Central Zambia Conference

Adventist Youth Ministries

Pathfinder Week of Prayer

Theme: The Power of One

**67 local**, **422 SDA hymnal “Marching to Zion”**

14th – 21st SEPTEMBER 2013

**Day 1*(1st Sabbath)***

THEME: **THE POWER OF ONE**

THEME SONG: **67 local**, **422 SDA hymnal**

SATURDAY: TILTLE **– *HOSPITABLE PEOPLE***

**INTRODUCTION**

I greet you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today we are looking at hospitality. Hospitality is a selfless act. It emanates from a heart that understands the needs of others. It is an active repository of Jesus’ true character. In its beneficial stage, it reflects the record of the acts of the saints ***(Matthew 25:34-40).*** Let us now consider some people in the Holy Scriptures who were hospitable and see how their lives can help us to be hospitable as well.

**HOSPITABLE PEOPLE IN THE BIBLE**

I will ask you a question you will tell me the name of a person and where it is found in the Bible.

1. What girl was hospitable to a stranger, giving him a drink of water and watering his camels? ***(Rebekah – Genesis 24:45-46)***
2. What priest with seven daughters welcomed a stranger who had appeared at a well? (***Reuel – Exodus 2:16-20)***
3. What man on the island of Melita showed hospitality to shipwrecked strangers? ***(Publius – Acts 27:44, 28:7)***
4. Who welcomed three strangers, inviting them to rest in the shade of a tree? ***(Abram – Genesis 18:1-4)***
5. Who was told to go to Zarephath to receive a hospitable welcome from a widow? ***(Elijah – I Kings 17:8-9)***
6. Who said, “The stranger did not lodge in the street, but I opened my door to the traveler”? ***(Job – Job 31:32)***
7. Who welcomed two angels, inviting them to wash their feet and spend the night? ***(Lot – Genesis 19:1-2)***
8. Who showed hospitality to a man because of a former friendship with the man’s father? ***(David to Mephibosheth – II Samuel 9:7-13)***
9. What prominent woman showed hospitality to a prophet who stopped in at her home from time to time? ***(Shunammite Woman – II Kings 4:8-10)***
10. What man living in a rented house welcomed all who visited him? ***(Paul – Acts 28:30)***

**CONCLUSION**

As we close today, I want you to remember and know that hospitality is a fruit of the spirit. It is possible to be hospitable only when Christ dwells in us. For Christ in John 15:4-5 says: “Abide in me and I in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine and you are the branches. He who abides in, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without me you can do nothing.

Do you want to be hospitable? Do you want to be kind? Do you want to be good? Invite Jesus in your heart today. Those who want to be hospitable like the people we learnt today to stand up with me as we pray.

**PRAYER**

**Note for the speaker: Apply each passage. Example: Because of being hospitable, *Rebekah* earned herself a husband. If we are hospitable, good things will follow us.**

***Day 2***

**SUNDAY: TILTLE – *FAITHFUL & OBEDIENT PEOPLE***

**INTRODUCTION**

I greet you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today we are looking at faithful and obedient people in the Bible. Let me begin by defining faith the way I understand ***Hebrews 11:1***- Faith is trusting God’s word; Faith is believing God’s promises; Faith is seeing God’s promises happening even when they seem physically to be impossible. On the hand, obedience is willingly doing what you are told to do. I can therefore say obedience is a choice. According to ***Daniel 1:8***, Daniel purposed to be obedient. He made a choice to remain undefiled.

Today, I want us to go through some scriptures and see some people who were faithful and obedient.

**FAITHFUL PEOPLE IN THE BIBLE**

Let us see who remembers the following people who demonstrated their faith:

1. Who got ready for a flood following God’s instructions? **(Noah – Genesis 6:14-22)**
2. Who made a dangerous journey to Jerusalem without a military escort? **(Ezra – Ezra 8:22, 31)**
3. Who was willing to offer his son as a burnt offering? **(Abraham – Genesis 22:1-12)**
4. Who led the Israelites through the red Sea to escape bondage? **(Moses – Exodus 14:13-22)**
5. Who knew he could rebuild the wall with God’s help? **(Nehemiah – Nehemiah 2:17-20)**
6. Who knew God would bring the Israelites into a land of milk and honey? **(Caleb & Joshua – Numbers 14:6-9)**
7. Who knew by following God’s orders he would take Jericho? **(Joshua – Joshua 6:1-16)**

**OBEDIENT PEOPLE IN THE BIBLE**

Do you know some people who were rewarded in various ways for their obedience to God? Let us see if you can remember the following by matching them with their rewards:

1. He was buried among kings ***(Jehoiada – II Chronicles 24:15-16)***
2. He was delivered from enemies ***(David – II Samuel 22:18-23)***
3. He was fed by ravens ***(Elijah –I kings 17:1-7)***
4. He built fortified cities, for his land was at peace ***(Asa – II Chronicles 14:1-7)***
5. He had riches and honor ***(Jehoshaphat – II Chronicles 17:3-5)***
6. He conquered the entire land ***(Joshua – Joshua 11:15-16)***
7. He was saved from a watery disaster ***(Noah – Genesis 6-7)***
8. His descendants multiplied like stars in the sky ***(Abram – Genesis 22:16-18)***
9. He prospered in everything he did ***(Hezekiah – II Kings 18:1,5-7)***
10. He was rewarded with the possession of land ***(Caleb – Numbers 14:24)***

**CONCLUSION**

After going through these chapters, I am convinced that we can also be faithful and obedient to God and fellow man. We can be added to the list of the faithful and obedient. We can trust God to do His will. I want you to remember also that being faithful is a rewarding thing. Do you want to be faithful? Do you want to be obedient? If you do, stand up and stand out for Jesus. As we pray, I want you to tell Jesus that you want to be faithful and obedient to Him and your fellow human beings.

**PRAYER**

***Day 3***

**MONDAY: TITLE – *MIRACLE & PRAYING PEOPLE***

**INTRODUCTION**

A miracle is an act or event that cannot be achieved through the laws of human nature. Prayer is a means of drawing power from heaven’s infinite power house. Answered prayer gives the ability to walk above the laws of nature. Answered prayer gives power to walk above the rules of reality. Prayer is heaven’s ideal to accomplish God’s will.

Today, we are looking at nine people who did outstanding deeds in their lives. Because of what they did, they are known as miracle workers. Let me tell you what they did and you tell me their names and where they are found in the Bible.

**MIRACLE & PRAYING PEOPLE**

1. He healed a lame man ***(Peter – Acts 3:2-8)***
2. He made a sundial’s shadow go backward 10 degrees ***(Isaiah – II Kings 20:8-11)***
3. He made an iron axehead float on water ***(Elisha – II Kings 6:5-6)***
4. He turned water into wine ***(Jesus – John 2:1-11)***
5. He made the sun and moon stand still ***(Joshua – Joshua 10:12-13)***
6. He got water from a rock ***(Moses – Numbers 20:7-11)***
7. He killed 1000 men with a jawbone of an ass ***(Samson – Judges 15:14-16)***
8. He changed a rod into a serpent ***(Aaron – Exodus 7:10)***
9. He restored to life a man who had fallen from a high window ***(Paul – Acts 20:9-12)***

**CONCLUSION**

We live in a generation in which miracles are respected. I want you to remember as we close that there are fake and genuine miracles in this word. Do you remember the story in Exodus 7:10-12 of the rods that became snakes? They all performed miracles but the genuine miracle was seen when Aaron’s snake swallowed the fake ones. Genuine and faithful prayer life yields genuine wonders/miracles (Acts 2:42-43). God can still do miracles through you. He can pour the Holy Spirit on you which can make you soar above the impossibilities. O yes, God wants to perform great wonders in you and through you. Are you ready to be God’s instrument? Open your life through prayer. Prayer will give you power that will transform you and others for salvation.

If you are ready to be used by God, stand up with me as we pray. Ask God to tell you what He wants you to do in His work.

**Prayer**

***Day 4***

**TUESDAY: TILTLE – *COVENANT PEOPLE***

**INTRODUCTION**

A covenant is an agreement. It is a bond between two or more people. It is a field of similar attitudes, goals and a means of maintaining relationships. A covenant can stand unless broken or bleached by one of the binding party. A covenant sets standards of behavior. It points at the dos and don’ts. A covenant is very important in the Scriptures. There are a number of people who made covenants in the Bible. Can you remember some? Let us see how far you can remember. I will tell you the articles or procedures they used to ratify the covenant and you tell me their names:

**COVENANT PEOPLE**

1. Rainbow ***(Noah – God Genesis 9:12-16)***
2. Gift of gold and silver ***(Asa – Benhadad I Kings 15:18-19)***
3. Loss of right eyes ***(Nahash – Jabeshnites I Samuel 11:1-2)***
4. Child whose hair would never be cut ***(Hannah – God I Samuel 1:11)***
5. Food for a household ***(Solomon – Hiram I Kings 5:8-11)***
6. Robe, sword, bow, girdle ***(Jonathan – David I Samuel 18:3-4)***
7. Ewe lambs ***(Abraham – Abimelech Genesis 21:30)***
8. Pile of stones ***(Laban – Jacob Genesis 31:46-52)***
9. Thirty pieces of silver ***(Judas Iscariot – Chief priests Matthew 26:14-15)***
10. Scarlet cord ***(Rahab – Spies Joshua 2:2-20)***

**CONCLUSION**

As we close today, may I remind you that God is here to make a covenant with you. His intention is that you get the benefit out of it. May I also remind you that as believers in God, we are already children of the covenant. As children of the covenant, God wants us to share the blessings of the covenant. Do you trust God today? Are you ready to enact a covenant with Him? In Isaiah 1:18, God is saying, “Come, let us reason together…. As we pray today, I want us to meet our Jesus to sign the covenant. Once signed and we remain faithful we are assured of so many benefits. Tell God now that you are here to make a covenant and you are ready to keep it till all is said and done here on earth. I thank you for the decision you have made. May God bless you.

**PRAYER**

***Day 5***

**WEDNESDAY: TILTLE – *DISGUISED PEOPLE***

To disguise is to change your appearance so that people cannot recognize you. Such acts are common among offenders as they try to hide their identity. Disguise is a walk into the unreal. It is a slide into pretence. Today, I want us to look into the Bible and see some people who disguised themselves. As we look at them, I want us to find out the reasons why they disguised themselves. Let us also find out what happened to them during and after their disguise.

***DISGUISED PEOPLE***

I will read a statement, I want you to tell me ***who am I*** and tell me the ***where I am found in the Bible***.

1. I disguised myself when I went to visit a witch? (Saul – I Samuel 28:8)
2. I am a queen; I disguised myself when I went to visit a prophet? (Jereboam’s wife – I Kings 14:2)
3. To trick Joshua, I disguised myself using old clothing? (Gibeonites – Joshua 9:3-6)
4. I am a son; I disguised myself before my father to my fool? (Jacob – Genesis 27:15-23)
5. I was a king; I disguised myself and was fatally injured by archers during a battle? (Josiah – II Chronicles 35:22-24)
6. I am a prophet; I disguised myself as I waited by the roadside for the king of Israel? (Ashes on his face – I Kings 20:38)
7. I am a king; when I went in the battle, I disguised myself as an ordinary soldier? ( Ahab – II Chronicles 18:3,29)
8. I am one of the false prophets Jesus warned against; what do is use to disguise myself? (Sheep’s clothing – Matthew 7:15)
9. I made myself strange to my brothers so they would not recognize me? (Joseph – Genesis 42:7)
10. I am Joab; I made a woman to disguise herself so that she could meet with King David. What did she use to disguise herself? (Mourner – II Samuel 14:1-4)

**CONCLUSION**

As we close today, I want to remember you that there is no time when Christianity is a fun disguise. God wills that we walk in the light and truth. God wills that we approach him just as we are. He wills that we have a true identity because nothing disguised shall enter into the joy of salvation. It is time to be real and ideal. Since this is what God wants us to be, we want to pray that the Holy Spirit will help us to be real always regardless of the situation. If you are there who want to pray with me so that we are real, stand up with me so that we pray. May God bless you for deciding to be real. Let us pray.

**PRAYER**

***Day 6***

**THURSDAY: TILTLE – *HEROIC PEOPLE***

**INTRODUCTION**

Today we are looking at heroic people in the Bible. A hero/heroine is a person who shows extreme courage and does extra-ordinary thing. He/she is admired by many people. A heroic person takes risks which others shun. Heroic people have instincts that drive them to carry out what seems impossible and dangerous to their lives or other people’s lives. There are people in the Bible who took a brave part in a Scripture event. Today we call them heroes and heroines. Let us see if we can match the courageous act they under took. I will tell you what they undertook and you will tell me their names and where it is found in the Bible.

***HEROIC PEOPLE***

1. He conquered a city and won a wife for his reward ***( Othniel – Judges 1:12-13)***
2. She killed an enemy captain with only a tent pin she had to use ***(Jael – Judges 4:17-21)***
3. He attacked the armies of Midianites and Amalekites with only 300 men ***(Gedion – Judges 7:7-23)***
4. She threw a millstone on the head of a military leader who was about to burn a city and killed him ***(Woman of Thebes – Judges 9:50-55)***
5. She risked death in going before the king on behalf of the Jews ***(Esther – Esther 4:8-16)***
6. We broke through Philistine ranks to get a drink of water for a leader ***(Three Mighty Men – II Samuel 23:13-16)***
7. When deserted by his soldiers, he stood alone in a field and beat back enemy Philistines ***(Shammah – II Samuel 23:11-12)***
8. When all the soldiers of Israel were afraid, as a boy I was brave to fight Goliath and I killed him in the mighty name of God. ***(David – I Samuel 17)***
9. We refused to worship the golden image in the plains of Dura and we were thrown in the burning furnace but we were never harmed. ***(Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, – Daniel 1:7)***
10. When the law was passed to worship the king, I never stopped worshipping the living God; I was found by my enemies praying and finally I was thrown in the den of lions. I was ready to die for my God but God saved me. ***(Daniel – Daniel 6)***

**CONCLUSION**

We have seen what the brave and faithful people did in the Bible. Because of being faithful to God, they never feared. They carried their assignments faithfully. Their lives were at stake but they trusted in God regardless of the circumstances they were in. Brothers and sisters, may I be quick to say that it pays to be brave when you have faith in God. Our lives are in the hands of God. Whatever happens in this world God allows it for a purpose. With God in control I challenge you today to take time to be brave. I challenge you to take time to risk for Jesus. Oh yes brothers and sisters, it is worthy while to lose it all for Jesus. I don’t want to leave you here. I don’t want you to be ignorant of this one thing also. *Where you are now, you may be a worldly hero but a spiritual zero.* This is not what I want you to be. **I want you to be a hero for Jesus**. Jesus must be your model. With Jesus as our model, we can face all obstacles. If it means death, we will be ready to die for our model died and rose again. We can conquer the grave and death. When we have done it, we will be heroes/heroines in this world and the world to come. Angels will admire us.

Are you ready to be a hero for Jesus? Stand up with and sign the covenant as we pray.

**PRAYER**

***Day 7***

**FRIDAY: TILTLE – *BUSINESS PEOPLE***

**INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to today’s topic which is entitled “Business People”. From the word go, I want you to know that we are all in business. As I talk to you this evening, I am on God’s business. For you to be here today, you left your daily activities to be on the Lord’s agenda. Your presence here today is building God’s kingdom. May your participation contribute to the finishing of God’s business in saving mankind?

As I said we are all involved in some kind of business all day long. Is question is: Are you aware of the business you are doing? How does your business help to finish God’s work. Let us see some business people in the Bible.

**BUSINESS PEOPLE**

I will ask you a type of business done by a biblical character and you will tell me his/her name and where the business is found in the Bible.

1. Who had extensive business dealings in grain? (Joseph – Genesis 41:54-57)
2. Who went in the tent making business with a man and wife team? (Paul – Acts 18:1-3)
3. What prophet set up a widow in the oil business? (Elisha – II Kings 4:2-7)
4. What woman was a success in the purple dyed cloth trade? (Lydia – Acts 16:14)
5. What two kings went into shipbuilding together? (Jehoshaphat and Ahaziah – II Chronicles 20:35-36)
6. What silversmith claimed that because of Paul the sales volume of silver shrines was declining? (Demetrius – Acts 19:24-27)
7. What prophet gave a comprehensive inventory of the exports and imports of Tyre? (Ezekiel – Ezekiel 27)
8. What tax collector abandoned his business to follow Jesus? (Levi – Luke 5:27-28)
9. What king was in the lumber business? (Hiram – I Chronicles 14:1; II Chronicles 2:11-16)
10. What king engaged in the business of buying and selling linen yarn? (Solomon – I Kings 10:28)

**CONCLUSION**

We have seen that Levi had to abandon his business for him to be engaged in God’s business. On the other hand, some businesses were done to expand the honor and glory of God. Let us hear what the Bible says as we plan to be in any kind of business. **Proverbs 15:19**  “The way of the lazy *man is* like a hedge of thorns, But the way of the upright *is* a highway.” **Proverbs 15:27 “**He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house, But he who hates bribes will live.” **Proverbs 11:1** “Dishonest scales *are* an abomination to the LORD, But a just weight *is* His delight.” **Proverbs 20:5-7** “Counsel in the heart of man *is like* deep water, But a man of understanding will draw it out. 6 Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, But who can find a faithful man? 7 The righteous *man* walks in his integrity; His children *are* blessed after him.

Finally brothers and sisters, listen to these men:

1. Once Charles M. Schwab said: “A man to carry on a successful business must have imagination. He must see things as in a vision, a dream of the whole thing.
2. John D. Rockefeller stated that “A friendship founded on business is better than a business founded on friendship.”

Let us pray that God will help us do businesses that will finish His business of saving mankind.

**PRAYER**

**Day 8*(2st Sabbath)***

**SATURDAY: TILTLE – *KIND & FRIENDLY PEOPLE***

**INTRODUCTION**

As we close this week of prayer, I want us to look at kind and friendly people. Does God want us to be kind and friendly? At one time someone said that kindness is the language that the deaf can hear, the blind can see and dumb can speak. Kindness is a means to creating a sense of kingship. It strengthens interactions and demolishes barriers.

On the other hand, friendship is companionship to the lonely, hopeless and helpless. It is the beginning of all meaningful interactions. It cuts across race, color, gender, ethnicity, to mention just a few. Friendship plants a seed of happiness, joy and a smile on a long saddened heart. Let us see if you can identify the acts of the people who were kind and friendly.

***KIND PEOPLE***

Fill in each blank with the name of a person(s) who performed the kind act described in the accompanying clue:

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ showed kindness to a new gleaner ***(Boaz – Ruth 2:8-9)***
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ provided for the poor by not reaping field corners ***(Israelites – Lev. 19:1-2)***
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ cared for a wounded traveler ***(Good Samaritan – Luke 10:30-35)***
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ fed shipwrecked men for three days ***(Publius – Acts 27:44; 28:7)***
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was kind to an imprisoned missionary ***( Onesiphorus – II Timothy 1:16)***
6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ gave water to a traveler and his people ***(Rebekah – Gen. 24:15-20)***
7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ arranged for a lame man to always eat at his table ***(David – II Samuel 9:3-7)***
8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ made coats and garments for the needy ***(Dorcas – Acts 9:36, 39)***
9. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ brought supplies for a fugitive ***(Shobi, Machir, Barzillai – II Samuel 17:27-29)***
10. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ kept a room ready for a prophet’s use ***( Shunammite woman – II Kings 4:8-10)***

There we are; we have seen people who were kind. Let us now see the friendly people

***FRIENDLY PEOPLE***

Tell me the name of a person and where it is found in the Bible after I have read a question:

1. Who befriended Paul when he was a prisoner? ***(Onesiphorus – II Timothy 1:16-17)***
2. Who were Job’s three friends for seven days and nights? ***(Eliphaz, Bildad, Zophar – Job 2:11-13)***
3. What two men experienced an immediate bond of friendship? ***(David and Jonathan – I Samuel 18:1-3)***
4. Who became a false friend to David? ***(Hushai – II Samuel 16:16-18)***
5. What three people were warm, personal friends of Jesus? ***(Mary, Martha, Lazarus – John 11:5)***
6. What king and governor, who had been enemies, became friends during a trial? ***(Herod & Pilate – Luke 23:6-12***)
7. What man and wife were friends of Paul? ***(Aquila and Priscilla – Romans 16:3-4)***
8. What king was a friend and business associate of a father and son over a period of years? ***(Hiram – I kings 5:1; II Samuel 5:11)***
9. Who when he got a promotion from a king requested that his three friends be promoted also? ***(Daniel 2:48-49)***
10. Who was called “the friend of God”? ***(Abraham – James 2:23)***

**CONCLUSION**

As we end today, I want you to remember that Jesus’ errands here on earth were marked by kindness and friendliness. Because of this, He became a source of joy, peace, hope, laughter, and energy to many people in whose lives He lingered. We can be like Jesus because this is what he wants us to be. He created us to be kind and friendly. We have to acquire Christ’s character here on earth for us to be in heaven one day. At your home, are you kind and friendly? At your work place, are you kind and friendly? To the people you know, are you kind and friendly? To the strangers, are you kind and friendly? What kind of a person are you? May the biblical examples we have just seen above be of use in our lives if we want Jesus to recommend us on that day when the saints will go matching in.

Today as I close our sermon, may I see all those who are saying, God help me to be kind and friendly. If you are there, stand up with me as we pray. Those who are ready for baptism or to join baptism class to come in front.

**PRAYER**