessons on healthy living for body and mind. Not only that, participants were given the chance to discover where their health is really at. Resistance, flexibility, and cardiovascular tests were given to check their physical health. It was encouraging to witness the young people aspiring to get good scores, and even when the scores showed a need for improvement, they were willing to take the challenge home.

An exercise booth and a counselling and prayer booth was provided. Here was a chance to seek and get help for the mind. A prayer request box was filled with requests for peace of mind and happiness. Lastly, to emphasize the relationship between mind and body, a booth with a professional physiotherapist was provided. Here participants enjoyed a 5-minute relaxation body massage.

In addition to the health expo, several other events were carried out over the weekend. Skit presentations, forum and group discussions, and expert presentations focused on the theme. There was much to share and too little time. Nevertheless, participants were blessed with a rich program.

We are all at risk of developing depression. Let us then work together and answer the call to face this global challenge and saves lives.
Topics on the approaches, types, and roles of leadership were explored during the 19th International Conference on Business, Education, and Public Health held at the AIIAS on November 20-22, 2018.

“Leadership is perhaps one of the greatest themes of human endeavor,” introduced Dr. Kenneth Swansi, chair of the AIIAS Business Department and coordinator of the conference. “Whether in the sciences, humanities, or philosophy, leadership has been a matter of concern in the past. It is today and will be tomorrow. It is primarily because leadership provides the creative minority that is needed to develop an adequate response of the challenges that the universe throws at us.”

The theme, “The Leadership Challenge,” opened a new understanding of the significant contributions that a leader is expected to provide in any given situation. The need for finances appeared to be one of the greatest challenges discussed during the presentations. Participants were urged to create a leadership tool kit and to develop a good business model. Exercising team building, empowerment, and building a network of resources were also greatly emphasized during the three-day conference.

“This is the first time that I attended an international conference. I found it to be a very fulfilling experience. It is very helpful, not only for my professional growth, but also for my students because I can share the knowledge that I have learned here,” expressed Philip Almanon, practicum coordinator and professor of finance and research-related subjects in the University of the Visayas College of Business Administration.

“This year’s conference is wholistically inspiring, empowering, motivating and fulfilling. A great venue for molding the minds of future leaders,” remarked Ryan Ray Mata, charge nurse at the Medical-Surgical Unit of Adventist Medical Center

Manila and currently a part-time research teacher at Manila Adventist College.

“The theme is particularly fitting and in harmony with the mission of AIIAS to develop leaders who excel in spirituality, scholarship, and service. This mission is not only aimed at AIIAS students but is an invitation to every person who chooses to be associated with AIIAS and its values,” remarked Dr. Dolf Oberholster, vice president for academic administration.
AIIAS and The Directorate General for Christian Community of the Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA) of the Republic of Indonesia, formally launched the first stage of their academic partnership by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on December 14, 2018.

The signing of the MOU was initiated by MoRA in order to carry out the cooperation between both institutions with the agreement of encouraging exchanges and visits of graduate-level scholars for both degree and non-degree programs which include joint research and international scientific publication on religious studies.

Both institutions recognize the importance of religious higher education, lecturer qualifications and competency, joint research, and scientific publication with a view of strengthening the relations between the Philippines and Indonesia, intensifying the scholar-to-scholar contact, and improving the quality of Christian religious higher education. The details of this cooperation will be implemented through a more specific Memorandum of Agreement to be undertaken by the institutions.

“AIIAS is pleased to make this Memorandum of Understanding with Indonesia. We are happy to engage with them in these educational efforts and to receive their sponsored students in our programs here at AIIAS,” remarked Dr. Stephen Guptill, AIIAS president.

Signatories of the MOU were Dr. Stephen Guptill, EdD, MDiv, MPH, AIIAS president; Prof. Dr. Thomas Pentury, M.Si, director general of Christian Community of the Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA) of Republic of Indonesia; Dr. Lili Nurlaili, M.Ed, Attache Education and Culture Indonesian Embassy – Manila; Dr. Jeane Marie Tulung, S.Th., M.Pd, rector Institut Agama Kristen Negeri (IAKN) Manado MoRA of the Republic of Indonesia; and Mr. Bruce Sumendap, MBA, administrator for AIIAS Public Relations and Student Recruitment.

“AATA has launched its website to make sure that we make our global presence tangible. As we do our activities here at AIIAS and locally, we want to make sure that there is global presence. The AATA will be known through our website, informing people of all our activities, our association’s officers, mission, and journals," remarked Pastor Sanned Lubani, AATA president 2018-2019.

Scholars around the world can now learn more about the association, discover reports about its academic exercises, and have access to the journals published from the annual AATA forums.

“This event is truly a blessing for the African community and I believe it’s also a blessing for the world. It gives us a privilege to participate in the great mission of digging and searching the Bible and presenting very important theological issues and other various issues for the continent and for the world,” said Pastor Stkesworth Shadeed, AIIAS Seminary student from Ethiopia.

Dr. Dolf Oberholster, AIIAS vice president for academic administration commented, “The AATA website launch is very impressive. I can see AATA has now become an adult organization. It is grown up from infancy to toddler to teenager, but now it is an adult and it’s impacting a large number of people across the continent of Africa and beyond. The AIIAS administrators are very proud of them.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 27-30, 2019
14TH AIIAS AFRICAN THEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION FORUM
BIBLE AND CULTURE: AN AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE
Keynote Speaker: Kwabena Donkor, PhD
Associate Director
Biblical Research Institute
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

For more information, visit: www.aata.aiias.edu
For inquiries, contact: aata_secretariat@aiias.edu

APRIL 23-25, 2019
AQRA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON QUALITATIVE RESEARCH (ICQR4.0)
ETHICS IN QUALITATIVE RESEARCH
Venue: Quest Hotel, Cebu City, Philippines

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Maria K. E. Lahman
Professor and Qualitative Methodologist
Applied Statistics and Research Methods
Education and Behavioral Sciences
University of Northern Colorado, USA

For more information, please visit www.myAQRA.org
For inquiries, contact: aqra@aiias.edu

JUNE 14-15, 2019
7TH AIIAS ASIAN THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FORUM
SOUL WINNING AND CHURCH PLANTING IN ASIAN CONTEXT
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Richard Sabuin
Director
Education, Sabbath School & Personal Ministries
Northern Asia-Pacific Division

For inquiries, contact: ykuang@aiias.edu
“What Is Your Definition of a Leader?”

“Someone who is appointed by God to lead others through His or Her exemplary life and is able to inspire others to work together for the common good.”

STEVEN RANTUNG, INDONESIA

“A leader is a principled and effective individual who naturally exerts influence on a group of people toward goal accomplishment.”

AURELIE MUKABALISA, RWANDA

“A leader is a person who influences those who are above, across, and below Him or Her towards God’s agenda.”

RODNEY BANAS, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

“A leader is a person who motivates and inspires others to actively participate in achieving the mission, vision, and goals of an organization and influences others to become leaders.”

ALFRED E. LABADISOS, PHILIPPINES

“A leader is a person who does the right thing and lives a life of integrity. His talk is His walk and no deviation in between.”

ARNULFO M. ARBOLEDA, PHILIPPINES

“A leader has spiritual discernment to intercede for others’ welfare, empowers them to become leaders as well and lives a life closely connected with Christ.”

RUTERSON ALMOCERA, PHILIPPINES

“A leader is someone who can show and communicate to the people the destination they are going and empowers them to arrive there.”

FERDINAND O. REGALADO, PHILIPPINES

“A leader is a person who can show and communicate to the people the vision they are going and empowers them to arrive there.”

NATASHA T. SINAGA NANGOY, INDONESIA

“A leader is that God-fearing servant of the organization who humbly discharges exemplary duties with competent skills whose followers will be inspired to work toward goals more effectively.”

OLAOTSE O. GABASIAK, BOTSWANA

“A leader is that god-fearing servant of the organization who humbly discharges exemplary duties with competent skills whose followers will be inspired to work toward goals more effectively.”

Qu Ge, China

“A leader is spiritually inclined, takes the lead, intelligent, humble, yet unshakable.”

ELISIE C. PASTRANA, PHILIPPINES

“A leader is a person who influences followers and empowers them to succeed.”

TABUA K. TUIMA, FIJI

“A leader is someone with a vision and the ability to influence others to work together to achieve this vision.”

Hazel Elizabeth Chararaou, Philippines

“A leader should be fair, impartial, responsive, flexible and courageous. He or she must have integrity.”

HAZEL ELIZABETH CHARARAOU, PHILIPPINES

“A leader is that God-fearing servant of the organization who humbly discharges exemplary duties with competent skills whose followers will be inspired to work toward goals more effectively.”

Hazel Elizabeth Chararaou, Philippines

“A leader is a person who has the ability to lead followers to a certain purpose.”

Qu Ge, China

“A leader is someone who helps the followers move forward to the goal.”

PREMA GAIKWAD, INDIA

“A leader is the one who influences followers and empowers them to succeed.”

RUTERSON ALMOCERA, PHILIPPINES

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PREMA GAIKWAD, INDIA
The Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIIAS) is a graduate-level Adventist educational institution that offers quality education while keeping the tuition at a great value. AIIAS has three modalities: online learning, distance learning centers (DLCs), and on-campus full-time programs.

AIIAS is located on a beautiful tropical campus 45.5 kilometers outside of Manila, the capital city of the Philippines. This location offers easy access to opportunities for mission trips and community outreach both locally and internationally, especially within the 10/40 window.

The AIIAS community consists of over 200 graduate students from more than 80 countries all over the world. The faculty members come from 17 different countries, a majority of which are expatriates. The teacher-student ratio is low, giving students the opportunity to work closely with their teachers. Typically, a class of 10 students will represent many nationalities that create access to a variety of insights and global perspectives.

The AIIAS alumni hold prestigious positions throughout Asia and the world. They serve as teachers, pastors, world church leaders, university presidents, administrators, business executives, and health professionals. Many of the students come to AIIAS to have a strong foundation as a benefit from world-class graduate training.

RECOGNITION & ACCREDITATION

AIIAS is recognized as a graduate educational institution of international character by the government of the Republic of the Philippines, as certified by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 2021. The institution and all its programs are accredited by the AAA.1 In addition, the Graduate School programs are accredited by PAASCU2 and those from the Seminary by ATESEA.3

1 The Adventist Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities of Maryland, USA.
2 The Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges, and Universities which is a full member of APQN.
3 The Association for Theological Education in South East Asia which is a full member of WOCATI thereby networked with other regional associations like the ATS.

THE AIIAS ADVANTAGE

Aside from education, there are various benefits of living on a campus filled with students and their families.

“AIAS provides a wholesome experience by developing each person academically, spiritually, mentally, and physically.”

Living on campus gives you opportunities to experience a rich cultural diversity of friends, thoughts, and activities. Here, you will be able to meet fellow students from every continent except Antarctica. The diversity allows students to unite and gain knowledge from other cultures.

AIIAS has a family-friendly environment where you will be able to see children of different age groups from various countries interacting and freely playing together. This develops cultural awareness and appreciation at an early age. Parents maintain a peaceful mind while focusing on studying as the walled campus has a secure entrance.
Why choose AIIAS?

Distinctively Adventist
We champion the educational philosophy, teachings, and lifestyle of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and a clear sense of its mission and identity.

Academic Excellence
We maintain the highest academic quality, highest accreditation level, and employ outstanding faculty recognized in their field.

Affordable Cost
All AIIAS students enjoy the highest quality of education through the benefit of financial subsidy by the Adventist world church.

Exotic Location
Dive to undisturbed coral reefs, enjoy unspoiled tropical beaches, hike up a world-famous volcano, or shoot the rapids. All these activities can be enjoyed within a short distance from AIIAS campus.

Mission Oriented
AIIAS being strategically located in the Philippines, provides greater access to the “10/40 Window” for research opportunities and field experiences.

Excellent Supporting Resources
Exemplary graduate research library with a collection of more than 70,000 volumes means easier access to a growing gold mine of library resources.

Alumni Impact
AIIAS alumni have become well equipped leaders around the world committed to the church and its mission.

AIIAS has an abundance of opportunities for one to grow spiritually, whether it is through prayer meetings, Sabbath worship programs, or church ministries off-campus. There are many other opportunities that will allow you to both receive a blessing and be a blessing.

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The AIIAS Theological Seminary exists to equip mission-driven professional teachers and other church leaders in a wholistic, multicultural, and collaborative approach to learning. The AIIAS Theological Seminary promotes biblically-informed scholarship, spirituality, and a meaningful field experience.

GRADUATE SCHOOL

The AIIAS Graduate School develops service-oriented professionals known for integrity and scholarship in the fields of business, education, and public health, within an international context.

ENGLISH CENTER

The AIIAS English Center gives students intensive and personalized instruction in the English language in an English-speaking environment. The English Center helps students to learn English in line with well-recognized English language programs.

ONLINE

AIIAS Online delivers quality graduate Christian education that is accessible and affordable through student-centered and contextualized learning experiences for better service to the church and society.
AIIAS Program Offerings
Graduate Education with a Heart for Mission

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Business
Master of Business Administration (MBA)*
Master of Science in Administration (MSA)*
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Business

Education
Master of Arts in Education (MAEd)*
Education Specialist (EdS)
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Education

Public Health
Master of Public Health (MPH)*

SEMINARY

Professional Programs
Master of Ministry (MMin)*
Master of Divinity (MDiv)*
Master of Arts in Ministry
Doctor of Ministry (DMin)
Doctor of Missiology (DMiss)

Academic Programs
Master of Arts in Religion (MA-R)
Master of Theology (MTh)
Doctor of Philosophy in Religion (PhD)
*also offered Online

Why choose AIIAS?
Distinctively Adventist | Mission Oriented | Affordable Cost
Exotic Location | Outstanding Alumni

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