

# BEYOND BELIEFS 2013-2014

Participant Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## READ THIS FIRST

Welcome to the Beyond Beliefs study, a research project which is investigating what young adults know about the 28 Fundamental Beliefs of Adventism, before and after participating in the university chapel services all of which will focus on the fundamental beliefs this semester. We also want your response to some issues that are related to the fundamental beliefs. This study is being undertaken by the Religion and Biblical Languages Department of Andrews University and is funded by ClergyEd.com. A similar study which was funded by the North American Division and ClergyEd.com was undertaken in the Spring 2013 semester. If you participated in that study, or you have filled in this survey in another class, you cannot participate again. Regardless of your participation, everyone will receive a chocolate, a token of our thanks for your time.

We would like to invite you to participate in this study by answering the following questions, however, you are under no obligation to do so—it will not affect your grade for this class. You must be 18 years old or older in order to participate in this study. This is the first of two questionnaires we will invite you to take part in. The second questionnaire will be administered at the end of this semester. Do not put your name on this questionnaire. You will, however, be asked to generate a participation number that is easy to remember so the researchers can match your two questionnaires at the conclusion of the study. You do not have to answer any questions you are uncomfortable with. These questions are completely anonymous. Qualitative and statistical data will be generated by these questions, and may be reported in future publications by the researchers. By completing this survey and returning it to the researcher, you agree to be a part of this study and consent to any publication of anonymous data. If you do not wish to participate, leave the study blank and return it to the researcher. Thank you for your time and your participation.

### QUESTION 1

How would you rate your knowledge of the 28 Fundamentals of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. (tick one)

|                   |                    |                   |                   |                 |                |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1                 | 2                  | 3                 | 4                 | 5               | 6              |
| I know everything | I know quite a lot | I know most of it | I know some of it | I know a little | I know nothing |

### QUESTION 2

Are you, (tick one)  Male  Female

Do you identify as Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender or Questioning (tick one)  Yes  No

### QUESTION 3

Do you primarily identify as: (tick one)

- Caucasian
- African American
- Native American
- Latino
- Asian
- Multi-racial
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTION 4

Were you born in the USA?  Yes  No

If no, where were you born? \_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTION 5

Are you an International Student?  Yes  No

### QUESTION 6

What is your major? \_\_\_\_\_

Why did you select this major?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTION 7

Do you identify as a Seventh-day Adventist. (tick one)

Yes  No

If no, please list your religious affiliation (if any) or if you identify as an atheist or agnostic.

\_\_\_\_\_

# DEMOGRAPHICS INVENTORY CONTINUED

## QUESTION 8

Which description best describes your marital status?  
(tick one)

- Single**, never married and not currently in a relationship
- Single, never married but in a relationship
- Married**
- Same sex relationship** and have had a lifetime commitment or wedding ceremony
- Widowed** and currently single
- Widowed and currently seeing someone
- Widowed and remarried
- Separated** but not divorced
- Separated, not divorced, but currently seeing someone
- Divorced** and currently single
- Divorced and currently seeing someone
- Divorced and remarried

## QUESTION 9

Do you attend church? (tick one)

- Every week       At least twice a month
- Occasionally       Never

## QUESTION 10

What is your level of spiritual commitment? (tick one)

- Very high       Generally High
- Medium       Generally Low
- Very Low       Non existent

## QUESTION 11

What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_

## QUESTION 12

If you identified as a Seventh-day Adventist earlier, how long have you been a part of this faith? (select one)

- All my life      Number of Years \_\_\_\_\_

## QUESTION 13

Do you have at least one parent AND one grandparent (alive or deceased) who are/were members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church? (tick one)

- Yes       No

## QUESTION 14

Are you: (tick as many as you need)

- A survivor of sexual abuse
- A survivor of domestic violence
- A survivor of sexual assault/rape
- Are you or your parents divorced
- A survivor of physical abuse
- A survivor of a hate/race crime
- A HIV positive person
- Someone who has had an abortion
- Someone who supports the theory of evolution

## QUESTION 15

Before attending Andrews, did you attend a Seventh-day Adventist: (tick as many as you need)

- Elementary School
- Middle School
- High School

# DEMOGRAPHICS INVENTORY CONTINUED

## QUESTION 16

Why did you decide to attend Andrews University? (tick as many as you need)

- The closest Adventist University
- My siblings studied/studies here
- My parents studied here
- My parents wanted me to study here
- My parents get discount if I attend this university
- My parents are paying so they decided
- I wanted to attend an Adventist university
- Andrews University is the best Adventist university
- There is a lot of prestige associated with a degree from Andrews University, particularly in Adventist circles
- Andrews University is a liberal university
- Andrews University is a conservative university
- I liked the campus when I came to visit
- I heard a lot of good things about the university
- They offered a good program in my major/area of study
- A recruiter came to my school and told us about Andrews
- I have always wanted to attend Andrews University
- I receive a scholarship to study here
- My friends wanted to study here
- No particular reason
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

## QUESTION 17

Are you a baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist church. (tick one)

- Yes       No

## QUESTION 18

If you answered YES to question 17, do you feel a sense of ownership or belonging to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. (tick one)

- Yes       No

## QUESTION 19

Do you feel that young adults have a voice in the Seventh-day Adventist church? (tick one)

- Yes       No

Do you feel that church leadership is interested in what you personally have to say? (tick one)

- Yes       No

## QUESTION 20

What do you like most about the Seventh-day Adventist church? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you like least about the Seventh-day Adventist church? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## QUESTION 21

What was your main motivation for taking this class? (tick one)

- I needed a General Education class
- This class was required
- I was interested in the topic
- I thought it would be easy
- I wanted to know more about the topic
- It fit my schedule
- Other:

\_\_\_\_\_

# DEMOGRAPHICS INVENTORY CONTINUED

If you are baptized, go to questions 22—26 in column 1. If you are not baptized, go to question 27 in column 2.

## Column 1

### QUESTION 22

What age were you when you were baptized? \_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTION 23

**Why did you decide to be baptized:** (rank in order only those which apply to you—1 being the most important etc.)

- Your parents encouraged you
- Extended family encouraged you
- Your Pastor encouraged you
- Your friends were getting baptized
- You felt personally convicted
- You felt pressured by friends, family or Pastor
- You felt pressured by church members
- For the attention and gifts

### QUESTION 24

If you could do it all again, would you have gotten baptized? (tick one)

|     |       |            |    |
|-----|-------|------------|----|
| 1   | 2     | 3          | 4  |
| Yes | Maybe | Not really | No |

### QUESTION 25

If you were baptized age 13 or younger, if you could do it all again, would you have waited until you were older to be baptized? (tick one if it applies)  Yes  No

If you were baptized aged 14—18, if you could do it all again, would you have waited until you were older to be baptized? (tick one if it applies)  Yes  No

### QUESTION 26

**Regarding re-baptism:**

- I have been re-baptised  Yes  No
- One baptism is enough for me  Yes  No
- I would like to be re-baptised  Yes  No

Go to question 28

## Column 2

### QUESTION 27

If you are not baptized, which descriptions best describe why? (rank in order only those which apply to you—1 being the most important etc.)

- Your parents encouraged you not to
- Extended family encouraged you not to
- You didn't feel convicted
- Your friends encouraged you not to
- You were not interested in Adventism
- You were never given the opportunity
- You disagreed with some Adventist beliefs
- You didn't like some people at church
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Go to question 28

### QUESTION 28

**Who taught you the 28 Fundamentals?** (tick as many as you need)

- Nobody—that's why I don't know them very well
- I taught myself
- My parents taught me
- My grandparents taught me
- My pastor taught me
- In baptismal classes
- Bible class at school (K-12)
- Pathfinders
- Youth services
- Sabbath School
- Youth camp or programs
- Evangelistic campaigns
- Campus Chapel Programs
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

# DEMOGRAPHICS INVENTORY CONTINUED

## QUESTION 29

Which statement best describes the Bible, in your opinion:  
(tick one)

- The actual word of God and is to be taken literally, word for word
- The inspired word of God but not everything in it should be taken literally, word for word
- An ancient book of fables, legends, history and moral regulations recorded by men/women

## QUESTION 30

Which statement best describes your belief regarding the origin of the world: (tick one)

- I believe God created the entire universe in six literal days approximately 6,000 years ago
- I believe God created life on this earth in six literal days approximately 6,000-12,000 years ago
- I believe God created life on this earth in six literal days, but I don't know how long ago
- I believe God created life on this earth over a longer period of time, not six literal days, but over millions or even billions of years
- I believe God used the evolutionary process to create life on this earth
- I believe the creation story is just a story written by someone to explain why the world is the way it is
- I don't believe a personal God created this world, but there was an intelligent designer
- I don't believe God created this world, and there was no intelligent designer. Life is due to natural causes
- I really don't care
- Other:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## QUESTION 31

Has someone close to you died? (tick as many as you need)

- Family member  Yes  No
- Close relative  Yes  No
- Friend or someone you cared about  Yes  No

## QUESTION 32

I am afraid of ghosts:  Yes  No

## QUESTION 33

Ghosts: (tick one)

- Do not exist
- Is the devil/demon impersonating a dead person
- The spirit of the dead person
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## QUESTION 34

I believe in Hell.  Yes  No

## QUESTION 35

Have you read any of Ellen White's writings (either books or online excerpts of her books)? (tick one)

Yes  No

If yes, how often do you read Ellen White's writings?

- 0  Daily
- 1  Weekly
- 2  Monthly
- 3  Every now and then
- 4  Never again

**QUESTION 36**

**Do you believe Ellen G. White was:** *(tick one)*

- A prophet who received messages directly from God
- A prophet who received messages from God, but wrote them down in her own words.
- Not a prophet, but had some valuable things to say
- Someone whose visions could, in modern times, be better described as a neurological condition
- A disempowered 19th Century woman who claimed she had visions as a means of giving herself authority
- I believe Ellen White is no longer relevant
- Just another Christian author
- I have never heard about her
- I really don't care who she was

**QUESTION 37**

**I support the *commissioning* of women to ministry, allowing them to work as recognised pastors in their respective Division?** *(tick one circle only—do not tick between two circles)*

0     1     2     3     4     5

Disagree Strongly    Disagree Somewhat    Disagree Slightly    Agree Slightly    Agree Somewhat    Agree Strongly

**QUESTION 38**

**I support the *ordination* of women to ministry allowing them to work as recognised pastors throughout the world, receiving the same benefits and recognition as their male counterparts?** *(tick one circle only—do not tick between two circles)*

0     1     2     3     4     5

Disagree Strongly    Disagree Somewhat    Disagree Slightly    Agree Slightly    Agree Somewhat    Agree Strongly

**QUESTION 39**

**Do you identify as a vegetarian?** *(tick one)*

- No
- I am a vegan
- I'll eat honey or eggs or dairy foods
- I'll eat white meat (like chicken or fish) but not red meat

**QUESTION 40**

**I pay tithe:** *(tick one)*

- Yes, I tithe everything, money I earn, gifts and even loans
- Yes, I tithe only money I earn and gifts
- Yes, I tithe only money I earn
- I pay tithe only when I can afford it
- No, but I feel bad that I don't
- No, and I don't feel bad about it
- Never, I don't have an income
- Never, I don't believe in paying tithe

**Why do you pay tithe, or not pay tithe:**

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*Thank you for your participation.*

*Please return this inventory to the researcher along with your signed consent form.*

*Don't forget to pick up your chocolate or health bar.*