

Supplementary Statements of Belief

Maintenance of Christian Ethos

The Seventh-day Adventist Church and its affiliated charitable, benevolent and educational arms aim to spread and strengthen the teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist faith, including as articulated in the fundamental beliefs, by maintaining and observing the doctrines that are promoted and manifest in its fundamental beliefs.

Conduct that is inconsistent with the expressed beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, by members and regular attendees or other persons within the communities associated with the operations of its charitable, benevolent and educational arms, can have a detrimental impact on:

- (a) Church members' ability to act in conformity with doctrines, tenets, beliefs or teachings (and can incur injury to the religious susceptibility of adherents to the Church) that are foundational to their faith community, resulting in their potential loss of faith;
- (b) The Church's and its affiliated charitable, benevolent and educational arms' ability to maintain their religious ethos; and
- (c) Members and employees ability to model a consistent Christian lifestyle that conforms to the doctrines, tenets, beliefs or teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist church.

The use of Church facilities or property, or the facilities or property of its affiliated charitable benevolent and educational arms, in a manner that is inconsistent with its religious doctrines, tenets, beliefs or teachings, can have the same impact as identified above.

Psalm 127:3; Proverbs 22:6; Matthew 5:13-16; Matthew 8:6; Matthew 18:10; Mark 9:37, 42; Luke 17:1-2; Acts 20:28; Ephesians 2:20-22; Ephesians 5:3; Hebrews 10:24-25; Hebrews 13:17.

Modelling faith to our Community and Beyond

We believe that the Christian faith is life-transforming. This transformation is enabled through the active power of the Holy Spirit. Accordingly, an active faith will be authentically evidenced in a believer's actions. We believe that the Christian faith cannot be authentically conveyed by a person whose words are inconsistent with their actions. Similarly, the Christian faith cannot be authentically conveyed by a person whose words and actions are inconsistent with their professed beliefs. The Christian faith's most authentic representation is found in alignment of expressed beliefs and practice. Actions can negate the authenticity of the expressed beliefs of one's faith.

Every member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, including those within its charitable benevolent and educational arms, should represent the outworking of the Christian faith through the testimony of their acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord, and through the resultant ongoing daily transformation towards Christ's likeness, as evidenced through the fruits of the Spirit displayed in their everyday actions. They play a crucial role in demonstrating the outworking of an authentic Christian life to those they work with, and the wider community. We believe that the best way to on-share personal faith is through actions rather than words.

Matthew 7:20; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; 2 Corinthians 3: 17-18; Galatians 5:16-26; 1 Thessalonians 5:22; James 1:22-25; James 2:14-26

The Responsibility Placed Upon Those Called to Model the Christian Faith

Those called to model the Christian faith to others have a responsibility of doing so in a caring manner that is consistent with their beliefs. Those who accept such a calling acknowledge that conduct that is inconsistent with the doctrines, tenets, beliefs or teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist church can place an impediment toward, or negatively impact upon, the faith of other believers, or those who are yet to express faith in Jesus Christ. Matthew 18:6; Romans 14; Ephesians 4:1; 1 Timothy 3; 1 Timothy 4:12; 2 Timothy 2:15; Titus 1:7-14; Hebrews 13:7; James 3:1

