

"Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but His that sent me. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." John 7: 16, 17

Jesus here presents to us what on the surface is a conundrum. To do the will of God does not come naturally for human beings ever since Adam and Eve fell into sin. So to understand what the will of God is and indeed to do that will we must search out through His word (doctrine) what that will is. *The Greek word for the word "doctrine" used here is "didache" which means instruction.* Yet Jesus says here that only those that "will do his will...shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God". How is it possible to do His will before knowing it doctrinally? First we must be led by the Holy Spirit, decide to do His will and put that decision into action. To "do" means action, participation. Then we will know what God's "instruction" for our lives is.

We pray that this small glimpse into His people here in Canada, published every two months, will be a reflection of this participation and will inspire us all to "do" more for God and each other.

WHO'S WHO?

Jesus' purpose for His people is that we become brothers and sisters of His family. It is important that we get to know each other a little better in order that we might have a greater appreciation for each other. This will be a regular feature where we will profile different people in the Church in Canada. The first few newsletters will feature different Church workers.



Oscar Javier Oviedo, Bible Worker • Wife: Magnolia

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 25681, 395 Wellington Rd. South, London ON N6C 6B3 • **Email:** gatoscar_2001@yahoo.com

My name is Oscar Javier Oviedo. Born: March 05 1980. My parents were never married. I lived most of my life with my mother. My Mom met the SDA church just before I was born and I was dedicated there when an infant. You could say I was brought up in an SDA environment. My Mom came to know about the reform movement through buying health food products at the headquarters of the Colombian Union which was located near our house. There, she inquired about the differences between SDA and IMS. An elderly brother told her some of the reasons. She started coming often to the IMS church.

In the SDA she did not know much about the true message as they were not teaching it. So it took a while until she really understood the message before she took her stand for the truth. In the meanwhile I was a teenager. I was a rebel. I ran away from home 3 times. After I came back home, my mom sent me for holidays with a minister from our church. We went to the country. There, alone, I had time to think and see if my life had any meaning or any direction. I remember that on New Year's eve 1995 I made a kind of promise between God and Myself.

After I returned to my city I asked a friend of mine who was the leader of the church to start giving me Bible studies. I told nobody about my plans. Not even my mom knew about it.

We studied every night. He was an excellent spiritual guide. He never used any booklet. He would get the bible and teach me about a subject. Then right away he would start asking me difficult questions, which would compel me to study hard. I liked this. Eight months later I asked to be baptized. On August 18 1996, I made my personal covenant with the Lord. My mom knew about my decision only when my case was brought up before the church for approval. She was overjoyed.

Before my conversion I had been a terrible liar and had destroyed the confidence of my mom. That year I read about the missionary school in Hungary, but I never thought I could make it. Again I did not tell anyone about my desire. I just prayed and the Lord provided a way for me to attend. After the Missionary school I returned to Colombia. I worked in the publishing department and the Church Primary School. Next I was called to work in Suriname and spent two years there learning each day. I almost died there in a terrible accident. After Suriname I was told I would go to South Africa, but I did not go due to financial problems. I ended up working as Bible worker in the south part of Colombia and after 6 months there I married and came to Canada. My wife Magnolia, and I courted for five years. Most of the time we were away from each other, but the Lord kept our love for each other alive. This year the Lord blessed us with a son, Juan Daniel Oviedo Correa. May the Lord richly bless our spiritual family and the work here in Canada.

"As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far contry." Proverbs 25.25

It is important that we support those people and their families that have dedicated their lives to being gospel workers. We ask that you would:

- drop them a note of support now and then for encouragement;
- support them with your prayers and offerings.

Here are their Contact details:

• **In Calgary**

Br. Kelly Schultz & his wife Carla.
phone: 403-512-8274
314-4000 Somervale Crt. SW
Calgary, Alberta, T2Y4J3

• **In New Brunswick**

Br. Conrad Bosse
email: conradbosse@hotmail.com

• **In London**

Br. Oscar Oviedo & his wife Magnolia
email: gatascar_2001@yahoo.com

• **In Vancouver**

Br. Michael Mitov & his wife
email: michael@imssdarm-bg.org

• **Canadian Field President**

Br. Gary Foster & his wife
email: sdarmusa@aol.com

Please pray for:

- the Canadian Field Committee meetings that are being held in November that God would lead and His will done.
- Missionary work that is going on throughout the Canadian Field.
- The publishing work.
- The General Conference, that the move from Germany to the US will be successful.



CALGARY

The believers in Calgary and the rest of the Canadian Field welcome Br. Kelly Schultz and his wife Carla as a new Bible worker in the Church. This will be a tremendous boost for the missionary work here and we look forward to exciting news in the coming months.

LONDON

London is a relatively new field of work, only a few years old. Br. Oscar Oviedo (a Bible worker) and His wife Magnolia lead out the work there. As with all new areas of God's work there are growing pains. There has been much new interest as a result of the labours there however some of the previous interested souls stopped coming to church. This should only inspire us to pray and work more for these souls. Here is an example of how the Lord is working in these matters: (Account by Br. Oscar Oviedo)

There was this young girl (18 years old), from the beginning she was interested in fascinating subjects such as the Sanctuary; She was immediately drawn to the truth. At the same time she started having minor problems in her existing church (Nazarene). She wanted to leave that church due gossiping etc. I told her it was not correct to leave a church just because of secular problems. One should switch churches when one finds that the teaching is not according God's word. We came indirectly to the point of Sabbath and she herself realized that the Christian world is not keeping the right day. From then on, every Friday at sunset, she was ready for Sabbath opening and would spend all Sabbath worshipping with us. Her mother was not happy and did everything she could to hinder her from attending our meetings or from keeping Sabbath. Her mother made her keep going to the Nazarene church. The young lady then found a job that required her to work on Saturday. I was sad and I went to talk to her but she did not like it. I told her that in those moments where our faith is tested, is where our faith can grow. Thereafter she was really offended and stopped visiting with us.

She never told me the reason why she would not come here anymore, but her boyfriend, Paulo, told me what the real reason was. Paulo DOES come here and we have bible studies on Sunday morning. I had told him to treat her with respect and help her with her faith. Paulo is studying God's word and he sees the difference between our message and others. He hopes to be a great influence in her seeing the truth. We must collectively, as the body of Christ, pray for her and others as we realize that Satan puts snares all around God's people, especially new souls. God says, "I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee." Jer. 31:3

While this seems like a sad tale, it is the reality of working with souls for God's kingdom. With rain, God always brings sunshine. I have started working with a Jamaican lady. She is so happy about learning the Bible. There is also new interest from Spanish speaking people. Others have been studying for a while and seem to be getting closer to making a commitment with the Lord.

MONTREAL

The Lord is working mightily in the Montreal area despite the setbacks that Satan seeks to throw in the path of God's work. In a Montreal suburb called Granby, there is a group of 28 interested people, including Children. The biggest challenge is to support these interested souls as there is not a worker in that area. If anyone has time or financial means to help in this area please contact Br. Oscar Oviedo (gatascar_2001@yahoo.com) or Br. Mike Newby (miken1@sympatico.ca).

TORONTO

We had a lovely corn roast on Sunday Sept. 5 where people were able to enjoy themselves outside in nature and fellowship together including visitors from Montreal and the Hamilton church. Most participated in a 2 1/2 hr. walk to a nearby Hilton Falls.

On Sunday, Sept. 19th we reached out into the community with canvassing. From 8 year old James to more senior members enjoyed the blessing of sharing God's word with others. We were also blessed with Br. & Sis. Graf from Australia.

The youth of Toronto were able to travel to different places throughout the world. These included Edwin, Raquel and Debbie going to Italy for the youth conference in August and Reyna visiting Raquel Acevedo and her family in Canaima, Venezuela. Reyna also visited the church in Caracas.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

WHEN: DECEMBER 27, 2004 to JANUARY 2, 2005.

WHERE: SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

The Australian Field would like to invite young people from around the world to attend a Youth Conference in the middle of our summer at the end of this year. Spaces are limited so reserve your space early.

Payments & Reservations can be sent to:

International Missionary Society
P.O. Box 54,
Toongabbie, NSW 2146
Australia

For detailed information:

jerryeaton@smartchat.net.au or

markus@justinternet.com.au

or call by telephone: Tel. (+61) 2-9670-2886

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