The role of the plan of salvation

• Whether you follow a logical or psychological order of topics, always present the plan of salvation as the basis of Christianity. In areas where people come from a religion other that Christianity, you'll probably have to start with studies dealing with the role of religion in life, or some other introduction to Christianity itself.

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In areas where people worship several gods, you may need to include some studies on monotheism and the reasons for worshipping just one God.

The role of the plan of salvation

- Introduce doctrinal topics after the student has made a commitment to Jesus as Lord and Savior.
- Present the distinctive teachings of Seventh-day Adventists after people have accepted Jesus and made a commitment to follow Him.

• Most Bible studies present topics in a logical way, usually beginning with a study about the Bible itself, then moving on to the plan of salvation and the doctrines of the church.

Dr. K.S. Wiggins, psychologist and Adventist evangelist, offers the following advice on the order of the topics for Bible studies and public evangelism presentations.

« Seventh-day Adventist evangelists are accustomed to arrange their subjects in a logical order. The only drawback with this method is that the human mind doesn't work logically. Much better results are obtained if subjects are arranged in a psychological order. » - Soul-winning made easy, p. 37

- The psychological order helps in two important ways:
 - It keeps interest high throughout the series.
 - It makes decisions easier.

The idea is to include a few particularly interesting studies at certain points in the series to keep interest high.

- The suggestion is that the topics be arranged in three main blocks:
 - Salvation in Christ alone.
 - What Christ wants us to believe and do.
 - The decision to enter the church of Christ in the last days.

The subject arrangements that follow are suggestions and their use should be adapted to the various target audiences to whom the studies are presented. Choose an order of topics that meets the needs of the students.

- The following is a typical order that can be used in a variety of meetings.
- Note that in this order, the plan of salvation appears only far down the list. This is done intentionally to serve the decision-making process.

- The Word of God
- 2. Daniel 2
- 3. The second return of Jesus
- 4. Signs of Jesus' second return.
- 5. The millennium
- 6. The destiny of the wicked.
- 7. The home of the redeemed.

- 8. Daniel's prophecies
- 9. Christ our high Priest
- 10. The investigative judgment
- 1. Law and Gospel
- 12. The Sabbath
- 13. The Sabbath on the New Testament
- 14. The origins of Sunday observance.

- 15. The origin of bad angels
- 16. The work of the good angels
- 17. The state of the dead
- 18. Spiritism
- 19. The great controversy between Christ and Satan
- 20. The seal of God and the mark of the beast
- 21. Jesus saves the lost

- 22. Faith
- 23. Precious promises
- 24. Church ordinances
- 25. Christian standarts and duties
- 26. The human body as temple
- 27. Prayer
- 28. The work of the Holy Spirit