



FEBRUARY 2023

# BIG CAMP 2023







A gathering of church members and their families from all across Tasmania was a great way to start the year. Held at Devonport campground starting on January 26 and finishing on Sabbath evening, January 28. Camp was a true blessing for all who could attend. There were 170 people registered to stay onsite and on Sabbath there were another 134 day visitors. The focus of the camp was on families and each meeting was aimed at all ages so everyone could worship together. The worship experience included music with input from the North-west churches, a nature segment, science experiments and special items. Husband and wife team Pastor Michael and Pastor Bethany Chapman (Bethany grew up in Tasmania) both preached on the theme "Worth a King's Ransom." Other Camp activities included games for the kids, an expo showcasing ministry opportunities, a Sanitarium-sponsored breakfast, an ordination and a baptism held in the big tent. The Lord provided perfect weather and Big Camp 2023 was enjoyed by all. Big Camp is a great spiritual refresher and is a great way to start the year. We look forward to seeing you at our next Big Camp, which will be a full-length camp, planned for January 2024.

*By Pr Rick Hergenhan*





# DAVID LEO ORDINATION



The big tent was packed on Sabbath afternoon at Big Camp for the ordination of Pastor David Leo. As well as church members the ordination was attended by Pastor Leo's parents and also by the Australian Union Conference President Pastor Terry Johnson. Pastor Leo has been ministering in Tasmania since he began in full-time ministry five years ago, serving in the Hobart area and most recently in the Deloraine and Devonport churches, as well as chaplain at North-West Christian School. The ordination service affirmed the giftings and the calling that God has placed on Pastor Leo's life. A special charge was read and a prayer of dedication offered over Pastor Leo and his family. Pastor Leo says, "I was really grateful for the affirmation from my family, the church and it's a joy for me to serve God here in the Tasmanian Seventh-day Adventist Conference". After saying a few words in reply, Pr Leo's first task as a newly-ordained minister of the Gospel was to baptise seven people who he had been studying with over the last 12 months, in a makeshift font in the big tent. We would like to congratulate Chilee Margetts, Tekim Margetts, Dason Caperida, Mandy Robbie, Annabelle Orr, Meila Morton and Starly Ackland.



We wish Pastor David, Sokha, Uriah, Eden and Luther all of God's blessing as they make their transition to Hobart where Pastor Leo has begun his new role of Youth Director for the Tasmanian Conference.

*By Pr Rick Hergenhan*





# TREASURED PATHFINDER CAMPOREE

More than 3000 Pathfinders and staff from across Australia gathered for the Australian Union Conference (AUC) "Treasured" camporee from January 3 to 8.

Held at Tumbarumba in NSW the Lord provided perfect weather to add to the perfect location. The event, which lasted five days, was split into six subcamps, with two chaplains and a subcamp leader allocated to each section. Pathfinders participated in a wide range of outdoor activities based on the camporee theme "Treasured." The Treasured theme focused on Mary Magdalene and how she found her worth in Jesus.

Tasmania was represented by the Rosny, Launceston, Devonport, Glenorchy and Burnie Pathfinder clubs. All the clubs enjoyed the outdoor activities which included lots of water and mud. Another highlight was making new friends.

Nigel Koolic, the director of the Rosny club, reports that "The Pathfinders really enjoyed the camporee. We were blessed with great weather and activities where we made a bunch of new friends."

The Sabbath program was another highlight of the week's activities and included Sabbath worship together with preaching from Pastor Raul Moran, a baptism and the evening program with music, drama, special items and a fireworks display to bring the program to conclusion.

Pastor Jeff Parker, the camporee

organiser, commented that "Pathfinders is the best mentoring program that we offer as a Church. The intergenerational connections that are created impact the life of the Pathfinder. This informal mentoring cannot be underestimated; it is truly life-changing." Welcome back to Tassie Pathfinders. Special thanks to all the club leaders and staff who invested in the lives of our Pathfinders this summer.

*By Pr Rick Hergenhan*





# FROM THE PRESIDENT



By Pr Rick Hergenhan

All of us end up doing things from time to time we didn't plan on. We end up at the hospital visiting someone or find ourselves being visited! And while we would be happy to avoid most hospital visits there are some unplanned events we are happy for. Receiving a gift or a chance meeting with a friend are the type of unplanned events we are all grateful for.

Articles in the news over the last few weeks have reported something welcome but at the same time unplanned. A revival. This revival took place at Asbury University in Kentucky, USA. After a chapel service, which

seemed almost the same as any other, 18 or 19 students stayed around and kept praying. As they continued to pray they also began to sing and soon others came to join them. What started out as prayer turned into 16 days of non-stop prayer, confession, praise and worship. Those who were there reported feeling a peace they had rarely experienced before and a desire to go out into the world and make a change for the Kingdom of Heaven.

I have many questions about this revival and others. But one thing is for sure that we should expect the Holy Spirit to show up. In the book of Joel chapter 2:28-29 the Bible says;

*"It will come about after this*

*That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind;*

*And your sons and daughters will prophesy,*

*Your old men will dream dreams,*

*Your young men will see visions.*

*Even on the male and female servants*

*I will pour out My Spirit in those days."*

My greatest question right now is if the Holy Spirit showed up in our churches in Tasmania would we be ready? Would we recognise that it was the Spirit at work? To be sure that we don't miss the Spirit when He is at work we need to walk in step with the Spirit (Gal 5:25). This is something that every believer is called to do. As we as individuals walk with the Spirit so our churches will start to act the same way.

As a Conference we have just finished 10 Days of Prayer. This involved churches all across Tasmania praying every day for 10 days for God to reveal himself to us and that we can be open to where He is leading. We don't want this to be a one-off event but we want prayer to become a way of life for all believers in Tasmania. Pray by yourself, pray with your family, pray with your church, but genuinely talk to Jesus. How the Holy Spirit works and when He works is entirely up to God but we want to be open to where He leads so we can join Him in whatever He is doing.



# 10 DAYS OF PRAYER

By Vicki Knight

Around the Tasmanian Conference church members have been participating in 10 Days of Prayer, February 18 to 27. During this time, we have been called to reconnect with God through prayer.

10 Days of Prayer commenced on Sabbath afternoon, February 18, with churches meeting together to pray and individuals being called 'back to the altar' of God.

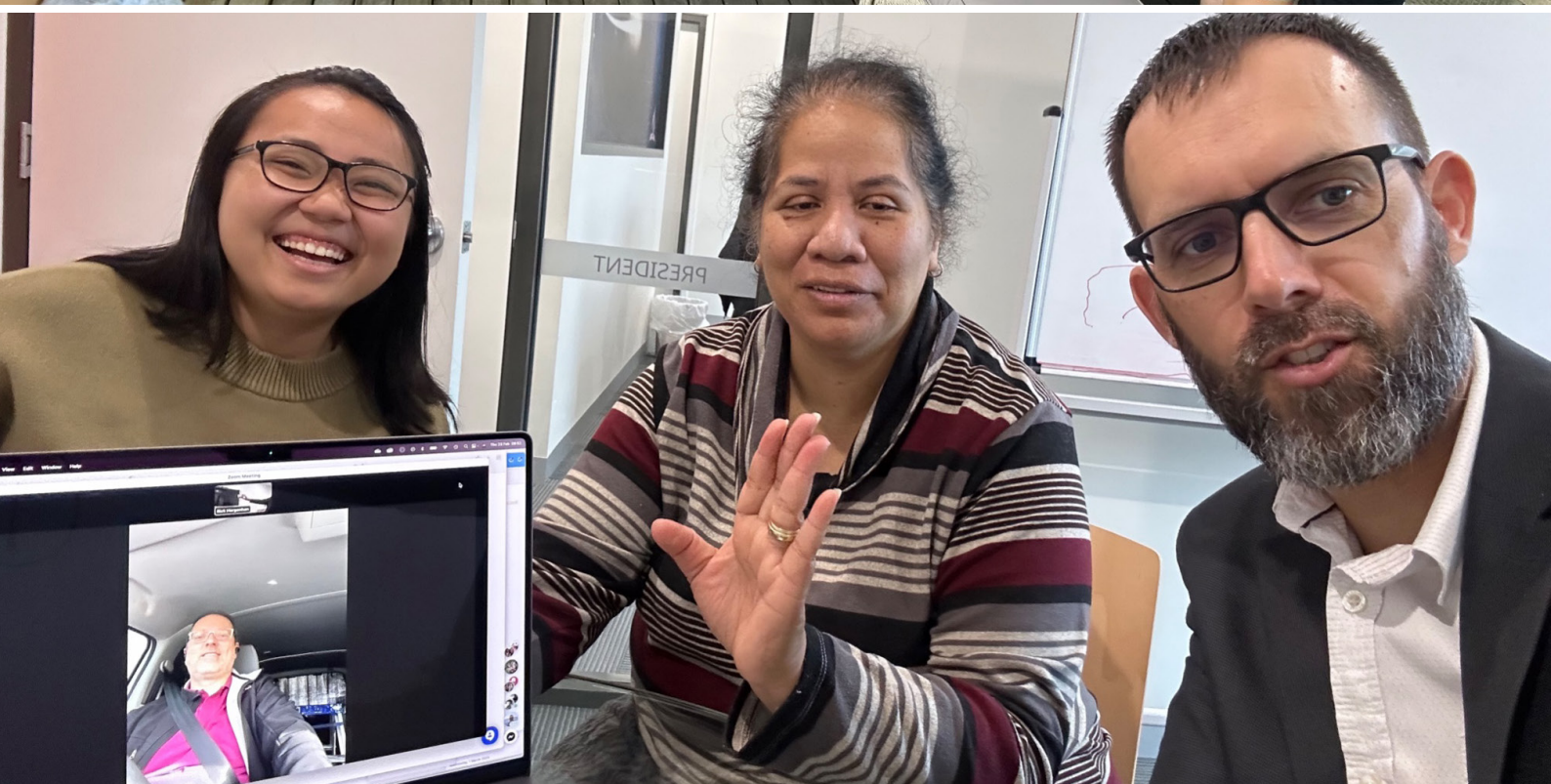
Prayer focuses included Connecting

with Christ, Connect with One Another and to Connect with your Community.

Pastor Eugene Estil organised a Zoom meeting every evening for people to connect and pray during the ten days which was a blessing for everyone who joined the meeting. It was amazing just how much happened in this time of prayer. Participants prayed for individuals with illness, accidents, fires, war, earthquakes, and disasters. There is so much to pray for and coming

together we were able to open our hearts to God and present our daily needs to Him.

10 Days of Prayer concluded on Monday February 27 with the promise that we are 'empowered to 'finish the work.' God revealed Himself to Isaiah. He was looking for a messenger willing to spread His message of love and warning. Isaiah's answer was "Here am I! Send me". Isaiah 6:8.





# faith FM

POSITIVELY DIFFERENT

## REPORT

By Carmelina Bocchino



### FAITH FM IN TASSIE

Hello Tasmania! This is your Faith FM - Tassie Encounters Crew reporting to you that we are back again for 2023!

#### What's been going on?

Looking back on 2022, there is so much to be grateful for. God has led this ministry to new heights and we are so excited to see where it will lead for this new year.

Last year, we farewelled some of our regular presenters. Pastor Daniel Matteo and Pastor Peter Watts departed our shores bound for Victoria. They were amazing presenters to have on Tassie Encounters and also great pastors who served Tasmania with a lot of love and dedication. They will definitely be missed. Also, we have myself as a new host - Carmelina Bocchino - who has joined the Tassie Encounters crew and also will be assisting with marketing, promotions and social media throughout the Tasmanian Conference.

#### What's going to be going on?

In this coming year, there is so much to be excited about.

We have Pastor David Leo - our new Youth Director - back in the studio with us for this year. We also have Pastor David Maxwell, Pastor Afi Tuaoi, and Pastor Mark Falconer who have stories and experiences they are willing to share. As always, we will continue to

have our Connecting the Dots program for the everyday person.

This year marks the first time we will be hosting Faith FM dinners. This is an opportunity for our listeners to meet the Tassie Encounter hosts and presenters in person. If you are a listener, or would like to come along to see what Tassie Encounters is all about, be sure to reserve the following dates in your calendar, or listen to our show for more information.

#### Dates for the Faith FM Dinners:

Hobart - June 17, 2023

Launceston - July 22, 2023

Northwest - September 23, 2023

#### Want to be involved?

Ever wondered if you had a talent for radio and wanted to give it a try? Do you have a story you would like to share about how you have encountered Jesus? If so, we would love to hear from you! Text us on 0488 880 891 and let us know how you would like to be involved.

#### How you can support this ministry

There are many other ways you can support this ministry. Firstly, there are donations. Thank you to everyone who contributed towards the Big Camp offering. Your support helps our ministry to continue to serve and reach out to our community in Tasmania. If you would like to make continued donations towards this ministry, please speak

to Pastor Cosmin Dan-Marica, our Conference Treasurer.

You can follow us on social media. As Tassie Encounters works under Faith FM Australia, the best way to support us on the social platform is to follow or like Faith FM Australia on Facebook and Instagram. You might also catch us on the Tasmanian Seventh-day Adventist pages on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

Finally, you can support us with your prayers. This ministry is many things - technical, biblical, spiritual, and sociable. But the main thing to remember is that this ministry is outreach. There are so many ways the devil can intervene and prevent Tassie Encounters from happening for our state. So please, keep us in your prayers. There is no greater power, no greater force, and no stronger barricade than a church family who prays for the projects and ministries that happen in their Conference.

Thank you all for your ongoing support.

**CATCH US AT 9AM  
EACH WEEKDAY,  
ONLY ON FAITH FM.**



# HILLIARD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL (HCS)

By Elizabeth Chaplin - Principal



# 120 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Hilliard Christian School's first full-time chaplain has been appointed in 2023. Pastor Ben Ashby has joined the staff and has taken on this role at the school with great enthusiasm. The Theme for 2023 at Hilliard is "Challenge - Growth - Success", reminding us all of the need for challenges in our lives to build up our strength and capacity for success and that all things are possible through faith and trust in the Lord.

Keeping this theme in mind, Pastor Ben has established a new and unique space within our school for students to gather and be drawn nearer to God. As Pastor

Ben reflected upon his appointment, he shared the following thoughts with me:

*"As things started to fall into place for my appointment at the end of 2022, I took some time to meditate and pray for guidance. This led me to establish a place in the school called The Garden. Biblical scholars tell us that the first temple recorded in the Bible is the Garden in Eden. What we can tell from later Biblical accounts is that the temple was established so God could dwell with his people. God has always wanted to be engaged and involved with his people. We read in the Bible that God would walk and talk with Adam and Eve in the afternoon throughout the Garden.*

*Although The Garden at school is not the Garden in Eden, I hope it is a place where students can come and feel a closeness to God.*

*God commissioned Adam and Eve to ensure the garden was thriving, growing and spreading. It is my prayer that as students come and interact with The Garden and encounter God, they are able to take Him with them as they*

*move out into the school. I see this as The Garden growing and spreading outside of its physical space and into the classrooms and play spaces around the school. It is then my hope that The Garden will spread outside the school gates and into the wider community around the school.*

*We pray that the Holy Spirit be poured out on our school and a special portion on those who have been appointed as leaders within the school. Throughout my recent chaplaincy studies, we're often reminded that God equips the called rather than necessarily calling the equipped. I still have many things to learn and I'm extremely grateful for God's grace that covers me."*

Students will meet together regularly with pastor Ben to receive mentoring and support. He will assist the students in their growth as leaders, up-skilling students in areas in which they may serve in their local church.

There are many important developments occurring at Hilliard Christian School, and there will be unforeseen things that occur. Ellen White says, "We have nothing to fear for the future unless we forget how God has led in the past." God has certainly protected our school







## Challenge



## Growth



## Success



"But those who wait on the Lord  
Shall renew their strength;  
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
They shall run and not be weary,  
They shall walk and not faint."

**Isaiah 40:31**



# NORTH WEST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL (NWCS)

By Brayden Morton - Principal

## CONTINUED GROWTH!

The school year has commenced at NWCS and we have seen continued growth throughout our school population. The school has grown to approx 120 students to start the year and we are praying for more growth throughout 2023 and onwards. This has been a blessing as we get close to the end of our school building project. The students have been enjoying the use of their new primary classrooms and break-out space. They will soon be able to use the Performing Arts Centre and new reception spaces also. Exciting times at NWCS.







### Year 7 and 8 Camp

Our students ventured out in week 2 on a camp designed to get to know each other and develop a team attitude heading into the school year. This was an exciting camp at Spring Beach Convention Centre in Orford. The students spent time with team-building activities and exploring Hobart and its surroundings. We were very blessed to spend time at our Adventist Convention Centre at Spring Beach. I would encourage all the churches and schools to make use of this beautiful facility.

### NAPLAN

NWCS was blessed to be 13th in the state for Primary NAPLAN results and 3rd in our Region. We feel very encouraged by this and the work that our staff and students have put into improvements in Literacy and Numeracy throughout the school.





# NEWS

## CREATE A MEMORY

Every year at Spring Beach Youth Camp we have the opportunity to welcome strangers into our camp facility. We show them hospitality and Christ's accepting, non-judgemental love. We have free Christian literature that they can read and take with them and a wide variety of Christian story books and videos for them to enjoy.



Over time we get to know the group leaders that come back year after year because they experience the power of camps and see the benefits that camps bring to the participants. They choose to come here because it is a beautiful, peaceful place, away from the cares of the world. It has a different feel about it. It is a place where, as a temporary community, people can grow and develop in their life's journey or pilgrimage.

We have the privilege of being a part of that experience. Influencing that experience in a Christian way to create a memory.

In 2023, up till February 26, over 370



guests have chosen Spring Beach Youth Camp. We have served over 468 scrumptious vegetarian meals and have run flying fox, the climbing wall and kayaking for several schools.

The week beginning the February 27 will be one of our biggest weeks ever. Approximately 240 children will be staying, working with five outdoor instructors every day of the week. Thirteen sessions of flying fox, 13 sessions of kayaking, 13 sessions of abseiling and 8 sessions of climbing wall, along with the group run activities we provide. Our kitchen will be serving 2880 vegetarian meals.

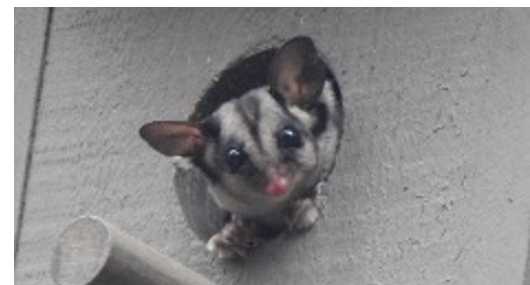
All these people, here at our Adventist Camp, enjoying healthy vegetarian meals in a natural bush setting, interacting with Christian staff, and doing activities that encourage

character-building.

Over 600 souls this year that will have heard, maybe for the first time, about the Adventist Church and experienced some interaction with Adventist Christians and their lifestyle. We may not be able to preach to these people but in the words credited to Frances of Assisi "Preach the gospel at all times. Use words if necessary." Proclaiming the Gospel by example is better than actually proclaiming it with voice.

Challenging kids to experience a different way of living, to step outside their comfort zones and achieve goals is very rewarding. Time at Spring Beach Youth Camp does indeed create a memory and influence lives.

We are proud of our camp and the faithful witness it is to Christ in Tasmania. Please pray for our camp here, that soul's will continue to be touched and seeds that are planted may grow to be part of the harvest when Christ comes again.



**Sugar Glider in one of the boxes Tweens (2020) made at Camp.**

## ULVERSTONE YOUTH VISIT SCOTTSDALE

The Ulverstone Youth visited the Scottsdale Church on Sabbath, February 25 to take Kids Church. With the guidance of Narls Samarasinghe, the Youth provided music, songs, stories and craft. The theme of 'The Lost Coin' and 'The Lost Sheep' gave the children the opportunity to enjoy a craft activity making sheep. The Church service had everyone enjoying searching for lost coins and the role play as the Youth presented the Prodigal Son. The future of the Seventh day Adventist Church is very promising with such a wonderful group who very capably took the gospel to Scottsdale.





# I WILL GO RIDE



By Cosmin Dan Marica

At the end of January, 17 riders from most Australian states, the United States and Vietnam participated in a cycling journey of 1000 km to Cooranbong, New South Wales. Riding in two separate groups, the first departed from Melbourne heading north. The second group departed Brisbane heading south.

I was part of the Melbourne group and arrived at Avondale University on Tuesday afternoon, February 6.

The I Will Go Ride had a focus on pastoral well-being and personal faith sharing, combined into an endurance cycling adventure. It also aimed to encourage Adventists everywhere to be people of Hope – who say, “I Will Go! – I will respond to the call to take personal ownership for mission and share the love and message of Jesus with the people around me.”

The ride was inspired by pioneer literature evangelists Phillip Reekie and his nephew Frederick, who rode bicycles to share literature in remote parts of Australia from the early 1890s. Their work was significant in establishing many Adventist churches in Australia. Adventist leaders in Australia say that Reekie influenced thousands of lives after delivering a copy of *The Great Controversy* to Thomas Kent, a widower from Eugowra in rural New South Wales. Kent shared the book with his neighbours and five other families, who also became disciples of Jesus. It is estimated that at least 20,000 people have discovered Jesus through the work of those pioneers.

It is my hope that this will encourage you to share your faith by giving away literature to people who are willing to accept it. Step up in faith and be amazed at what God can do through you!





# PASTORAL STAFFING 2023



Pr David Cherry- Pastor at Glenorchy & Margate churches. Pr David comes to us from the North NSW Conference and is joined by his wife Amy and children Grace, Levi and Asher.



Pr Darryl Groves- Pastor for Wynyard, Smithton and King Island churches. Pr Darryl comes to us from the South Queensland Conference and is joined by his wife Arlagene and daughter Tiffany.



Pr Mark Falconer- General Secretary and Pastor of Rosny church. Supported by his wife Deborah.



Pr Eugene Estil- Pastor of New Norfolk and the Hobart church plant. Supported by his wife Michelle.



Pr Afi Tuaoui- Pastor for Ulverstone and Burnie churches. Afi continues to be supported by his wife Ne'e and children Josiah, Maria and Elana.



Pr Cosmin Dan Marica- Chief financial officer and Pastor of Collinsvale church. Pr Cosmin is supported by his wife Raluca and children Annabelle and Phillip.



Barry Cook - Head Elder: Deloraine church supported by his wife Sue.





Jacob Ellis- Intern pastor at Devonport and Ulverstone, chaplain at North West Christian School. Jacob comes to us from Avondale College with his wife Morgan.



Ben Ashby- Intern chaplain at Hilliard Christian School. Ben joins the team this year coming from Sydney with his wife Bec and two young children Ella and Reuben.



Pr. David Maxwell - Continues as Pastor at Launceston, Scottsdale and Georgetown. Pr David is supported by his wife Mary.



Pr Rick Hergenhan- President. Supported by his wife Libby and children Giles, Hayden, Heidi and Hannah.



A familiar face but a new role, Pr David Leo is our newly-appointed Youth Director. Supported by his wife Sokha and children Uriah, Eden and Luther.

**“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.”**  
Galatians 6:9





# “SO MUCH WASTED TIME”

By Dr Mark Falconer

The American musical sitcom of the early 1970's, the Partridge Family, was popular in many countries including with Australian audiences thanks to its lovable characters and light-hearted fun. The fictitious show follows the escapades of a widowed mother raising five kids playing in numerous musical gigs travelling in a colourful bus. Their adventures conveyed a yearning sense of innocence that was so often missing on TV at the time. Their successful signature song, “I think I love you,” even outsold the Beatles – now that is impressive. However, beneath the veneer of innocence, all that fame came at a cost – particularly to David Cassidy.

David Cassidy was propelled to world-wide fame during the 1970's with live concerts around the world. With large sponsor deals, he became the heart-throb for many teenagers. Yet by 1980 he was broke. Most of his life he battled chronic alcohol abuse. At 67, dying of organ failure with his estranged daughter Katie Cassidy by his side, he shared his last words – “So much wasted time.” What a sad end to a life when he had so much offered by the world.

Babylon of old sought to assimilate the Jews into their polytheistic culture where the God of the Bible would be one amongst many. In a polytheistic world, it was difficult to remain loyal to God alone as the stories in the early chapters of Daniel illustrate. David Kinnaman et al in their book “Digital Babylon,” chillingly outlines similar objectives of Babylon to the snares of the internet and social media. Over-reaction you might say?

According to Kinnaman, on average 15-23 year olds consume 2657 hours per year – a full-time job is around 1872 hours per year. In anyone's book this is a staggering and a disturbing statistic. Still harmless? Kinnaman states the following:

*Deep spiritual longings, which ought to be lovingly tended and skillfully cultivated, are choked to death by binge television, immersive gaming, and social media scrolling... But if we are not vigilant and intentional, digital Babylon glitzes and blitzes our days so completely that we never get around to pursuing the deeper things of life.*

When the influence of 2657 hours on the internet is compared to the influence of the church and the Bible on life, it doesn't take Einstein to work out that the primary influencers on a congregation on any given Sabbath is not the Bible or the preacher – it is the social media and the internet. Satan is working hard to atomize the influence of God and the gospel on our lives. For many, our lives are too congested and the result for many is that the relationship with Jesus is merely tacked on.

With so much wasted time, here are some suggestions to balance our time on the Net:

- Limit the time on gaming, social media and the internet.
- Watch what we are watching.
- Listen to the self-talk used to justify your time.
- Be intentional by creating time with God away from technology – Read the Bible with a real Bible.

Social media ironically is supposed to help us connect more, but studies have shown that people with high usage feel more isolated, depressed and anxious. David Cassidy's last words are hauntingly tragic and should give pause for us to reflect on the priorities we set. The web of life can easily ensnare us to over-schedule, and that squeezes God out. In the Laodicean age we live, our biggest need is to learn to waste time with God.