



FLORIDA CONFERENCE
**LAY INSTITUTE FOR
EVANGELISM**

**TRAINING
MANUAL
2026**



Seventh-day
Adventist Church
FLORIDA CONFERENCE



Proclamation
Sharing the Gospel

Relationship
Encountering the Gospel

Bible Study
Learning the Gospel

Discipleship
Modeling the Gospel

Witness to the World
Living the Gospel

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Go therefore and make disciples
of all the nations, baptizing them
in the name of the Father and of
the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19





Message from **Our President**

It was on the Sea of Galilee that Jesus called His first disciples. He called them with a clear invitation and a defined purpose: "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." *Matthew 4:19, NKJV*. The call to follow was never passive. It was intentional. It was purposeful. It was transformational.

Jesus did not choose based on education, family circumstances, or upbringing, but on willingness and surrender. Jesus did not simply gather followers. He developed leaders. *The Acts of the Apostles p. 17*.

Through daily life, teaching, correction, and example, Jesus intentionally prepared His disciples. "For three years and a half the disciples were under the instruction of the greatest Teacher the world has ever known... By personal contact and association, Christ trained them for His service" *The Acts of the Apostles, p. 17*. Their training was not confined to a classroom. It happened in the rhythms of life. They walked with Him, listened to Him, observed Him, and participated in ministry alongside Him. "He did not command the disciples to do this or that, but said, 'Follow Me.'"

Just before His ascension to heaven, Jesus gave them their final command: to go. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." *Matthew 28:19*. This commission was the natural continuation of their training. Having followed, they were now sent.

Yet the success of their mission was never to depend on their own ability. As we are reminded, "Not by human might or human wisdom was the gospel to be proclaimed, but by the power of God." *The Acts of the Apostles, p. 17*. The same is true for us today. Evangelism is not sustained by strategy alone, but by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit working through yielded lives. That same calling remains with us.

Evangelism is not merely an event or a program. It is the outworking of a life that is actively following Jesus. As we follow, He forms us. As He forms us, He sends us. We are called to intentionally engage, to build relationships, to share the hope of the gospel, and to disciple others into a growing walk with Christ.

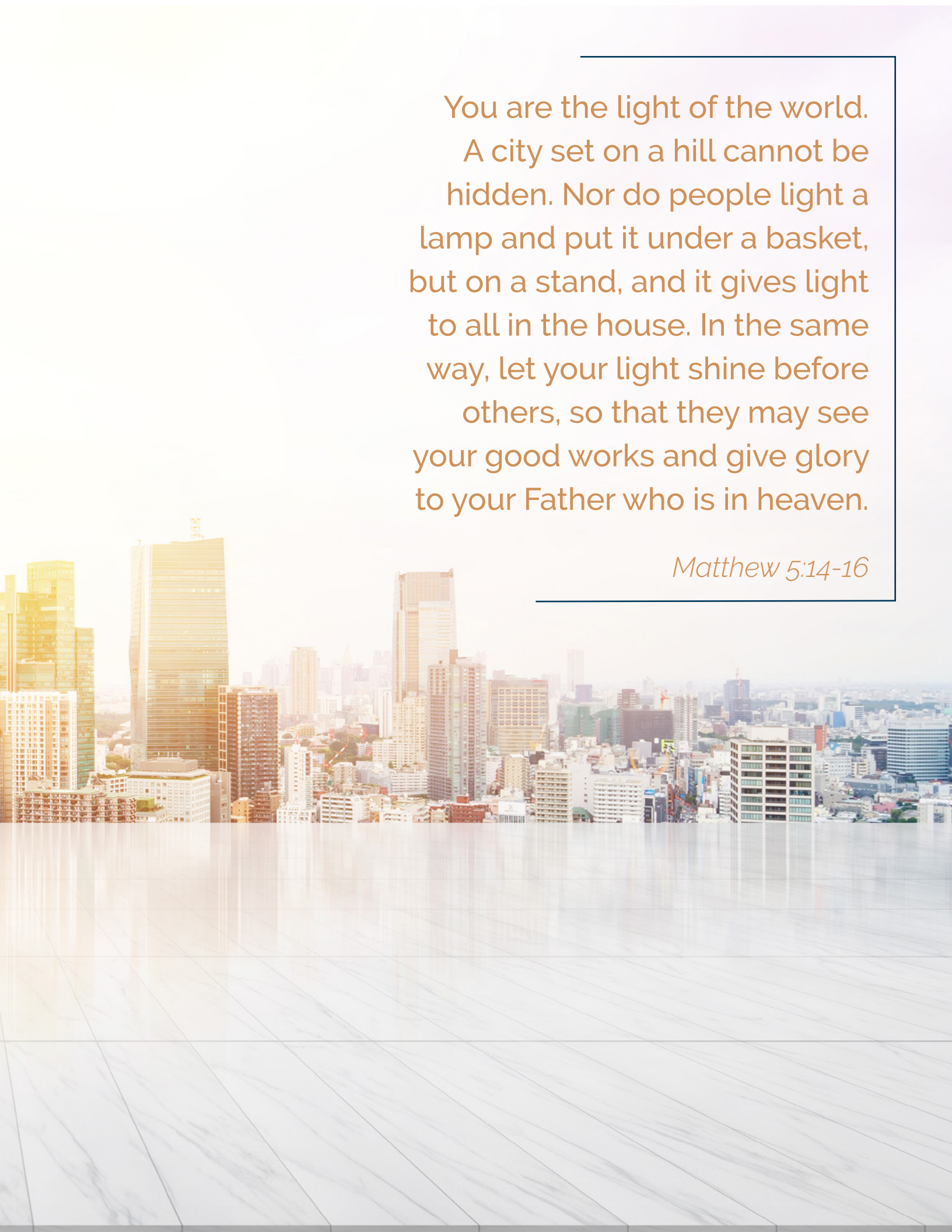
This training has been prayerfully designed to equip you for that mission. It will provide practical tools, spiritual insight, and a clear framework to help you effectively reach others. More importantly, it will invite you into a deeper experience with Jesus, because true evangelism always flows from a transformed life.

As you engage in this training, I encourage you to approach it with a willing heart and a prayerful spirit. Ask the Lord to shape you, to use you, and to open doors for you to impact lives. The same Savior who called fishermen by the sea is still calling men and women today.

May you be strengthened, equipped, and filled with the Holy Spirit as you answer His call to follow and to go.

Orlando Lopez

Florida Conference President

A city skyline at sunrise, with a reflection on a polished floor. The sky is a soft, hazy orange, and the buildings are silhouetted against the light. The reflection on the floor is clear and detailed, showing the same cityscape. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image, enclosed in a thin black border.

You are the light of the world.
A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16



FCLIFE

The organization of **Florida Conference Lay Institute for Evangelism (FCLIFE)**



FCLIFE serves the purpose of training believers who are faithful to Kingdom Growth. The discipleship and evangelistic principles they learn now, they put to work at their churches, places of employment, educational institutions, homes, and communities. The Church of God in the Florida Conference is responsible for developing missionaries, leading them out into the harvest field, and teaching them to work! When we consider the extraordinary wealth of dedicated and faithful believers found in our Adventist churches, we realize what is possible under God's guidance to rise and finish the work through organized efforts.

"Long has God waited for the spirit of service to take possession of the whole church, so that everyone shall be working for Him according to his ability." Acts of the Apostles, p. 111.

Our pastors and evangelists will not finish the work assigned to us by Jesus alone. The time has come for every member of the church to be harnessed and to work in an organized and intentional way. "With almost impatient eagerness, the angels wait for our cooperation; for man must be the channel to communicate with man. Angels rejoice that they may speak through our voices to reveal God's love." *The Desire of Ages, p. 297.*

Gospel Evangelism **Entities**



310 Churches



210 Pastors



109 Volunteer Lay Pastors



118 Chaplains



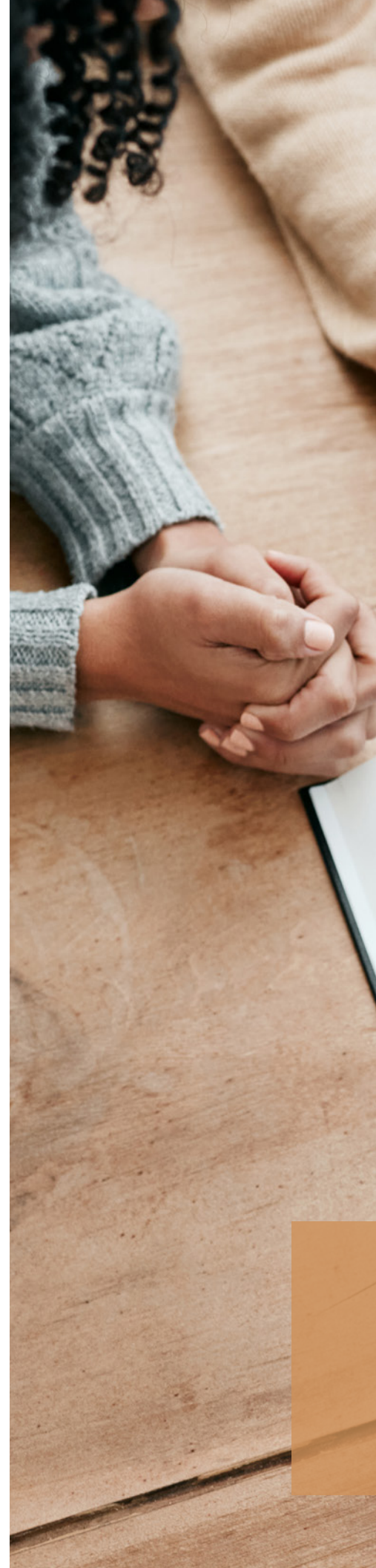
38 Schools



480 Educators



Gospel Evangelists:
76,000+, including you





I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters,
that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with
knowledge and competent to instruct one another.

Romans 15:14



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Operative Model

The institute will convene by areas and provide training to our laity on a specific day arranged in collaboration between the Pastoral Ministries Department Field Associates and local pastors.

The church is encouraged to send the most committed leaders to participate in vision casting, strategic planning for healthy church growth, worship, and intensive training in discipleship development and Kingdom Growth.

Pastoral Ministries personnel will teach the courses.

Local congregations are called to organize reaping evangelistic efforts culminating in baptisms.

Subjects and Class Topics

Relationship: Encountering the Gospel

- The power of my testimony
 - We live by the testimony of Jesus Christ
 - Your testimony is not the Gospel
 - Preparing your personal testimony
- Seeing with Gospel eyes
 - Seeing people with Gospel eyes
 - Seeing people's pain and suffering with Gospel eyes
 - Seeing the Church with Gospel eyes
- Relational Gospel
 - The Gospel is relational before it is doctrinal
 - The Gospel is more about God and less about me
 - Who is the God we want to relate to?
 - Living with our differences

Discipleship: Modeling the Gospel

- Living the Gospel
 - Understanding human nature
 - The need for self-awareness
 - The process of confession
 - The freedom of repentance
 - The healing of forgiveness
 - The healing of forgiveness
 - Walking the Way daily

- Beginning a Christ-centered life
 - Who is Jesus?
 - Our response to God's grace
 - What is the Christian life?
- Appreciating your security in Christ
 - Embracing your identity in Christ
 - Making decisions through God's wisdom
 - Living in God's presence and power

Bible Study: Learning the Gospel

- How to prepare a Bible study
- Personal vs. LifeGroups Bible study dynamics
- Jesus and doctrines: inseparably linked

Proclamation: Sharing the Gospel

- Is public evangelism outdated?
- How to proclaim the gospel in different settings
- Principles of homiletics: steps to effective Gospel proclamation
- The power of the Holy Spirit

Witnessing to the World: Living the Gospel

- Sharing the Big Story
 - Preparing to share
 - Presenting the Big Story
 - Check for understanding
- Sharing Jesus in a post-Christian world
 - Love the other as yourself
 - Engage in culture
 - Use your sphere of influence
- Don't share what you don't have
 - Emotional assets: gripping or gratitude, bitterness or forgiveness, depression or joy
 - Physical assets: caring for the temple
 - Social assets: you and your relationships
 - Spiritual disciplines



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Instructors



Kevin Robert

Maintenance to Movement

Kevin Robert is currently the pastor of Celebration Church in Celebration, Florida. He brings with him a wealth of experience as the former Church Growth and Evangelism Director for the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. A passionate advocate for a more decentralized microchurch model, Kevin co-planted the Freedom Church Microchurch network, a network of ordinary people living out the gospel together in community and committed to Kingdom multiplication. He has trained and coached church planters across five continents through the ACTS Church Planting Residency, championing discipleship and simple, reproducible models for reaching the unchurched.



John Honore

Small Circles, Big Impact

Pastor John Honore, a native of Dominica — the Nature Island of the Caribbean — is one of thirteen children whose life reflects faith, service, and resilience. He has been married to his wife, Maudrina, for 40 years, and together they have three adult daughters and five grandchildren. A former Academic Dean at Keiser University, he now serves as a pastor in Kendall, Homestead, and Key Largo. A devoted Soldier of the Cross, he lives by his guiding mantra, Matthew 4:19: "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."



Ruben Ramos

LifeGroups: Building a Church Beyond the Weekend

Ruben Ramos is the pastor of LifePoint Church in Jacksonville, Florida. He is passionate about helping people grow in their relationship with Jesus and live out their faith with purpose. His heart is to keep the gospel at the center and ensure it is passed on to the next generation. Ruben leads with a relational and intentional approach, focused on developing people and building a healthy church. He is married to Silvana and is a proud dad to Lio and Mateo.

As iron sharpens iron, so one
person sharpens another.

Proverbs 27:17



Resources



Foundations Series: *foundationsseries.com*

Steps to Personal Revival by Helmut Haubiel

Steps to Christ by Ellen G. White

Restore Podcast: *restorepodcast.com*

A podcast seeking to Restore the Vision, Restore the Mission, Restore the Church.

God Will Bless Our Efforts

God sees our hearts, and He will not forget our labor of love. Don't give up, don't lose heart, and don't lose hope! Refuse to be discouraged! Let us commit our plans to God, always trusting Him with everything. "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ," *Colossians 3:23-24, ESV*.

"We can do nothing without the help of God. The Spirit of God must work with our efforts, and if God's blessing attends us, we shall be channels of light. The Lord is willing to give us all an experience, which, if improved, will bring us from the lowlands of earth into a close, heavenly relationship with God, and every fiber of selfishness will be uprooted from our natures," *Reflecting Christ, page 205*.





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