



VISITING SPEAKER'S INFORMATION

Developed by **Gateway Training Centre**
161 Pelham Street, Carlton 3053
Victoria, Australia

www.gatewaysda.org
email: info@gatewaysda.org

December 2006
© Gateway Adventist Centre

A. OUR VISION & VALUES

A.1. Our First Vision

“To provide a focal point in the city where young people (in particular Asian) can get to know Jesus Christ through the everlasting gospel and training them for witnessing.”

A.2. Comments on First Vision Statement

‘focal point’	having a clear focus is important. Too often we try to do too much but gain nothing. Our focus cover location as well as people group.
‘city’	prior to the establishment of GAC, there had been no SDA presence in Melbourne City. The closest SDA church is North Fitzroy SDA Church. Many Sunday churches had commence outreach in the city prior to GAC. GAC is surrounded by several Sunday churches.
‘Young people, Asian’	we are clear on our calling to reach out to this ‘people group’. GAC is inclusive and welcome all people groups but we need to be focussed in our outreach approach. We setup ministries and outreach to young people covering University students as well as young working adults.
‘Jesus’	He is our central focus, without Him, we can do nothing.
Everlasting Gospel	As in Revelation 14:6, the SDA church is a movement of the last days and it our responsibility to share the everlasting gospel embodied in the three angels messages to the community.
Training for witness	GAC is a based on the ‘church of Antioch’ model of the New Testament. We train young people to repeat the cycle to setup CARE groups, evangelise and setup new outreach centre whether be in Australia or overseas.

A.3. Our Current Vision

“Gateway will be a soul-winning and training centre that multiplies churches in three years.”

“Our 1 sentence vision”	... no change in target demographics ... continue to preach the everlasting gospel ... replicating Gateway 1 to Gateway 2, 3 etc.
-------------------------	---

A.4. Comments on Current Vision Statement

‘soul-winning’	Ellen White said in Desire of Ages that ‘every true disciple of Jesus is a missionary’. Our purpose for existence is to proclaim the everlasting gospel in this final generation. We believe in a growth strategy and not a maintenance strategy for Gateway 1, 2 and others.
“training centre”	Training will reach both members to be come workers for Jesus and seekers to become disciples for Jesus. We will train those at Gateway as well as other young people in various churches/groups. God place the burden on people and calls spiritual leaders but we need to train in discipleship and workers / church planters
“multiplies”	In the New Testament church we see a multiplication affect in the growth of the church. We believe in building churches/communities of the size of 120-150 is optimum size for maximum congregation participation and critical mass for effective operations. Like Care Groups we need to multiple and split to grow churches.
“churches”	From CARE groups we are to win souls and naturally the group will meet to

worship in new church plants.

A.5. Our Values

Bible-based :	beliefs and practices are founded on the Bible
Christ-dependant :	empowered by prayer
Seeker-oriented :	passionate about reaching seekers
Discipleship Modelling :	dedicated to mentoring philosophy
Training :	equipping for witnessing ¹
Accountability :	accept personal and group accountability

A.6. Implications of our Vision & Values

In pursuing this vision and in extending ourselves in this outreach effort, our guiding values are:

1. We shall uphold God's commandments in every aspect of this ministry.
2. Human efforts must unite with Divine guidance, through regular prayer and study of His Word.
3. Humility and a spirit of servant hood are key motivations for service, not personal glory.
4. Our calling is to reach out to precious souls that God brings into our lives.
5. The joy of this ministry is in the converted lives of friends who accept Christ.
6. Personal spiritual preparation and a close walk with Christ are essentials for this service.
7. Our own consecrated lives will be the best testimony to others of Christ's grace.

¹ Training as a core value was added in second leadership retreat (2005)
Gateway Adventist Centre – A ministry of the **Seventh Day Adventist Church**

B. GUIDELINES FOR VISITING SPEAKERS

B.1. Profile of Our Target Audience (Seeker Profile)

Age Group

The target audience are mainly Asian young people with around 20% non-Asian (e.g. Australian, African). The Asian young people are either from Australia (parents are in Australia) or overseas students (Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Taiwan & China). Their age group is mainly from Year 12/Foundation year to University to early working professional (several years out of University).

Religious Background

Asian young people in general have exposure to religion given the cultural background while growing up in Asia. For some it is their first time to be exposed to Christianity (e.g. from Buddhism, Taoism) and for others they are Sunday-church seekers (e.g. Catholics).

Focus In Life

For many, their family value system ensures that academic and career goals are paramount. They have a clear focus to complete their education to seek a 'good job'. Our goal at Gateway is to provide them 'eternal education' i.e. to prepare them for the Kingdom of God. For the young working professionals they are busy with establishing their careers and seeking a life partner.

Language Skills

Young people that are from North Asia (Korea, China, HK, and Taiwan) generally have English as their second language. Any presentations/talks should be kept in **simple English, avoiding Australian slangs** and please **avoid Adventist Jargon** (e.g. 'the San', '1888 message', '2nd generation seveey') where possible. Young people from South-East Asia generally have a better exposure to English language.

B.2. Needs of Our Target Audience

Seeker - Atheist Background

"Is there a God?" "Who is Jesus?" "What can He do for me?" – these are questions on their mind. They have little knowledge of a God. For example many are born in China and they believe in themselves rather than a God. They have not heard of a personable God in the form of Jesus Christ as God is assumed to be on a distant throne.

Seeker - Non Christian Background

"What is so good about a Christian God?" – this is question on their mind. They have no concept of Jesus as the way the truth and the life. Buddhist believes that God is somewhere out there on a throne looking down at man. They have little knowledge of a 'personal relationship God'.

Seeker - Some Christian Background

This group is exposed to Christian/Catholic schools or attend Sunday Church in the past. They are generally truth seekers – "why are there so many churches?" "Why do SDA goes to church on Saturday?" Some have preconceived views that SDA are cults.

Seeker - Friendship Basis

Comes to meetings due to invitation of friends. Happy-go-lucky and not interested about Spiritual matters. University is a big social experience and loyalty to friends is important. Probably came to meeting because of

friendship or to learn/practise English.

B.3. Suggested Topics

We organised our quarterly sermons based on sermon themes. Your contact from Gateway, the Worship Team Leader would like to discuss with you potential topics. What are some of the topics that will interest and meet the needs of the audience?

We strongly feel the need to differentiate our group with other Chinese/Asian Sunday church groups in the City. One of the key differentiator is that we are a BIBLE-BASED group i.e. strong emphasis on Scriptural foundation and truth. We need to present this in clear simple form and supported by the Bible. About 35-40% of the audience would be non-SDA each weekly worship.

For each topic instead of just having 'life application', we suggest linking in a Bible truth to stir an interest to seek the word of God.

For example for final Year Student (to graduate) OR Young Graduate at work thinking of changing jobs:

- TOPIC: 'What is my life direction?', 'What career will I take?'
- LIFE APPLICATION: 'Knowing God's will' ... God's will is revealed in Scripture, Through Godly Family/Friends, Situation
- TRUTH: God's will is revealed in His Law. Jesus said 'if you love me you will keep my commandments' OR God is in Control - we can teach Daniel 2 prophecy outline to see how God knows the future.

B.4. Sermon Notes

It would be advisable to prepare sermon notes for our seekers. Sermon notes will allow those that are slower in the language to follow the sermon. Bible texts can be provided with page numbers for ease of reference. If you could supply the sermon notes the Wednesday Night before the Sabbath to, it will help with the bulletin preparation.

B.5. Logistics

- Please meet outside the Lecture Theatre at 11.00 am with the worship coordinator and the rest of the party for prayer.
- Time allocated to sermon is from 11.45 – 12.25.
- There is no translation as it is in English.
- We do not normally have a children story (unless it a special programme).