



PATHFINDER DAY

GENERAL CONFERENCE YOUTH MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT

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THE PATHFINDER DAY

Jonatan Tejel ►
GC Associate Youth Director
Pathfinder Youth Director



I would like to share some thoughts you should engrave in your heart about the Pathfinder Law. Each of the 8 parts that define our Pathfinder Law are there for a reason.

Keep the Morning Watch

Highlights the importance of being in contact with heaven from the beginning of each day. Jesus kept the Morning Watch. Every time Jesus had the chance, He went “into the fields, to meditate in the green valleys, to hold communion with God on the mountainside or amid the trees of the forest” (Desire of Ages, p. 90). Pray for a few minutes and read something from the Bible.

Do my Honest Part

Never forget that we should fulfill our responsibilities as individuals and as Christians. Honesty is difficult to find nowadays, but it should be a quality of each Pathfinder. “Better the poor whose walk is blameless than a fool whose lips are perverse” (Proverbs 19:1).

Care for my body

“Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.” Care for your body through a good diet and physical activity.

Keep a level eye

Keeping a level eye means that you have balance in your life. It helps you to be less susceptible to manipulation, power plays, or threats. It means having the sense that you can go through life without getting knocked down, run over or having to escape using unhealthy strategies.

Be courteous and obedient

To be polite and kind, ready to do what I am asked, as long as it is in harmony with God’s will. Many Bible verses talk about obedience, but let me share this one with you: “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.” Notice that it says obey your parents “in the Lord”.

Walk softly in the sanctuary

“But the Lord is in His holy temple,” says the prophet (Hab. 2:20). Therefore I will remain reverent in His presence. When there is a devotional exercise, we should be reverent.


Keep a song in my heart

I will walk through life with a happy and cheerful mood corresponding to someone who has Christ in his or her heart. Jesus asked us to be the light of this world. A smile on the face of a Christian—and particularly on the face of a Pathfinder—is part of that light. Never get discouraged!

Go on God’s errands

Jesus’ Great Commission concerns me; I like it and will consider it a privilege to take part in it. God has a plan for you; I’m sure of that. You need to find out what it is His purpose in your life and then walk the path with Him.

Your friend in Jesus,


Jonatan Tejel
GC Associate Youth Director
Pathfinder World Director

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE

Gilbert Cangy ►
GC Youth Ministries Director



THE IDEAL PATHFINDER

◀ Jonatan Tejel
GC Associate Youth Director
Pathfinder Youth Director



The key word when it comes to studying the Bible is “meditation”. What is meditation? The dictionary says it is to engage in profound thought, devout religious contemplation, or quiescent spiritual introspection. Big words, yes. We have simpler thoughts shared with us from King David in Psalm 1:1,2: “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly or stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord and in His law he meditates day and night.” This teaches us that spending time to really think deeply about the Word of God is the way to live a fulfilling life, through the power of Jesus.

How can we do this? We first have to switch our focus from quantity to quality. Deep thinking about the Word of God doesn’t necessarily mean we read the entire New Testament in one sitting, or stay up all night counting the hours. It means we allow the Holy Spirit to work on our minds and hearts so God’s living word becomes part of who we are as He makes us look more and more like Him. We’re not just learning information from the black and white text of the Bible, but gaining meaning and value in our lives directly from our Creator.

For this kind of meditation to take place, we have to get prepared. This won’t just happen casually. People who

go to the Olympics train daily for four years. We have to choose a dedicated time to meditate on God’s word, remain mindful of the reason why we are doing so, and continually choose to embrace God’s will. We need to pray before, during, and after we read the Bible so that our reading is nothing short of an experience with Him. He will give us the will and the ability to focus and learn.

Where to start? Choose a specific passage of scripture. Try reading the scripture aloud; this will help you to slow down instead of rushing through it. When you slow down, you’ll pick up words that catch your attention. When you’ve absorbed the passage, write down how it relates to your life in practical and tangible ways. Ask the Holy Spirit to make connections and bring them to your understanding. Ask God what invitation He is extending through the passage, specifically for you. What would He like you to do with what you’re gaining from His word? What actions would He like you to take as a result of meditating on that passage?

Lastly, when you’ve done all the above, be still and silent for a little while. Don’t rush into the next thing on your To Do List, but bask in the glow of His presence and thank Him for His guidance.

It is difficult to define the ideal Pathfinder considering the characteristics that, according to the leaders, must be part of his/her personality. In addition, there is neither a perfect human being nor a particular prototype. In our environment we find a great number of teenagers, young people, and adults who represent an ideal in diversity.

The combination of different virtues in distinct proportions produces men and women that sometimes grasp the ideal, of course, always recognizing individuality. The Lord made us unique; our fingerprints, the irises of our eyes and the scents of our skin are unique to each person. Therefore, it is necessary to emphasize the most important characteristics of “The Ideal Pathfinder” as a model we can pay attention to.

We want all Adventist Pathfinders and their leaders to be an example or model for our society in values, principles, ethics, and lifestyle.

The Pathfinder Club gives young people the opportunity to take part in a wide range of new activities, developing strength and self esteem, as well as giving society greater and better service. The acquisition of these values will suppose an

investment from adolescence to adulthood, in familiar, interpersonal, and professional relationships. The Pathfinder Club is a school, a classroom, and a workshop where teenagers learn, grow, and are molded, with divine help, into witnesses for Christ.

The definition of “the ideal Pathfinder” is totally defined by the beautiful principle you can find in our Pledge, Aim and Law—but be careful! Do not make the mistake of considering only the letter of the law, as occurred to the rich young man who presented himself before Jesus. These ideals must create in us a genuine and unmistakable lifestyle. They will transform us day by day into citizens of heaven. The main objective of the Pathfinder Club is to recover the “image of God” in which we were created, and mold in boys and girls the character most similar to that of Jesus. To be a Christian is to live like Christ.

Finally, I leave you the counsel of Paul to Timothy, which, in my opinion, contains a set of values that constitutes the Christian character. “Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Until I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine... Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all” (1 Timothy 4:12-15).



You may be wondering, “Why do they give us the numbers?” The work of God and what He accomplishes through the body of Christ is not quantifiable. Our aim is not to have the biggest number of members or the largest population of churches.

However, we want to make sure that you don’t end up on the other side of the spectrum, feeling alone and doubting whether your hard work in the Pathfinder Club really matters.

Here you can see that every single Pathfinder Club is a vital part of the overall ministry in the whole world! Whether your Club has 10 kids or 100, we remember each of you every day and pray for all of you on a consistent basis.

Now you know about your counterparts from all the different parts of the globe. We hope this data encourages you and makes you excited about the bigger picture. God is using Adventist youth in a mighty way and the values of the Pathfinder Club make a very big impact wherever they go. People from other religions and those who don’t know God see the involvement of our youth and youth leaders. It makes them curious about our faith and contributes to the growth of God’s heavenly kingdom.

| WORLD DIVISIONS |
|------------------------------------|
| East Central Africa (ECD) |
| Euro Asia (ESD) |
| Inter American (IAD) |
| Inter European (EUD) |
| North America (NAD) |
| Northern Asia Pacific (NSD) |
| South America (SAD) |
| Southern Africa-Indian Ocean (SID) |
| South Pacific (SPD) |
| Southern Asia Pacific (SSD) |
| Southern Asia (SUD) |
| Trans-European (TED) |
| West Central Africa (WAD) |

| 2013 DIVISIONAL JUNIOR YOUTH STATISTICAL REPORT | | | |
|---|------------|-------------|------------|
| ADVENTURERS | | PATHFINDERS | |
| NUMBER | MEMBERSHIP | NUMBER | MEMBERSHIP |
| 1,954 | 73,479 | 2,582 | 124,090 |
| 177 | 1,241 | 364 | 3,663 |
| 3,148 | 63,742 | 4,520 | 99,625 |
| 413 | 8,466 | 575 | 9,113 |
| 1,530 | 18,945 | 2,376 | 59,560 |
| 41 | 442 | 365 | 7,398 |
| 3,772 | 69,317 | 7,095 | 188,664 |
| 8,112 | 997,011 | 9,285 | 815,003 |
| 1,158 | 38,606 | 2,718 | 67,348 |
| 2,233 | 42,618 | 2,799 | 93,027 |
| 273 | 13,650 | 253 | 18,975 |
| 309 | 2,973 | 558 | 4,129 |
| 301 | 34,766 | 560 | 56,546 |
| 23,421 | 1,365,256 | 34,050 | 1,547,141 |



PATHFINDER DAY SERVICE CHURCH SERVICE OPTION 1

1. Prelude
2. Ministers enter
3. Silent prayer
4. Doxology
5. Invocation
6. Presentation of Colors
7. Pathfinders march in and take places Pledge and Law
8. Post flags
9. Honor Guard returns to seats
10. Congregation and Pathfinders seated
11. Scripture reading: 1 Timothy 4:12
12. Hymn No. 529, "Under His Wings"
13. Congregational prayer
14. Offering
15. Special music
16. Pathfinder report--Pathfinder club director
17. Sermon by pastor, child preacher, or guest
18. Hymn No. 508, "Anywhere With Jesus"
19. Benediction
20. Postlude
21. Congregation stands
22. Adult Sabbath School can also be directed by Pathfinders.

PATHFINDER DAY SERVICE CHURCH SERVICE OPTION 2

1. Prelude
2. Personal ministries period Pathfinder missionary experiences
3. Processional Ministers, directors, pathfinders
4. Introit (platform group kneeling) Choir
5. Doxology
6. Invocation Pathfinder
7. Post Colors Color guard
8. Welcome Pastor
9. Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 4:12 Pathfinder
10. Hymn no. 529, "Under His Wings"
11. Prayer Two Pathfinders
12. Pathfinder Song Pathfinders
13. Pathfinder Happenings Teen Pathfinder
14. Pledge and Law Pathfinder choir
15. Song of Instrumental Selection Pathfinders
16. Pathfinder Objectives Club director
17. Offering
18. Sermon Pastor, child preacher, or guest
19. Hymn no. 508, "Anywhere With Jesus"
20. Benediction
21. Recessional
22. Ministers and directors
23. Color guard
24. Staff
25. Pathfinder units and counselors
26. Congregation



PATHFINDER DAY SERVICE CHURCH SERVICE OPTION 3

1. Prelude
2. Ministers and platform personnel enter
3. Doxology and Invocation
4. Processional: "Onward Christian Soldiers". (Pathfinders march in led by the national and Pathfinder flags. Color guards post themselves on floor in front of pulpit. All stand when flags enter and remain standing until flags are posted on the platform.)
5. Pathfinder Song Pathfinders
6. Pledge Led by a Pathfinder
7. Law Led by a Pathfinder
8. Posting of Flags
9. Scripture Reading: Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:1-4
10. Prayer: Pathfinder
11. Welcome and Director's Report Pathfinder club director reports on year's activities, goals for new year and presents any recognition and awards.
12. Special music Pathfinders
13. "Why I Am a Pathfinder" Pathfinder
14. "How did it all begin?"* Director and some Pathfinders
15. Offering: Teen Pathfinder - (Pathfinders)
16. Special music: Pathfinder or Group of Pathfinders
17. Sermonette: Director, guest, child preacher
18. Hymn no. 543, "Jesus, Friend of Little Children"
19. Benediction: Pathfinder
20. Postlude

PATHFINDER DAY SERVICE MORNING & AFTERNOON

1. Introduction
2. Sabbath School
3. Break
4. Assemble for Processional Entrance
5. Processional Entrance
6. Pathfinder Song
7. Pledge, Law
8. Welcome & Introductions
9. Song Service
10. Prayer
11. Offering
12. Special Item (it can be music)
13. Scripture Reading
14. Sermon
15. Special Item (it can be music)
16. Closing Song
17. Closing Prayer & Announcements
18. LUNCH
19. Assemble for Street Procession
20. Street Procession
21. Concert
22. Baptisms
23. Closing Ceremony
24. Small and impactant Devotional
25. Closing Prayer
26. Farewell



THE HONORS

Gaming, texting, and other boredom-related activities are easy temptations for Pathfinders. Even though I grew up in an earlier era, similar activities would have become my default setting, except for Pathfinders, specifically Pathfinder Honors. In middle school, I attended a small multi-grade Adventist School and often finished my classwork before lunch. In fact, my teacher allowed me to “go ahead” in the books, only to find that I had completed and comprehended all courses by Christmas. Fortunately she, along with my Pathfinder Director, were both outside-of-the-box Master Guides. Instead of allowing me to sink into trouble and boredom, they handed me a 1973 honors requirement manual, and challenged me—“Learn all you can about each honor, feel free to use the library, and when you think



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mastered it, come to us and we will test you and invest you in that honor.” I was fascinated and soon found myself enthralled by the wide variety of topics I could master. I spent hours in the library—learning, writing, drawing, graphing, collecting, and in all manner of ways expanding my horizons. As promised, each time I felt confident in my depth of learning, I let my teacher or director know and they faithfully tested me. To their delight, that year they invested me in 42 Honors! I was hooked. I credit their creative thinking with keeping me out of trouble, but even more importantly, keeping me connected to my church. Today, I have earned over 200 honors and wear my extra-wide sash proudly—for it largely testifies to the incredible foresight of those two special Master Guides who changed my life’s direction. Today, I am a passionate “honors advocate”, using honors to encourage young people to see Pathfinders as important to their lives—hoping that through their experience (as in mine) Pathfinders can become personal and life-changing.

ARTS, CRAFTS & HOBBIES

“When religion, science, and morality are shaken and when outer supports threaten to fall, man withdraws his gaze from externals and turns it inwards. Literature, music and art are the most sensitive spheres in which this spiritual revolution makes itself felt.” —Wassily Kandinsky



How are arts, crafts, and hobbies important?

As we explore our own creativity, we learn more about the creativity of God.

He makes all things new and that requires thinking outside of the box. When we attempt new things we have never done before through crafts and hobbies, we add to the dimensions of our minds and broaden our horizons.

Even more importantly, the various arts are how human beings express their most influential passions, thoughts, feelings and desires. Just as God reaches us through our senses, emotions and His will, we also can communicate with Him and with each other through the arts.

Arts, crafts, and hobbies also are very good record keepers! Paintings of historical events teach us valuable lessons about the past. Song lyrics help us remember times, places, and experiences that highly impacted our lives.

Arts create connections and connecting through the love of God is what Jesus made possible for us.



Bridges



Card Making



Drawing



Lego



Pin Trading



Postcards

SPIRITUAL GROWTH, OUTREACH, HERITAGE

"Complacency is a deadly foe of all spiritual growth. Acute desire must be present or there will be no manifestation of Christ to His people. He waits to be wanted." —A.W. Tozer

HOUSEHOLD ARTS

"The youth who would be like... Christ must be faithful in the things which are least. Many of the little home duties are overlooked as of no consequence, but if the small duties are neglected, the larger will be also." —Ellen G. White, Adventist Home, Chapter 51



Adventist Heritage



Alive Bible



Biblical Archaeology



Creationism



Flags



God's Messenger



Parade Floats



Peacemaker



Prayer



Preach It



Pizza Maker

"We have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God" (Colossians 1:9,10).

Filled with knowledge: to fill something or someone is an ongoing process. Growth is essential; what doesn't grow is dead. Since we are not dead, but alive through Christ, Him living in us will naturally cause growth. Just as a baby needs to grow in order to live—crawling, walking, then running—so each person needs to grow in order to accomplish anything in the kingdom of God.

Walk in a manner worthy of the Lord: Christ's example to us is selflessness. He taught us how to sacrifice, help, uplift, contribute, and more. As we grow spiritually in the vertical relationship with Him, we also grow socially, in a horizontal relationship with the people around us. We show that we are part of God's family by treating each other the way Christ would, reaching out to help one another, to have positive and valuable relationships that will last for eternity. Bearing fruit in every good work: this is our heritage in Christ. We come from a noble, royal line. Christ's work on the cross made us heirs to God's kingdom. The pioneers of the Adventist Church allowed God to lead them every step of the way. It is our duty to know our heritage and share it with others. When we know where we come from, we can know where we are going. Christ is coming soon; to arrive at our destination, we must have solid roots.

The home environment is so crucial to each person's development. The journey from newborn child to well-rounded adult is an arduous marathon.

To know their place in the world, kids need to first learn their place in the home. We need to be purposeful stewards of the precious lives God places in our hands as parents, youth leaders, teachers, and examples.

Through this category of honors, we can move kids to a deeper, more profound level of maturity by showing them instead of telling them. When we show them the connection between the habits they develop at home and their overall success as children of God, we are creating a generation that will bring positive change to worldwide statistics of broken homes and fragmented families.



NATURE

“Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature—the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter.” —Rachel Carson

NATURE

“We know God is everywhere but certainly feel His presence most when His works are on the grandest scale spread before us; it is in the unclouded night-sky, where His worlds wheel their silent course, that we read clearest His infinitude, His omnipotence, His omnipresence.” —Charlotte Brontë



Alternative Fuel



Bogs and Fen



Dinosaurs



Dunes



Meteorites



Midnight Sun



Mountains



Odonates



Recycling



Renewable Energy



Rivers and Streams



Sharks

After the Bible, nature is the second most important book that teaches us about Jesus Christ—His characteristics in general and who He is to us specifically.

The Bible tells us that “in Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth” (Colossians 1:6) This means that nature has his fingerprint. When we see what He created, we understand more about how He thinks. We see His qualities as a designer and gain insight about His purposes and plans in this world as well as the entire universe.

Wisdom is to see things from God’s perspective. Spending time in nature, learning about nature and learning from nature help us to see life through His eyes.

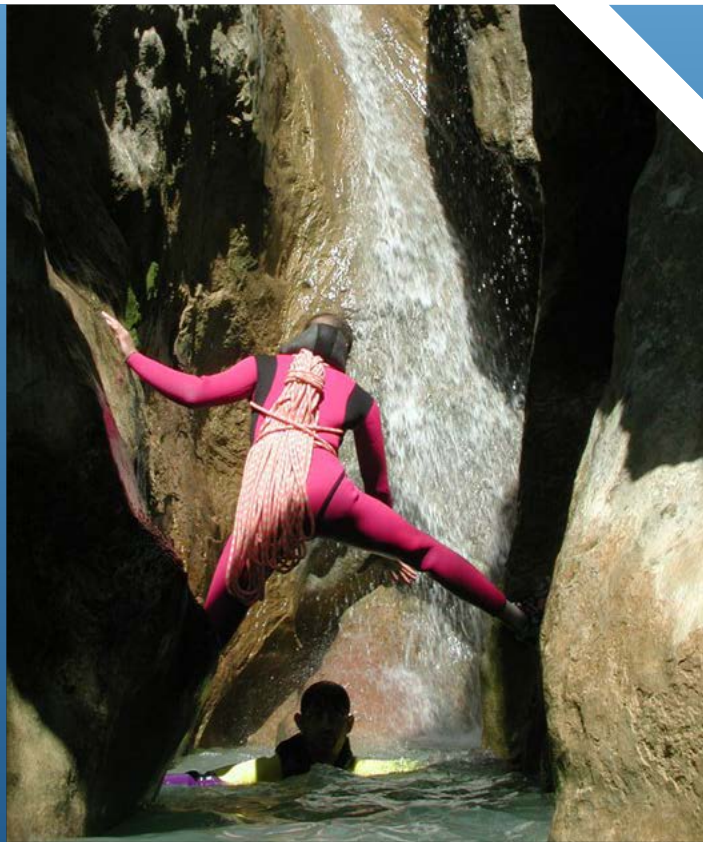
“God’s love is written upon every opening bud, upon every spire of springing grass. The lovely birds making the air vocal with their happy songs, the delicately tinted flowers in their perfection perfuming the air, the lofty trees of the forest with their rich foliage of living green—all testify to the tender, fatherly care of our God, and to His desire to make His children happy.” (Steps to Christ, p.2)



Taiga



Waterfalls



RECREATION

*"Eight hours' work,
eight hours' sleep,
and eight hours' recreation."*
—Brigham Young



Basic Water Safety



Camp Safety



Cold Weather Survival



Geological Geocaching



Snowshoeing



Travel



Ultimate Disc

The great thing about recreation is that you can have fun and gain value at the same time. In days when many kids from 10-15 years old think recreation is entertainment, it's important for leaders to instill in our youth the value of choosing to be involved in activities that are meaningful to their lives. Rather than spend countless hours in front of the TV or on the internet, they can get involved in the world around them and broaden their horizons. After all, recreation means to recreate. There's not much re-creating happening when we're caught up in passive entertainment, but the activities of recreation honors truly open up a world of possibilities. Through them Pathfinders will gain invaluable experiences that will enrich their lives.

VOCATIONAL

*"For each one of us, there is only one thing necessary: to
fulfill our own destiny, according to God's will, to be what
God wants us to be."*
—Thomas Merton



Artificial Intelligence



Bookbinding



Engineering



Fire Safety



Forestry



Internet



Social Media

As economies shift and merge, along with the ever-changing landscape of new technologies and scientific developments, the work force has to adapt. However, there are also some tried and true methods of operation that do not change, regardless of the shifting environments in industry. With this category of honors, we can train Pathfinders to have a good balance of hands-on ability with methods that have existed for decades and first-hand knowledge of emerging skill sets. Combined under the umbrella of God's divine will for our lives and the different abilities He has afforded to every individual, we can foster youth who have not only a drive for God's kingdom, but a role of excellence, usefulness, and constructive contribution in the various vocational fields.

CONTACT US



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