

SALTi

Helping Patients Thirst for the



Mark Sandoval, M.D.

A wooden gavel with a dark brown handle and a rounded head is positioned diagonally across the right side of a white document. The document is placed on a stack of light brown, textured paper. A silver paperclip is attached to the left edge of the white document. The background is a dark wood-grain surface.

NONE

**DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT**

Objectives

- Demonstrate how adequate spiritual conversations between providers and patients is a beneficial component of the provider/patient relationship.
- Uncover aspects of U.S. healthcare systems and medical practice that prevent adequate spiritual conversations between providers and patients.
- Share from personal experience aspects of foreign mission practices that prevent adequate spiritual conversations between providers and patients.

Objectives

- Highlight the need for personal spirituality as a vital prerequisite to adequate spiritual conversations between providers and patients.
- Discuss ways to help patients recognize their need of the gospel.
- Demonstrate how to fulfill that need once it is recognized.

Mission Service – Anywhere!

- Belize
 - La Loma Luz Hospital
- Nicaragua
 - Francia Sirpi Clinic
- Trinidad
 - Community Hospital of SDA
- Mexico
- Brazil
- Bahamas
- Costa Rica
- Philippines
- Russia
- Jamaica
- Cuba
- Uchee Pines



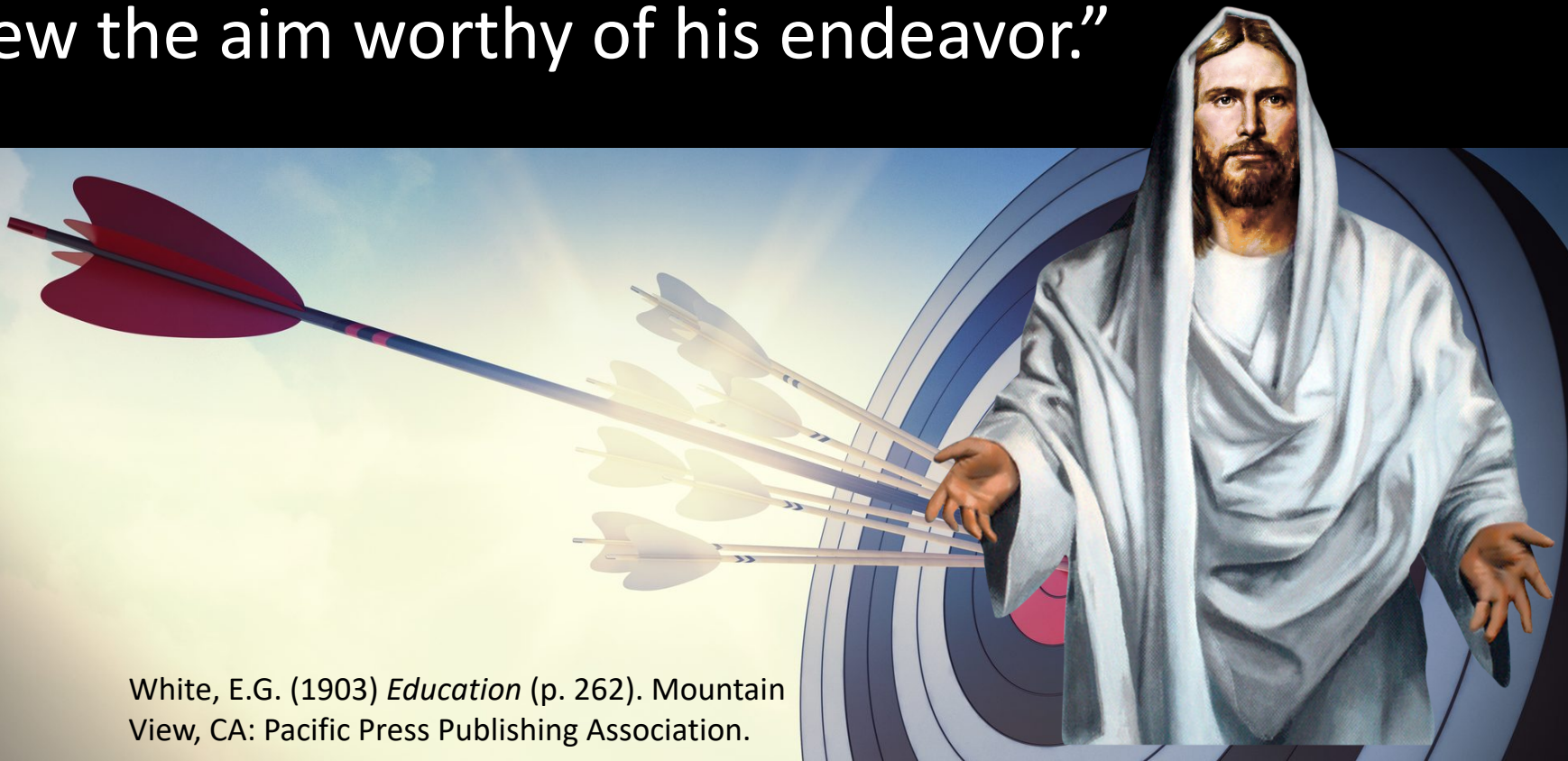
The Missionary's Mantra



ADAPTABILITY

New Missionary Mantra – AIM

“Success in any line demands a definite aim. He who would achieve true success in life must keep steadily in view the aim worthy of his endeavor.”



White, E.G. (1903) *Education* (p. 262). Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press Publishing Association.

The Greatest Medical Missionary

“Nothing will help us more at this stage of our work than to understand and to fulfill the mission of the greatest Medical Missionary that ever trod the earth; nothing will help us more than to realize how sacred is this kind of work and how perfectly it corresponds with the lifework of the Great Missionary. The object of our mission is the same as the object of Christ’s mission. Why did God send His Son to the fallen world? To make known and to demonstrate to mankind His love for them.

The Greatest Medical Missionary

Christ came as a Redeemer. Throughout His ministry He was to keep prominent His mission **to save sinners....**

God's purpose in committing to men and women the mission that He committed to Christ is **to disentangle His followers from all worldly policy and to give them a work identical with the work that Christ did."**



Thirsty for the Water of Life

A woman of Samaria came to draw water.

Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink”

“How is it that You...ask a drink from me?”

“If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water”

“Where then do You get that living water?”

Thirsty for the Water of Life

“Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life”

“Sir, give me this water...I know that Messiah is coming...When He comes, He will tell us all things.”

“I who speak to you am He.”

- John 4:7-26



You
are the salt
of the earth
(Matthew 5:13).

“The Redeemer expects our physicians to make the saving of souls their first work. If they will walk and work with God, in His love and fear, they will receive leaves from the tree of life to give to the suffering. His peace will go with them, making them messengers of peace.” {MM 37.2}

White, E.G. (1932) *Medical Ministry* (p. 37). Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press Publishing Association.





Threats



Threats

- Worldly ethics

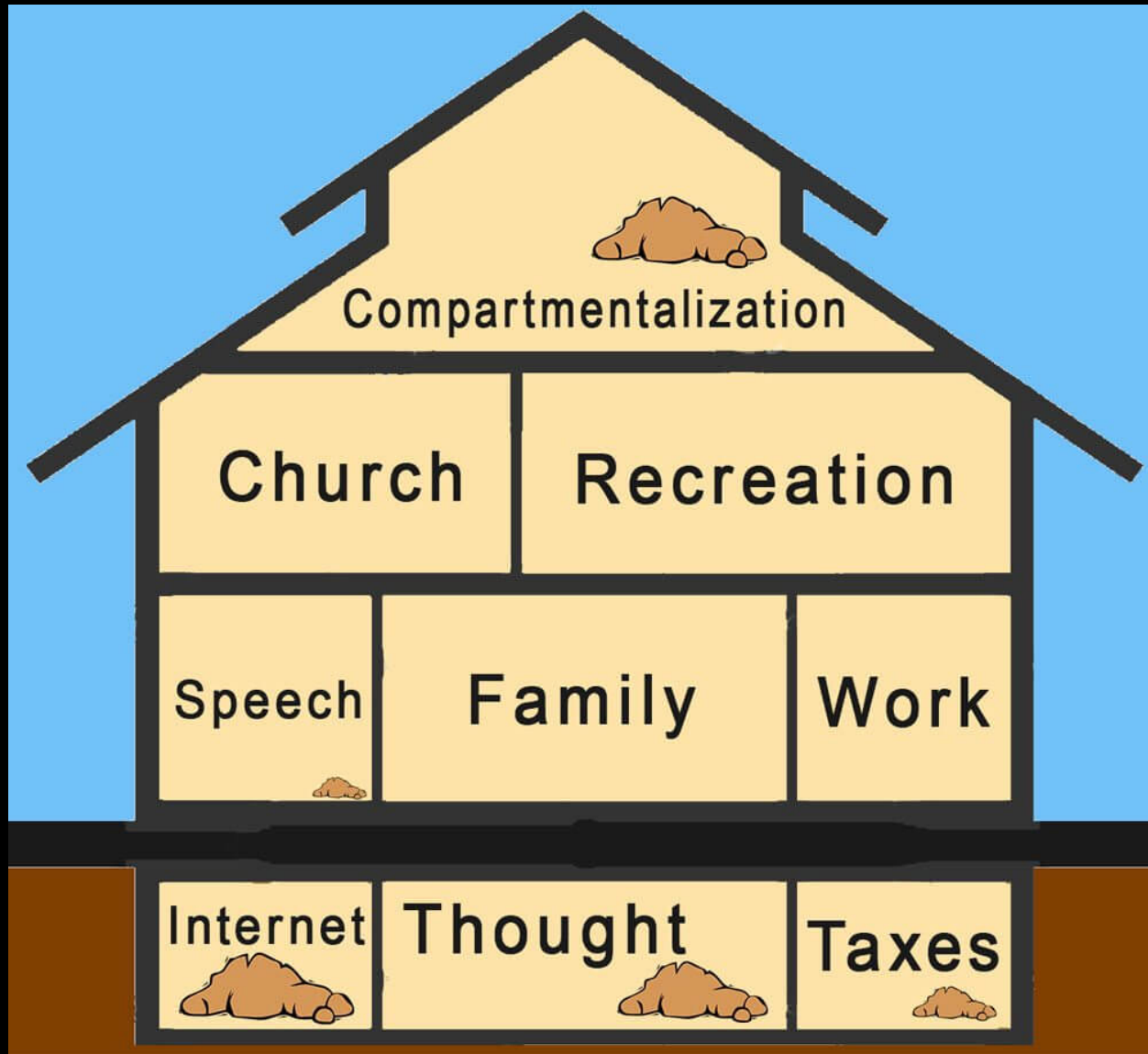
Physician Evangelists

“Our **physicians** need a deeper insight into the **evangelistic work** that God expects them to do. Let them remember that **if they do not work for the healing of the soul as well as for the healing of the body, they are not following the example of the great Medical Missionary.** Let them study the word of God diligently, that they may be familiar with its promises and may be able, in tenderness and love, to point sinners to the Great Healer. It was to bring spiritual as well as physical healing to the sick that our sanitariums were established.”

Threats

- Worldly ethics
- Compartmentalization

“Our belief in Christ is not to be a casual belief, but a belief that enters into every part of the life.”



Threats

- Worldly ethics
- Compartmentalization
- Worldly partnerships



Unequally Yoked

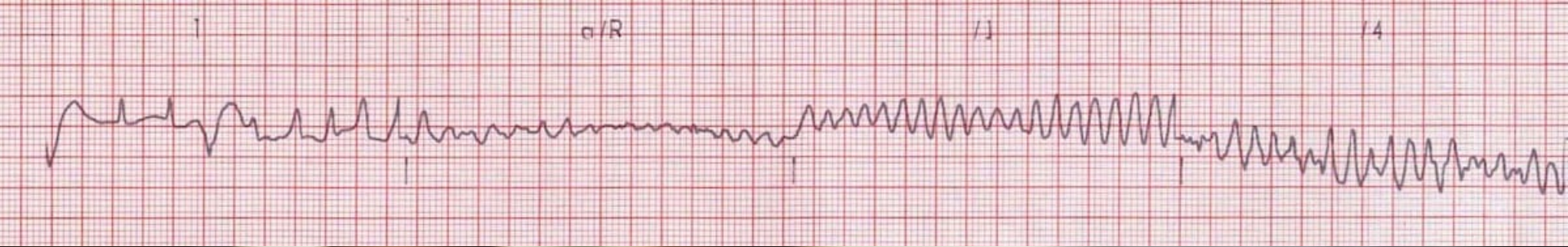
“Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?”

- *2 Corinthians 6:14*

Threats

- Worldly ethics
- Compartmentalization
- Worldly partnerships
- Lack of time







Threats

- Worldly ethics
- Compartmentalization
- Worldly partnerships
- Lack of time
- Financial considerations



“The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,’ says
the Lord of hosts.”

- Haggai 2:8

“And my God shall supply all your need
according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

- *Philippians 4:19*

Be SALTi

ARE YOU A
SALTY
CHRISTIAN?



Be SALTi

- S – Schedule sufficient time

ARE YOU A
SALTY
CHRISTIAN?



Be SALTi

- S – Schedule sufficient time
- A – Ask heart questions

ARE YOU A
SALTY
CHRISTIAN?



Be SALTi

- S – Schedule sufficient time
- A – Ask heart questions
- L – Live the gospel

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Be SALTi

- S – Schedule sufficient time
- A – Ask heart questions
- L – Live the gospel
- T – Treasure the promises

ARE YOU A
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Be SALTi

- S – Schedule sufficient time
- A – Ask heart questions
- L – Live the gospel
- T – Treasure the promises
- i – Invite them to believe

ARE YOU A
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SALTi – Schedule Sufficient Time

“The pressure and rush of business must not lead to a neglect of the work of soul saving. It is well to minister to the physical wants of our fellow men, but if ways are not found to let the light of the gospel shine forth to those who come...how is God glorified by our work?”

SALTi – Schedule Sufficient Time

- Ask God, “How much time do I need to schedule with each patient in order to have maximal impact for eternity?”
- Rearrange your practice with this in mind.
- If you cannot do so, because of colleagues or practice owners, pray about where the Lord would have you practice and in what setting.
- Be true to the purpose God has for you.

SALTi – Ask Heart Questions

“Sympathy and tact will often prove a greater benefit to the sick than will the most skillful treatment given in a cold, indifferent way...When the **love and sympathy** that Christ **manifested for the sick** is **combined with the physician’s knowledge**, his very presence will be a blessing.”
{MH 244.2-245.1}

SALTi – Ask Heart Questions

- What are the greatest challenges, stressors, or losses that you have faced in your life?
- What is your source of strength? What keeps you going?
- How often do you cry or feel like crying?
- What do you hope for in the future?
- What gives you the greatest sense of comfort and purpose in life?

SALTi – Live the Gospel

“The physician who has received wisdom from above, who knows that Christ is His personal Saviour, because he has himself been led to the Refuge, knows how to deal with the trembling, guilty, sin-sick souls who turn to him for help. He can respond with assurance to the inquiry, “What must I do to be saved?”

SALTi – Live the Gospel

He can tell the story of the Redeemer's love. **He can speak from experience** of the power of repentance and faith. As he stands by the bedside of the sufferer, striving to speak words that will bring to him help and comfort, the Lord works with him and through him.”

SALTi – Live the Gospel

- We cannot give what we do not have.
- We must have a living experience in the Gospel yourself if we are to lead others to a living experience in it themselves.
- We must spend quality time (in quantity) with the Lord ourselves, taking the love that we need, that we might give that love away to others.
- We will only really advocate that which we do.

SALTi - Treasure the Promises

“The physician has precious opportunities for directing his patients to the promises of God’s word. He is to bring from the treasure house things new and old, speaking here and there the words of comfort and instruction that are longed for. Let the physician make his mind a storehouse of fresh thoughts. Let him study the word of God diligently, that he may be familiar with its promises. Let him learn to repeat the comforting words that Christ spoke during His earthly ministry when giving His lessons and healing the sick.

SALTi - Treasure the Promises

He should **talk of the works of healing wrought by Christ, of His tenderness and love.** Never should he neglect to direct the minds of his patients to Christ, the Chief Physician.

The same power that Christ exercised when He walked visibly among men is in His word. It was by His word that Jesus healed disease and cast out demons; by His word He stilled the sea and raised the dead, and the people bore witness that His word was with power.

SALTi - Treasure the Promises

He spoke the word of God, as He had spoken to all the prophets and teachers of the Old Testament. The whole Bible is a manifestation of Christ.

The Scriptures are to be received as God's word to us, not written merely, but spoken. When the afflicted ones came to Christ, He beheld not only those who asked for help, but all who throughout the ages should come to Him in like need and with like faith.

SALTi - Treasure the Promises

When He said to the paralytic, “Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee;” when He said to the woman of Capernaum, “Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace,” He spoke to other afflicted, sin-burdened ones who should seek His help. Matthew 9:2; Luke 8:48.

SALTi - Treasure the Promises

So with all the promises of God's word. In them He is speaking to us individually, speaking as directly as if we could listen to His voice. It is in these promises that Christ communicates to us His grace and power. They are leaves from that tree which is "for the healing of the nations." Revelation 22:2.

SALTi - Treasure the Promises

Received, assimilated, they are to be the strength of the character, the inspiration and sustenance of the life. **Nothing else can have such healing power.** Nothing besides can impart the courage and faith which give vital energy to the whole being.”

SALTi - Treasure the Promises

- Unloved – Jeremiah 31:3
- Fear – Isaiah 41:10
- Failure – Philippians 4:13
- Guilt – 1 John 1:9
- Abandonment - Hebrews 13:5
- Bitterness – Ephesians 4:31,32
- Overcoming temptation – 1 Corinthians 10:13
- Victory – Jude 1:24
- Salvation – John 3:16

SALTi – Invite Them to Believe

“The physician can do a noble work if he is connected with the Great Physician. To the relatives of the sick, whose hearts are full of sympathy for the sufferer, he may find opportunity to **speak the words of life**; and he can **soothe and uplift the mind of the sufferer by leading him to look to the One who can save** to the uttermost all who come to Him for salvation.

SALTi – Invite Them to Believe

When the Spirit of God works on the mind of the afflicted one, leading him to inquire for truth, let the physician work for the precious soul as Christ would work for it...**point him to Jesus as the sin-pardoning Saviour.** Angels of God will impress the mind.”

SALTi – Invite Them to Believe

- When you help them to see that God is the source of all that they need, then help them to exercise faith (put their trust) in God that they may personally accept (take) what He is freely offering.
- Invite them to put their trust and hope in Christ as the only solution to their greatest needs.
- To do this, you must have done so yourself.

“As the woman talked with Jesus, she was impressed with His words...As the past of her life had been spread out before her, she had been made sensible of her great want. She realized her soul thirst, which the waters of the well of Sychar could never satisfy. Nothing that had hitherto come in contact with her had so awakened her to a higher need. Jesus had convinced her that He read the secrets of her life; yet she felt that He was her friend, pitying and loving her.

While the very purity of His presence condemned her sin, **He** had spoken no word of denunciation, but had **told her of His grace, that could renew the soul**. She began to have some conviction of His character. The question arose in her mind, Might not this be the long-looked-for Messiah? She said to Him, 'I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when He is come, He will tell us all things.' Jesus answered, '**I that speak unto thee am He.**'"

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“The physician who understands the responsibility and accountability of his position will feel the necessity of Christ’s presence with him in his work for those for whom such a sacrifice has been made. He will subordinate everything to the higher interests which concern the life that may be saved unto life eternal. He will do all in his power to save both the body and the soul. He will try to do the very work that Christ would do were He in his place.

The physician who loves Christ and the souls for whom Christ died will seek earnestly to bring into the sickroom a leaf from the tree of life. He will try to break the bread of life to the sufferer. Notwithstanding the obstacles and difficulties to be met, this is the solemn, sacred work of the medical profession.”

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msandoval@uccheepines.org

Mark Sandoval, M.D.

HEALING FROM DISEASE, DEPRESSION,
AND DAMAGED RELATIONSHIPS

THE LAW OF *Life*

Michelle came to me with an abdominal cancer that had spread and was resisting all conventional attempts to control it. She also came with emotional baggage from relationship traumas. As I shared with her the principles contained in *The Law of Life*, and as she applied those principles in her life, her cancer reversed. She gained the joy and hope that she had lost, and she had a greater appreciation of her purpose in life. Michelle's story is not an isolated case. I see my patients' relationships restoring, spiritual lives blossoming, and mental health improving when these principles are applied. And you can too. Read and re-read *The Law of Life* until you understand and apply it to your life. You won't regret it!



MARK SANDOVAL after graduating from the Loma Linda University School of Medicine specialized in emergency medicine, practicing nationally and internationally. He transitioned to a lifestyle medicine practice at Uchee Pines Institute in 2012 and later became one of the first 200 physicians in the world to become board certified in lifestyle medicine. He is a proud father and happy husband, as well as an educator, entrepreneur, consultant, administrator, international speaker, and now author.



Uchee Pines Institute
www.ucheePines.org
1-877-824-3374



THE LAW OF LIFE

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