### **Southern Adventist University**

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The Main Thing Devotional

Chaplain's Office

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## The Pivot

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#### The Main Thing Devotional: The Pivot

"Go, call your husband and come back."...the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." - John 4:16–20

The moment we cease hiding is the very moment God can supply healing. Election season is upon us and that inevitably means hours of television debates on most of the major news networks. One of the greatest frustrations I have when viewing the debates is how candidates have mastered the art of evading important questions being asked. If you have watched a debate, you have probably observed a candidate pivot. A pivot is a way of taking a specific question being asked and moving to answer it on your own terms. However, you do not have to be a politician to practice the pivot. Could it be that we have perfected the art of the pivot when it comes to our relationship with God?

In the Desire of Ages, the author provides the following commentary on the woman at the well: "Jesus now abruptly turned the conversation...He "saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither." She answered, "I have no husband." Thus **she hoped to prevent all questioning in that direction**. But the Saviour continued, "Thou hast well said, I have no husband: for thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly...She could deny nothing; but **she tried to evade all mention of a subject** so unwelcome."

The question Jesus asked her awakened the very things in her life that she wanted to silence, the areas in her life that she wanted to keep hidden. She used the pivot of religion in an attempt to evade the question about her marital status. The pivot provided her the ability to hide, but Jesus cannot heal what we seek to hide. The incredible part of this story is when the woman at the well stopped pivoting; a miracle took place in her life. The apostle John states, "So the woman left her water jar, and went away into the city, and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" (John 4:28) She realized that she did not have to hide anything from Jesus, He already knew all her issues and when she stopped hiding God's Spirit began healing. When we stop avoiding the questions God asks us, we can experience the healing He promised to provide.

Save the Date: Revival Fall Week of Prayer and Peace Week November 2-6 @ 8 PM in the BIG Tent. If you feel like you are just going through the motions in your walk with God, Fall Week of Prayer is an opportunity to redeem the moment. Our dynamic guest speaker will be Pr. Myron Edmonds, who is pastor of Grace Community Seventh-day Adventist Church. Feel free to open the poster attached for more details.

#### Reflection

What questions has Jesus been asking you recently? Have you found yourself using the pivot to avoid answering the questions He is asking? Maybe questions like, "Why are you afraid?" "Where are you in your spiritual walk with Me?" or "Have you forgiven him/her?" God's questions are never to inform Him but always to transform us!

#### **Prayer**

Loving Father in Heaven, thank you for being the God who heals our minds, hearts, bodies and relationships. May your questions lead me to The One who is the way, the truth and the life. Help me to trust You in every moment so that my soul may be revived in Your grace.

#### **NEWS AND RESOURCES**

- **United in Prayer:** Every morning at the flag pole in front of Wright Hall from 8:15-8:30 (M-F), students, join with faculty, staff and students to specifically pray for an end to any racial division within our campus, our church, and our nation. For more information, feel free to contact <a href="Stephanie Guster">Stephanie Guster</a>.
- Share your prayer requests or praises with us via text message using your mobile phone. **Text-to-Pray: 423-281-8996.**
- **Need to talk to someone?** We encourage you to make an appointment with Chaplains <u>Anna Bennett</u> or <u>Joseph Khabbaz</u> if you need someone to talk to someone for support, prayer or have a desire to grow spiritually.