



“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.” (John 1.14)

For the past few months, my son has been experiencing major separation anxiety. Not only is he going through the emotional stage of separating his identity from his mother (what many call the “terrible twos”) but his mother also recently spent a week in Colorado visiting family. He (along with his three sisters) stayed in West Virginia with me. I found him repeatedly walking around the house calling for his mom.

Have you ever missed someone really badly? So badly that it hurt? You longed to be with them, but your current circumstances did not allow it? Someone you really loved, and who you

knew loved you, but time and space were simply not shining on you at the moment?

This time of year we celebrate what theologians call the Incarnation of Christ. And I am fully aware of the revelatory purpose of God becoming man, in order for us to See what He is truly like. But I want you to also consider another reason for why the God of the Universe would become one of us.

I want you to follow the common thread in each of the following verses: “Let them construct a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell among them.” (Exodus 25.8) “They shall know that I am the LORD their God who brought them out of the land of Egypt, that I might dwell among them; I am the LORD their God.”



[CONTINUED FROM FRONT] (Exodus 29.46) "Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them." (Psalms 68.18) "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us." (John 1.14) "Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." (1 Thessalonians 4.17) "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God." (Revelation 21.1-3) "Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them." (Revelation 7.15) "They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day . . . then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?'" (Genesis 3.8)

Could it be that simple? Could it be that one of the reasons why He became Human was simply that He misses us? And that was the only way He could get close enough to us. That ever since the Garden He has longed to be with us. And thus, the longing in the heart of God drove Him to become a tiny Babe in Bethlehem. "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and you will call His name, Immanuel, which is translated God with us." (Matthew 1:21)

Something to ponder this holiday season. That God simply desires to be close to us because He loves and misses us.

Merry Christmas. [END]



Wells Fargo Center for Performing Arts : Santa Rosa, CA

I woke up this morning in a dorm room once again, asking God what He had in store for this week. This was the second Korean Camp meeting I had ever addressed. I was the evening speaker for the young adults. This was important because, although I would speak through a translator, it was always a privilege not to have to. I was not quite sure what God was going to do this week, but wow! Was I in for a surprise. Each evening, hearts stirred as people encountered God as they never had before. Each night, we looked carefully at our common assumptions about the characteristics that we felt God possessed, compared to what the scriptures actually teach. The theme for the week was Restoration, and at the heart of every restoration was the restoring of the truth about the character of our God. For if we can just see Him, to know Him is to love Him. And if we truly love Him, everything else will fall into place. This week was no exception. Miracles took place in the hearts of those who attended, as we all came face to face and heart to heart with the great Lover of the universe. Truly, with meaning and passion, with our hearts burning in our chests, we could say, "Our God really is love."

Korean Camp Meeting : Angwin, CA

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Novato SDA Church : Novato, CA

Wow!!! I was not expecting the blessing I received this weekend. I'm sitting right now behind a desk in my hotel room in Novato, just completely feeling overwhelmed from what has taken place in the last 24 hours here. Such a WARM church, the pastor and his wife, especially (thank you guys, if you're

reading this!).
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This weekend, I gave four of the six presentations from our "Awakening" series. And I never cease to be amazed at the heart-level work that takes place in people's hearts when the truth about God and His love for us are truly encountered. This was a weekend that will be remembered for sure.

Thank you, Renato, for the invitation to come and share! For the rest of you, please download "The Awakening" on our sermons download page this weekend. I have an updated version of our older seminar "Light in the Darkness" with new insights. May it truly bless your heart, no matter where you are on your journey of discovering this Being the Bible names as

Southwest SDA Church : Coquille, OR

A small town near the coast of central Oregon with a population of about 4,000. When I arrived there, I honestly looked up in the sky and said, "How did I get all the way here from West Virginia?" Boy, was I surprised. I was not expecting the enormous things that God would accomplish through four presentations during a short weekend in the Coquille Oregon community. Visitors from all over the state arrived to witness things that God would pour out, and pour them out He did. There is no greater life-changing force than the love that beats in the heart of God for you and me. Through those presentations, many saw things they never had before. Some testified that they were seeing His heart for the first time. When the weekend ended, all who were present experienced a sense of peace and calm sensation that we had been in the presence of something new to ourselves and that we had encountered truth, both intellectually and in our hearts. God had come close and many attendees walked away as people serving, worshiping, and loving a very different God.

Southwest SDA Church : Orangevale, CA

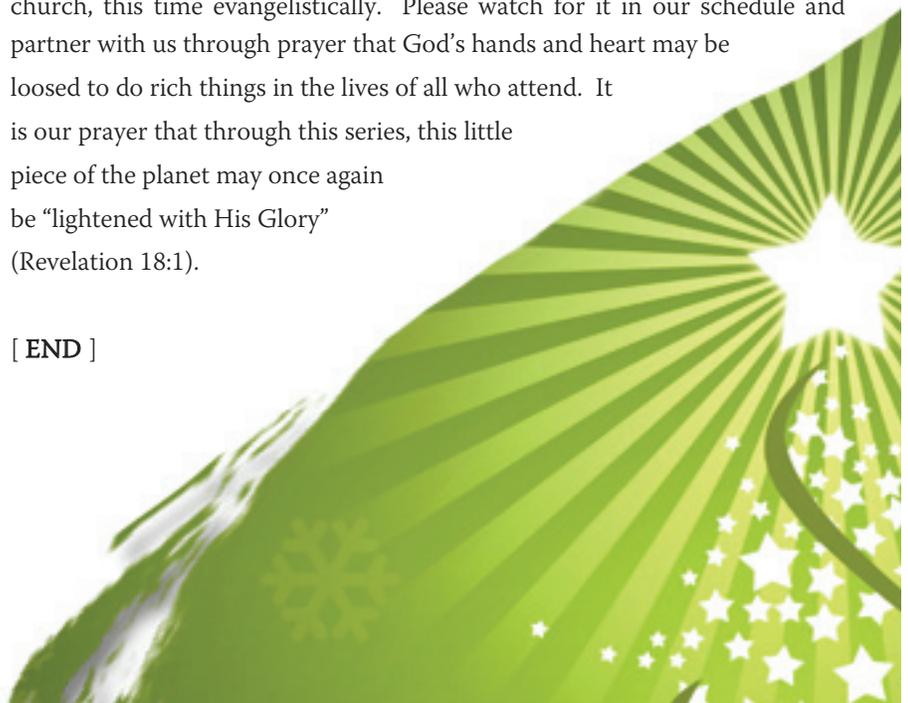
I was invited into my flight on a Sunday morning and I have my flight log already. I cannot wait to share what took place this weekend. For the next week, we scheduled a preparatory weekend here at the Orangevale SDA church with the hope that it would lead to a longer to be presented to the community next spring. I walked into this weekend expecting it to be just what I needed and spent getting the church on board for a series next year; but was surprised. I only gave three presentations, which is unusual as I usually give the bare minimum. One of the three presentations was on the importance of seeing God correctly as the foundation of all we do. The question is, why do bad things happen on this planet if God is good.

Then, the final presentation was on Calvary. Each presentation produced a marked response from the congregation, but it was the last that evoked the most passionate reaction from my listeners. It is rare to see a congregation respond to Calvary to the degree that I did this weekend. Words cannot describe the wonderful awakening that took place in many hearts. Some shared that, although they had been Christians all their lives, they felt as if they had never truly seen God's heart until this weekend. After such a heart-warming reaction, I can hardly wait to see what God will do at the Orangevale SDA church next spring, when we reach out into the community and lift high the cross. Keep Orangevale congregants in your prayers and, if you happen to be in the area next March, please do come along. I know you will be as blessed as we have been over the last two days. Thank you for the support that enables us to do what we do. Sincerely, thank you.

Southwest SDA Church : Orland Park, IL

This was a series that we had to reschedule last year due to a scheduling conflict with multiple seminars that the ministry was juggling at that time. Orland Park has waited a long time for this, but it finally arrived. This weekend in September was a preparatory weekend gearing up for an exciting ten-day series we are doing in November at the local high school for the community. I cannot express how fulfilling it truly is to work with a church like this in reaching out to the community in the fashion that Jesus did as well. To meet people's physical needs, right where they are, and then invite them to see God's character of Love, many for the first time, through the lens of our Adventist core teachings. In just a little over a month, RHM will be back in this church, this time evangelistically. Please watch for it in our schedule and partner with us through prayer that God's hands and heart may be loosened to do rich things in the lives of all who attend. It is our prayer that through this series, this little piece of the planet may once again be "lightened with His Glory" (Revelation 18:1).

[END]



RHM Testimonials

Thank you so much for your wonderful videos. You are blessed with an amazing gift to really shed light on the true message of Gods word and character. They have made such a difference in my life! - **LR**

I really enjoyed your seminar. You bring a fresh perspective to reaching others with the message of God's love rather than fear and dread over the prophecies of the second coming. We need new ideas moving forward. You are bringing such an approach and I am grateful for it. Keep up the good work. - **GQ**

Greetings Herb and RHM! Your ministry is awesome! I love how I have seen the "transformity" of my husband lately... Thanks again, and looking forward to hearing more from you from God's word! Love in CHRIST - **Anonymous**

Sermon of the Month



Due to an increased amount of questions that have begun to come into the ministry regarding the Old Testament Hebrew Sanctuary and it's relevance to New Testament Christians today, we have chosen to feature this month a presentation entitled *Enlightening Shadows* for your free Sermon of the Month. If you think the Sanctuary is a dusty old relic with no heart moving application to our relationship with the Great Lover of the Universe today, then buckle up and enjoy this deeply moving encounter intended to engage all the senses in an experience with the Love that beats in the Father's heart for us. Enjoy!

OSchedule

January 8-7, 2010

Rochester SDA Church
Rochester, NY
507.289.2589

January 15-16, 2010

Novato SDA Church
Novato, CA
415.897.2600

January 29-31, 2010

Lakeport SDA Church
Lakeport, CA
707.263.6002

February 12-21, 2010

Chapel Oaks SDA Church
Shawnee, KS
913.667.3802

March 5-14, 2010

Orangevale SDA Church
Orangevale, CA
916.967.2838

April 2-11, 2010

Fairfield SDA Church
Fairfield, CA
707.426.6720

April 23-May 2, 2010

Cloverdale SDA Church
Cloverdale, CA
707.620.0206

May 14-16, 2010

Sylvan Lake SDA Church
Sylvan Lake, AB
403.887.2604

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Renewed Heart Ministries – PO Box 1211 — Lewisburg, WV — 24901

Contributions can also be made online at www.renewedheartministries.com. All donations will receive a tax-deductible receipt. **Be sure to check out RHM's free resources at:** www.renewedheartministries.com