



Three Angels Deaf Ministries Report

Volume 14 Issue 1

February 2011

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Signs of God's Love #4 Completed

Three Angels Deaf Ministries is praising God that the newest DVD project is now finished. *Signs of God's Love #4* is now ready for sharing!

On this DVD, Esther M. Doss explores the Black Hills of South Dakota which prompts her to think about the Sabbath. She visits Mount Rushmore, hikes to the tallest peak in the state, walks through the rolling prairie grass, and more. She carefully brings up the Sabbath and points to how invaluable it is to our lives and our relationship with God. She clearly points out that the Sabbath is not a legalistic law but a law given out of love for us.

While we always ask for prayers for all of our DVD projects, this one in particular needs a lot of prayers. This DVD addresses a Bible teaching that many do not want to hear.

Most of these DVDs will be given away at Deaf Expos this year. Many individuals at these expos have told us that they love these DVDs and cherish each one. Would you pray with us that the Holy Spirit will open hearts as these precious souls view these new DVDs? May they not



be so quick to reject or dismiss the Sabbath truth, but that they will study and pray about it.

The DVDS are available for order if you would like to have your own copy or if you would like to share them with friends. See the

box below for pricing.

We thank the North American Division of SDAs for helping make this project a reality. Also, we thank Black Hills Health and Education Center for allowing the use of their campus.

*Sharing
the Three
Angels'
Messages
with the
Deaf.*

Signs of God's Love #4 DVD Prices

\$5.00 for each DVD

Orders of 20 or more \$4.00 each

Orders of 100 or more \$3.00 each

Postage is included.

See order form to place order.

From the Speaker: The Woodchuck

We live in a “wooded” suburb near a huge Federal farm (U.S. Department of Agriculture). In the summer of 2009, vegetables were missing from our backyard garden. We suspected that someone, perhaps a kid, was stealing our vegetables during the night or when we were out of town. Then one day, while looking through a window, I saw something big and brown moving toward the garden. I looked carefully and watched the woodchuck (ground hog) having a nice feast in our garden. We were surprised that a woodchuck had invaded our garden. You can imagine how foolish we felt for thinking someone was trespassing in our yard. Then, the war against the wily woodchuck had begun.

We tried to keep the woodchuck from entering our yard. We found a hole under the fence on the side of the property so we put in wooden stakes to block it. It worked for a while, but that stubborn creature dug a new hole. We put wooden stakes in the new hole, but the woodchuck found a way around the fence.

Winter came, providing us a period of peace. Next summer, no sign of invasion was found in our garden, so we assumed the woodchuck must have moved or died. I wanted to make sure that an invasion would not happen again, so I bought an organic repellent which guaranteed to prevent any creatures from entering the garden. The repellent seemed to have worked because nothing touched our garden for a long time! However, one day just as our tomatoes and cantaloupes were ripening, we discovered them damaged. We were frustrated with the woodchuck. After losing many battles, I decided to buy a large cage trap. I placed a delicious tomato in the trap right in the garden, but he would not touch it, preferring to feast on our crops near the trap. It seemed that the tomato was not attractive enough. I decided to put a half ripened cantaloupe in the trap and put it near the woodchuck’s hole. Finally, the woodchuck was trapped! After a short display of victory to our neighbor, who blamed it for destroying her tulips, I took the woodchuck to a country area and released it. We hope that it will not come back!

The point of this story is to share my concern about the attitude of God’s people in these last days. First, let me ask you, would you like being trapped? No! Of course not. The same is true for a woodchuck. But, suppose the woodchuck was left in the trap and was given cantaloupes— his favorite treat—to eat, would it still be unhappy in its prison? Maybe yes and maybe no. According to research, people learn to accept things that they cannot change. We become used to the trap.

Sin is like the trap. We are all sinners and our sinful nature fights against the spiritual things from God. In other words, we are all trapped in sin and we seem to like it because of some sin we enjoy.

Like the woodchuck, which willingly entered the trap, we are willing to go to many places that are not right for Christians to be. Often we feel that “they are not that bad.” We believe that we have a God who is so kind, loving, and forgiving. We believe that as long as we are Christians, God is always on our side. While in reality, we are on Satan’s side. Some Adventists have begun to accept the idea of “once saved, always saved.” We must be careful or we may not see that we are trapped, blinded to the dangers of this idea. Some Christians just ignore God’s warnings and prohibitions because they believe that God does not expect us to overcome our sinful habits and desires. They think, as long as we are saved we are still safe.

That wily woodchuck was smart and avoided our traps and obstacles. But, it was still dumb in failing to resist temptation—the delicious cantaloupe! The woodchuck is a big eater. It eats almost everything that grows on the ground, but it has a special liking for certain foods. God’s people are smart and but they can be too confident. We may know the Bible and its doctrines, but we are becoming lukewarm. “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked” (Revelation 3:15-17). We have heard of the song, “Trust and Obey.” Today, some of us feel that this song is too legalistic. We talk a lot about grace. That is good! But, we need to be sure that it is balanced. Christians today have different views of grace. Only the Bible’s definition of grace is correct!

Can we get the wrong idea about grace? Yes. We need to be careful when we read some Christian books on grace. Sometimes Christians who had bad experiences with legalism and criticism tend to become too liberal. Overemphasizing grace without the proper context of the Bible is dangerous. It is the same with overemphasizing the law. It is harmful and not balanced. We must avoid the trap of wrong teachings and feelings. Jesus has plenty to say about losing eternal life because of deception—or trap. Too much

(Continued on next page.)

Deaf Bible School

The Deaf Bible School continues to be very active. Francisca Trexler, the Deaf Bible School (DBS) instructor, shares this about one of the students. “The person just called me Saturday night. She was excited to learn about the Deaf Bible School through *The Deaf Messenger*. She was more than happy to meet me as a Bible instructor. She had been praying to God that the Bible instructor would be Deaf. She was all delighted to talk with me and asked me many good questions. I explained to her what the Bible says and satisfied her questions. Also she and I read about Creation in Genesis 1 together. She was amazed at God’s powerful ability to create; she had never thought of this before. Again she was praising God to meet me. She made me smile. We will meet every Tuesday and Thursday to study more deeply in the Bible. She also is a Bible student with me. She is doing very well in her studies!”

Here are a few recent letters from DBS students: “Thank you so much for the lessons and the Bible. **I have learned so much.** The new Bible [NirV] is easy to read. Thank you so much.” This lady is eager to continue Bible studies with us.

“Yes, they [Bible students] will do the God’s Way and Amazing Facts. I believe they will want to learn the Word of God in Bible. **This is so exciting.** I pray for you to keep the Deaf people up for God’s word. I pray for you. You will be fine. Big Smile.”

One 22-year-old young man from Ghana, Africa sent an email. His family is Muslim. “I thank God that I have completed God’s Way and received certification today. **This lesson is really helpful to me.** I wish to get another certification again. May the heavenly Father bless you.”

The Woodchuck

Continued from previous page.

emphasis on one side—grace or law—can confuse us. The woodchuck had a special desire for a certain fruit and was unable to resist it. We are easily tempted by our feelings and sinful desires. But, God has a plan for us. Jesus emphasizes His point when He said, “If you love Me, keep My commandments” (John 14:15). Let us resolve to keep our eyes on Jesus Christ all the time, not some of the time.

David M. Trexler

Suggested EGW Websites

We believe the Spirit of Prophecy is a special gift of God as a source of instruction, comfort, and warning. Recently, Elder Ted Wilson, the Seventh-day Adventist Church president, preached at the Generation of Youth for Christ conference. He said, “Among some of our church members there is a tendency to downplay or even dismiss the counsels of the Spirit of Prophecy. We hear today that while the writings of Ellen White may have some devotional value, we should not let her ‘limited 19th-century perspective’ shape our 21st century understanding of Bible truth. But I believe, and the Seventh-day Adventist Church firmly and unashamedly upholds, that the Spirit of Prophecy is one of God’s greatest gifts to His end-time remnant people. Trust the Word of the Lord, and follow the counsel of His humble messenger, Ellen White. Let no one—local church leader, pastor, teacher, administrator, or anyone—turn you from that complete trust in the Spirit of Prophecy which points to the Bible as God’s authoritative Word!”

During his address at the General Conference Session, Elder Ted Wilson also stated, “Accept the Spirit of Prophecy as one of the greatest gifts given to the Seventh-day Adventist Church not just for the past but, even more importantly, for the future. While the Bible is paramount in our estimation as the ultimate authority and final arbiter of truth, the Spirit of Prophecy provides clear, inspired council to aid our application of Bible truth.”

Some websites we recommend are:

www.whiteestate.org (You can search all of her writings on this website.)

www.ellenwhiteanswers.org

www.sdaforme.org

3ADM has two books written by Ellen G. White in simpler Easy Reading English, *Steps to Christ* and *Story of Redemption*. For pricing and order information, turn to our order form.

Speaker/Director’s Schedule

Feb. 5—Miami, FL (DeafNation Expo)

March 5—Phoenix, AZ (MATA)

April 2—Greensboro, NC (DeafNation Expo)

April 9—Warren, MI (DeafNation Expo)

May 6, 7—Riverside, CA (CSDR/DeafNation Expo)

Technology Allows New Options for Sabbath School

In December, David and Francisca Trexler spent time in Colorado with family and friends. The first Sabbath found the Trexler's visiting with Don and Julita Sutton in Frederick, CO, about 20 miles north of Denver. Due to the weather, they decided to stay at home for worship instead of driving on slippery roads. Don had an idea. Why not ask Rachel Reichtell to join them for their study of the Sabbath school lesson? Rachel is a young Adventist Deaf lady living in Colorado Springs, CO. They enjoyed a long Sabbath school class together. So, how did she join their study? The Trexler's set up one of their laptops which has the Z4 software. Z4 is a product of ZVRS and can be used much like a video phone or video chat. The drawback was that Rachel could not see everyone during the discussion, so someone had to relay (or repeat the signing) for her.

The next Sabbath, the Trexler's visited the Boulder SDA Church. They enjoyed a very long Sabbath school with the Sutton's and Ken Abernathy. Three distant members also joined them, two from Michigan and one from California. This time, the group used two laptops.

The next week, the Trexler's were back at the Boulder SDA Church. This time, the church services were interpreted. Don used his computer (using the Z4 service) and faced the camera toward the interpreter. The Deaf people were able to watch the interpreter as though she was being live-streamed. That church has WiFi which made it possible to help the distant Deaf people to worship together with them.

Technology has opened up so many options for worship and studying together, especially for those who live far distances from each other.

Western Deaf Camp Meeting

It is my pleasure to announce with God's blessing that the Western Deaf Camp Meeting will be held at Milo Adventist Academy in Oregon on July 10-17, 2011. You can find camp meeting information on our website under "Camp Meeting." The website is still being developed, but you can still surf the webpages.

www.NWDeafBible.com

Chuck McGehee
Director of Western Deaf SDA Camp Meeting



Sabbath school in the Sutton's home. Notice the laptop on the coffee table.



Sabbath school at the Boulder, CO SDA Church. Ken Abernathy., the Trexler's, and Julita Sutton are pictured here.



Here you can see the three Sabbath School visitors.

Generation of Youth for Christ (GYC)

3ADM had a booth at the recent GYC conference which was held December 29-January 2 in Baltimore, MD. GYC is focused on equipping and inspiring Seventh-day Adventist youth and young adults to be ambassadors for Christ. Approximately 6,000 attended the meeting. Among them were seven Deaf attendees and four interpreters.

The response at our booth was very positive. I was pleasantly surprised that many of those that stopped by the booth were ASL students in college, some working to become interpreters. Several others had relatives who are Deaf Adventists and are lonely. They were absolutely excited to learn that there was indeed a Deaf SDA community. One young man was astonished to see our booth and immediately tears began filling his eyes. His 20-year-old sister is Deaf and is a faithful SDA, however so very lonely. He told me that it was so hard for her growing up SDA. I was surprised to learn that he and his sister live only an hour from Orlando, FL. Yani Uribe, a Deaf member from the Orlando area, was standing nearby. I introduced the two of them; all of us eagerly swapped contact information.

Some knew Deaf non-Adventists and wanted to know how to reach out to them. A lady from North Carolina has a booth at a farmer's market. A Deaf lady also sells produce there and they have a good rapport. This lady asked me how to improve her signing skills and how to share the gospel with her Deaf friend. She had been thinking about this for a long time.

A sweet young lady from Portugal has been ministering to a Deaf woman in her church. She explained that Portugal does not have good services for the Deaf with few interpreters available. Life can be difficult and Deaf people are often shunned. She came to GYC hoping to find some tool that might help her work with the Deaf lady. She was immensely delighted with a copy of *Signs of God's Love* #1, which has Portuguese subtitling. She took other materials and I gave her encouragement and some ideas.

Our presence at GYC is invaluable as this group of young adults are actively involved in ministry. They are (or will be) pastors, teachers, missionaries, Bible workers, ministry leaders, etc. They need to be exposed to Deaf ministry. Good contacts were made and the future of Deaf ministry is healthier because of this time spent at GYC.

As a note, all of the main sessions were live streamed. Also, GYC set up a camera for the interpreters so that Deaf individuals at home would be

able to watch a live stream feed, as well. There were a few lessons learned and we hope that problems are corrected for the next GYC. We appreciate Daniel Hill and Thomas Biehl for getting the live stream feed online. Daniel Hill is originally from White Salmon, WA and is now attending the MacDonald church in TN.

Many thanks to the four interpreters: Darrell Strait, Melissa Beattie, Monica Mack, and Pauline Rose.

Esther M. Doss



Monique Christiansen poses for a quick photo with friends who are ASL students.



Monica Mack, interpreter (left) and Monique Christiansen, Deaf (right) stand with new friends who have a passion for learning ASL. Each year, GYC attendees spend an afternoon in outreach, going door-to-door in the city. This year (like last year) Deaf attendees participated. Destiny (second from left in above photo) and Monique were a team. Together they knocked on 25 doors, giving away 25 tracts, 20 health expo flyers, and 5 Bible study enrollment cards. They also signed 3 people up for Bible studies and prayed with 7 people. (Photos: Monique Christiansen)

Closed Captioned Clips

The Adventist Church's Sabbath School department recently posted animations for the children's lessons on YouTube. These animations are closed captioned so Deaf children or Deaf adults who are young at heart can watch them.

The animations are colorful, clear, and are only a few minutes long. You can find them on YouTube by searching for "gracelink animations." Their channel is called Sabbath School.

Falvo Fowler, the executive producer for these programs, visited the 3ADM booth at the ASI convention in 2007 where he met Esther Doss and Wanda Watson. They told him about the lack of resources for the Deaf. Later, Debra Brill and Larry Evans presented to church leaders the need for stronger ministry to the Deaf community. He was moved to do something in his department that might make a difference. Falvo hopes that more closed captioning can be added to additional programming. We encourage our newsletter readers to see these short videos on YouTube and think of ways that you could use them to share Jesus with others.



She was so interested in what Jesus was saying

Donations

In Memory of...

Arthur Griffith by Charles and Susan Giansanti and
Richard and Marcella West
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Gradt, and Marshall House
James (Jimmy) Smith by Charlotte Porter

In Honor of...

Marvin Budd by Luis Leonor
Elbert Ihrig by Harold Ihrig

Divine Appointments in PR

My wife and I are helping a Deaf ministry grow in a church about 2 hours away. I met the hard-of-hearing man who has been faithfully attending the Adventist meetings. After meeting him, I realized that he is actually from [New York City] and understands English better than Spanish. I will be giving him the first two God's Way Bible studies for him to study on his own. While, of course, we will study God's Word on Sabbaths.

While driving around, we were flagged down by a Father whose 12 year old deaf son is looking for a good Christian atmosphere. The father is Pentecostal but fears that his son's Jehovah's Witness interpreter may be teaching him false doctrines. While we spoke to this man another hearing parent stopped to get our contact info. This child is a 5 year old deaf girl. We welcome your prayers as the Lord prepares the SDA church of Dominguito to minister to the Deaf community.

Harold Molina in Puerto Rico

Revival and Reformation

The Seventh-day Adventist Church leadership has made a call for revival and reformation. They have asked all churches, leaders, pastors, and members to pray and seek a closer walk with God. The leadership has stated, "Our Lord longs for a revived people whose lives reflect the loveliness of His character. There is nothing that Jesus desires more than a people who are passionate about personally knowing His love and sharing that love with others. . . There is nothing more important than knowing Jesus, studying His word, understanding His truth and seeking His promise for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in latter-rain power for the fulfilling of the gospel commission."

We, too, believe that there is a deep need for a revival. The time for God's people to be fully surrendered to Him is NOW! We are dedicating more time to prayer and study, and invite you to do the same. Would you join with church leaders and millions of other Seventh-day Adventists seeking a deeper relationship with Jesus and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at 7:00 each morning or evening, seven days a week. This is a call to total commitment to Jesus and to experience the life-changing power of the Holy Spirit that our Lord is longing to give now.

For more information, visit:

www.revivalandreformation.org

Order Form -- All prices include USA shipping

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|--|--|------------------------|----------------------------|
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| <hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> | THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST VIDEO SERIES A set of 13 VHS or DVD videos in ASL by Pastor David Trexler. Includes comprehensive set of study notes. (With voice) | VHS Price DVD Price | \$ 40.00 ** \$ 90.00 ** |
| <hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> | SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #1 DVD - Salvation and God's Love | Price | \$ 5.00 ** |
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| <hr style="border: none; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> | EASY-READING BAPTISMAL STUDIES 28 fundamental beliefs studies for baptismal candidates. | Price | \$ 10.00 ** |
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Three Angels Deaf Ministries (3ADM) was originally incorporated in the State of Nebraska and was recognized by the federal government as a nonprofit religious organization on April 6, 1998. After moving to a new headquarters, 3ADM was subsequently recognized as a tax-exempt nonprofit organization by the State of Arizona on May 9, 2001. 3ADM has been granted the right to issue tax-deductible receipts for donations made to Three Angels' Deaf Ministries.

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