Programa para Mejorar la Salud Espiritual de la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día de Gainesville-Florida

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Date of Award
2010

Document Type
Project Report

Degree Name
Doctor of Ministry

School
Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary

Program
Doctor of Ministry DMin

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Abstract
Problem

Every church as a social group has the potential to grow and improve its spirituality, its cohesion, its commitment, its fidelity and its participation. The Gainesville Spanish Adventist Church is formed by members that have the ardent desire to improve in all these areas. This investigation aims to improve the spirituality of the congregation.

Methodology

The investigation began with the selection of 25 members of the Gainesville Spanish Church in Florida who were available to collaborate in the investigation in order to detect the spiritual deficiencies among church members. A questionnaire was used to discover the spiritual weaknesses and, based on the results, a program was then elaborated and applied to improve the spirituality of the members.

Results

The investigation reached the two basic objectives proposed in this thesis: first, to develop a program of spiritual improvement, and second, that, as a consequence of the first, we obtain major participation from the members in all church activities. The
implementation of the program made it possible for the church to internalize and make
the most value of improving the life of devotion and prayer, as well as developing the
natural desire to participate in missionary work. Moreover, it was evident that the
program produced changes in the church’s behavior and, among those, the increase of
baptisms. The few people who had negative thoughts and attitudes towards the changes
while the program was developing started integrating in the process and ended-up
recognizing that they were mistaken, inasmuch as the positive results spoke for
themselves. The evaluation survey reported spiritual improvement of the four areas in
which the first survey had reflected deficiency; family worship, participation in missionary
activity, lack of participation in the general activities of the church, and finally, neglect of
the reading of the Bible.

Subject Area
Gainesville Spanish Seventh-day Adventist Church (Gainesville, Fla.); Seventh-day
Adventists--Florida; Spiritual life--Seventh-day Adventists

Recommended Citation
Rivera, Byron Alexander Sr., “Programa para Mejorar la Salud Espiritual de la Iglesia Adventista
https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/dmin/512

DOI
https://dx.doi.org/10.32597/dmin/512