



# CONCH SHELL

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## IT TAKES ENERGY TO DO GOD'S WILL

**"Lord, when doubts fill my mind, when my heart is in turmoil, quiet me and give me renewed hope and cheer" (Psalm 94:19 LB).**

The fact is it takes energy to do God's will. What do you do when you run out of energy?

God suggests when we're feeling uneasy, perhaps low on energy; we should be still and get quiet before him: "Lord, when doubts fill my mind, when my heart is in turmoil, quiet me and give me renewed hope and cheer" (Psalm 94:19 LB).

But many of us have trouble getting quiet. It's as if we are afraid of silence; it makes us very uncomfortable. The moment we get in the car, the radio or CD player goes on. The moment we get home, the TV goes on.

Yet, God, in a sense, says, "If you want to lower your stress, it's as simple as this: Shut up. Be silent. Stop talking and start listening."

I suggest that once a day you should go out in your backyard, sit down, and just be quiet. I'm not talking about reading your Bible. You ought to read your Bible every day, but I mean be alone for five minutes a day and be completely silent. Ask God a question, and then just sit and listen.

Sometimes we say, "God, I really need your guidance on this," and then we get up and walk off. We don't wait for an answer. Could it be the reason we never hear from God is we never listen?

Learn to take little mini-breaks during the day. When you feel your blood pressure rising, stop and say, "God, I want to tune in on you again. I want to focus in on you." I'm not suggesting thirty minutes of meditation. I'm talking about fifteen or twenty seconds. Just little mini-breaks to stop and be quiet.

Why is this important? Because the race of life is tough and, quite honestly, it's tough to live God's plan for your life. It's important to be still and know He is there.

Here's an easy formula I use: Divert daily, withdraw weekly, abandon annually. Get quiet once a day, take one day a week to rest, and always take some sort of vacation at least once a year.

Blessings as you reveal Jesus in 2023.

**Mere Vaihola**  
Education Director



Adventist  
Education

## TRIBUTE TO DR NEMANI TAUSERE

There are many things today that need to be said. Paul admonished the Philippians to think on the things that were good and honest and true and lovely and of good report. (Philippians 4:8) As we think about this man, there are many such things that we can think about that will encourage our hearts.

Thus, we praise and thank God for this God-fearing leader. A true advocate for Adventist Education. May we continue to strive for vibrant Adventist schools in the Trans Pacific in such challenging time.

### His contributing years to Adventist Education:

1967 - 1976 - Teacher - Fulton College  
 1977 - 1978 - Principal - Beulah College, Tonga  
 1978 - 1980 - Studied at Philippines Union College  
 1980 - 1982 - Principal - Vatuvonu Adventist High School, Fiji  
 1983 - Education Director - Fiji Mission  
 1984 - 1986 - Lecturer - Pacific Adventist College, PNG  
 1987 - 1989 - Studied – at Andrews University  
 1990 - Inservice - South Pacific Division, Australia  
 1991 - Education Director - Central Pacific Union Mission, Fiji  
 1992 - 2000 - Principal - Fulton College, Fiji  
 2001 - 2002 - Education Director - South Pacific Division, Aus  
 2003 - 2006 - Vice Chancellor - Pacific Adventist University, PNG  
 2007 - 2009 - Education Consultant - Trans Pacific Union, Fiji  
 2010 - Retirement  
 2015-2020 - Education Director, Fiji Mission



### Some reflections:

As a high school student at Fulton College, Dr. Nemani was not only my principal but also my Geography teacher. He was such an inspirational speaker that I was convinced that there was no other subject worth learning at high school but Geography. It was his teaching that made me move into my future with one aim in mind and that was to become a Geography teacher, to exude the same vibrancy as he did thus impact the minds of my students exactly as he did mine, listening to him inside his classroom many years ago. Until that glorious morning Dr Nemani. Until that glorious morning. -

**Mereseini Williams**

A great model in Christian Adventist Education who has left a legacy not to be forgotten. - **Joseph Pitakia**

A down to earth and dedicated man of God. A strong advocate of Adventist Education. - **Tepora Fuimaono.**

A life lived and dedicated to God through Adventist Education - **June Sumo**

My former Principal at Tailevu. A committed servant of God who has great passion for Adventist Education. A great mentor for academic excellence, living a memorable legacy that will remain in our lives until Jesus comes. - **Lien Toa**

I believe we honor Dr Nemani's legacy in this way—we take our place behind him and a “great cloud of other witnesses” of Christ. We become the mentors, the disciples, the schoolteachers, the chaplains, the cook, the deans, the farmer, the bus driver, the receptionists, the librarian, the principal, that point our students to God who sustains us all, the God who welcomes Nemani home with, “Well done, my good and faithful servant” (Matt. 25:23).

**“YOU CARVE YOUR NAME ON HEARTS, NOT TOMBSTONES. A LEGACY IS ETCHED INTO THE MINDS OF OTHERS AND THE STORIES THEY SHARE ABOUT YOU.”**

## SCHOOL YEAR START OFF WITH BAPTISM



The beauty of Chaplaincy present in school. The education department worked with Ministerial department to empower spiritual/pastoral care in all our high schools by putting in chaplain.

*Pr Mackson Wake (L), Pr Bekele (Chaplain) and Mr Fredly Nitale - Principal (R) with the baptismal candidates*

George Bekele is a new chaplain for Bekabeka Adventist High School in the Western province, Solomon Island. He looks after the school and working as Church Pastor for East Gatokae district. This is his first year at work. The school started the academic school year program with the 10 days of prayer as the result they witnessed on the 25th of February 28 students commit their lives through the water of baptism. We praise God for the work of our chaplains in schools together with the staff in the faith journey of our children. - **Andriane Kele**

## THROUGH IT ALL

A lot has been said about Covid-19, lockdown restrictions, and that Corona virus! But when most of the Pacific islands experienced first-hand the impacts of this pandemic, the schools including Samoa Adventist college came face to face with the reality of painful, breathless, sleepless nights and even death. Yet through it ALL, God remained faithful and was that constant force that sustained us.

Needless to say, that the ability to pull through and to come this far, is an amazing miracle of God's love and power. What a wonderful God we serve! Through those chaotic times, God's leading never faulted and it became our beacon of hope.



*Clement Albert-Gaia*

The school year started off for Samoa Adventist College with increasing enrolment with over 700 plus students. According to the principal Mrs Fuimaono "it is just sad to send parents away, because we do not have the space." Yet, through it all, the school was humbled to discover that one of their very own students topped the Physics exams in the Samoa School Certificate Exams. Then we were further surprised to be thanked by the mother of one of the school ex-students who topped the SSLC Exams for the whole nation. These are indeed powerful evidence that God has been with us - through it ALL.

May God bless and a very productive 2023 everyone! - **Tepora Fuimaono (Principal)**

## A LEVEL HIGHER THROUGH HIS LEADING



Navesau Adventist High School in Fiji, once again performed commendably in the 2022 Fiji Year 13 External Examination. While the school was targeting a 100% pass rate, we praised the Lord for the 84.6% pass rate achieved. This was the same pass rate achieved in 2022, state principal Mr Qalobula.

Mr Qalobula thank the teachers for their tireless effort in preparing the students to represent God's school in the External Examinations. He also thanks the tremendous support given by the parents for partnering with the school to ensure there is vibrant to the 2022 school theme, "A level higher through His leading". All glory and honor belong to God.

The new Coalition government in Fiji, with its new policy that it will respect the management of faith-based schools, have opened up the door for the Fiji Mission administrators to negotiate with the Ministry of Education for Navesau to receive the Free Education Grant (FEG) and for the teachers to be paid by the government. The Ministry of Education have agreed to release the Term 1 FEG and include teachers' salary in the new 2023/2024 national budget.

The previous government withheld the FEG for Navesau when the school was privatized in 2019 and Fiji Mission has to pay for the teachers.

The Navesau, 2023 school roll, has increased in an amazing way. From a roll of 221 in 2022, our current roll is 267 and there are still 3 from PNG, 7 from Vanuatu and 1 from Kiribati students who have been sent Acceptance Letters from Navesau and are still yet to arrive.

While we rejoice at the opportunity to access government funding for Navesau, I pray that in re-engaging with the government, Navesau will not end up diluting the special character and ethos of Adventist Education. - **Josua Qalobula (Principal)**

## TRAINING OF TRAINERS IN ACTION

The Honiara based teachers who have attended the 3 days conference on Adventist Ethos in Fulton College University in January, met with the Education Department team early this month to outline their plan for the implementation of the Adventist Ethos into their schools.

It was agreed in the meeting that they would be helping their school administration and the education department to implement Adventist Ethos and QASF in the schools. With these greater participations, the education team is excited and confident to bring Adventist distinctive quality into the schools.

Finally, the Honiara schools with their principals are looking forward to September accreditation by the SPD and TPU team. - **Joseph Pitakia**



## ATOIFI GRADUATION



*2023 graduating class*

Atoifi Adventist College of Nursing, an Affiliated campus of Pacific Adventist University, PNG has witnessed the 5th graduation since the Nursing degree program was introduced in 2015.

This February graduation is special in that it should have taken place last year in December. However, due

to the Covid crisis and riot in Honiara last year, students were not able to complete their clinical requirements until early February this year.

The highlight of the weekend was the graduation of the 21 students. For the first time in history, a number of students have scored distinction and credit as announced by the school principal in his speech.

The graduation was also graced with the presence and address of the deputy Director of the Nursing Council from the Ministry of Health and Medical Services- Mr. George Pego. In his remarks he highlighted the good work of the school in meeting the requirements of the Nursing Council by producing quality graduates who have performed outstanding work in the clinics and hospitals around the country.

Of the 21 graduates, two were overseas students from Vanuatu and Kiribati. Half of the graduates were sponsored by their governments. The other half were supported by their parents and private donors like Julia and Chapman of Australia.

With the increase in demand of nurses both locally and overseas, the church through SPD has funded the constructions of the new boys and girls' dormitories. The completion of the dormitories will see the increase in the number of students studying in the campus.



*James taking a stand for Jesus*

A special segment of the graduation is the baptism of James a member of another denomination who is in a critical medical condition. James has received generous care from the hands of the hospital staff including these graduates and requested baptism before death visit him.

It was an emotional moment as his family witnessed him bravely taking in the pain and went into the water of baptism.

Finally, on behalf of TPU I take this time to thank all for the support provided to make this graduation a successful one. Also, big thank you goes to our Adventist high schools for producing and sending students to Atoifi Nursing School. Your contributions are well appreciated. - **Joseph Pitakia**

# ADVENTIST EDUCATION DAY COMING UP



## ADVENTIST EDUCATION DAY

APRIL 6

### TO MY NEIGHBOUR

Join us for TPUM Adventist Education Day on April 6, 2023!

We are calling on all Adventist schools to join us in this planned day in visiting our Neighbours!

As part of the event, our dedicated teachers and students will be visiting their neighbours to pray, sing along, share valuable resources, charitable gifts, and much more. Let's come together to celebrate Adventist Education, making disciples and renewing our commitment as we continue to reveal Jesus to our neighbours.

Don't miss out, see you on April 6th!



Trans Pacific

*Don't Miss Out*

# I WILL GO TO MY NEIGHBOUR

## INSPIRE FOR A LIFETIME

### 3 QUICK STEPS TO INSPIRING STUDENTS

1. Be (or act) inspired yourself.
2. Express your belief in students - enthusiastically. Act as though you KNOW they will succeed and can't wait to celebrate that success.
3. Set up for small successes. This will lead to bigger ones.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Increasing enrolments for most schools - Non-Adventist students  
 Staffing still a challenge  
 Navesau in collaboration with the MOE  
 Adventist Education Day 6th April  
 TPUM Education Advisory 18th-20th April



## FINALLY

**"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for Good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."  
 Ephesians 2:10**

**We would love to hear from you, your stories and challenges could be a means of blessings and encouragement to others. So, please share!**

*For your stories please forward it to:*

**Mere Vaihola**  
 Education Director

or

**Joseph Pitakia**  
 Associate Education Director

DEVOTIONAL READINGS FOR TEACHERS

IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT A COPY, SEE YOUR MISSION ED. DIRECTOR

*Listening*  
in the Morning

TREVOR LLOYD