

southernconnect



Danny Chan,
L.A. Metro Region
Director

Why Jesus Made People *Angry*

Why did Jesus make people angry? Jesus often taught about the law and the Sabbath, but in the eyes of many, He appeared to break both—and it made them very angry. For instance, in Luke 14, Jesus was invited to eat at the house of a Pharisee on the Sabbath day, and among the guests sat a man with abnormal swelling in his body. Jesus asked if it was lawful to

heal on the Sabbath and then proceeded to heal him. In Luke 5, Jesus healed a man and then asked him to pick up his mat and carry it home, which, in those days, was considered doing work on the Sabbath. While Jesus transformed lives everywhere He went, He simultaneously made others very frustrated and angry. So, what caused so much frustration and anger?

I believe that people were angry with Jesus because they had confused the law—that is, the Ten Commandments—with the values that help us to be faithful to the law. Moreover, they had lost the flexibility to adjust those values based on the circumstances. Jesus, however, had absolute clarity about the law, about the values of the law, and when it was best to reprioritize values. This is why Jesus could say, “If one of you has a child or an ox that falls into a well on the Sabbath day, will you not immediately pull it out?” (Luke 14:5, NIV). In other words, doing no work on the Sabbath is a good value, but if a life is at stake, in that moment, the value of sustaining a life must be reprioritized over not doing work.

Good leaders have clarity about the law and the values of the law, and they know when those values need to be quickly reprioritized. Let me give you an example of how this often plays out in modern day. I once knew of a lady who faithfully attended church each Sabbath. She always—and I mean always—sat in the same seat, except on the day a new visitor came to church earlier than she did and sat where she always sat. Do you know what she did when she saw him? Rather than find another seat, she marched right over to him and tapped him on the shoulder and asked him to move to another seat so she could sit there. Now, I appreciate her devotion to her

seat. After all, it was her seat in the sense that during a capital campaign she actually paid for that pew. But in this instance, the value of devotion to her seat took precedence over the value of hospitality. Unfortunately, in that moment, she was not able to reprioritize her values and ultimately

offended the guest who was looking for a hospitable church. Things might have turned out better if she would have reprioritized hospitality over devotion to her seat.

Jesus often taught about the need to reprioritize values. In the parable of the lost sheep, Jesus taught that a good shepherd always prioritizes faithfulness to the 100 sheep, unless one of the sheep gets lost. At that moment, the good shepherd quickly reprioritizes seeking for the one sheep over faithfulness to the 99. Jesus had absolute clarity about which values are more important based on the changing circumstances. Good Christian leaders need to make sure they do the same. Good leaders also help other leaders clarify when it’s appropriate to reprioritize values so that we treat others the way Jesus taught us to do. ●

GOOD LEADERS HAVE CLARITY

ABOUT THE LAW AND THE

VALUES OF THE LAW.

INSIDE



L.A. Portuguese Company Hosts Cancer Prevention Event

Led by women’s ministries, the church worked together to bring medical professionals who would educate on cancer prevention.

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IN EVERY ISSUE

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L.A. Portuguese Hosts Cancer Prevention Event

BY LENE SALLES

On Saturday, October 23, the Los Angeles Portuguese company held a cancer prevention day, an action in support of the Pink October Campaign. This Women's Ministries initiative involved all the ministries, with the support of the Ministry Mis Hermanos Pequeños, in an effort to provide assistance and guidance.

Attendees heard a lecture from Marta Heras, business administrator for Mis Hermanos Pequeños, and a specialized team performed ultrasound examinations of the breast, thyroid, prostate, and more. Another team explained self-examination, its importance, and how to carry it out. Participants were also able to touch the prostheses that simulate cancerous nodules.

The church served approximately 30 people, and the team is already organizing for the next preventive action. Mônica Nascimento, a food delivery worker, who performed an examination of the venous breast and

lower extremities, congratulated the initiative.

"Congratulations on the beautiful work done today," she said. "All very attentive, cozy atmosphere; the professionals who attended the exams were great. Each volunteer, everything—all was done with care and dedication. May God bless and repay each of you."



(Above photo, L to R) Crislielen Wright, M.D., L.A. Portuguese church member; Asha Daley, Jasmine Avila, and Daniel Hearn, medical diagnostic sonographers, volunteered for the day.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ALEXANDER SALLES

During the program, Alexander Salles, pastor of the Los Angeles Portuguese company, was also honored for Pastor's Day. For Salles, actions like this strengthen the friendship of

the community with the church. "We are seeking to be a relevant church for our community, and I believe we can become a health care center, especially preventive," he shared. "Our focus is on helping our friends and creating bonds so that they remain in our midst." ●

in transition

TRANSFERS WITHIN SCC

Voted October 14 & 28, 2021

Patricia Garcia-Flores | From Elementary Teacher, White Memorial School, to Elementary Teacher, Los Angeles Adventist Academy, as of October 10, 2021.

Peter Baptiste | From Associate Pastor, Temple City church, to Pastor, Norwalk church, as of October 31, 2021.

Buenaventura Garcia | From Secondary Teacher, Glendale Adventist Academy, to Associate Pastor, Vallejo Drive church, as of January 1, 2022.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Voted September 23, 2021

Terrence Taylor | Pastor, Breath of Life church, as of September 26, 2021.

LEAVING SCC

Voted October 14 & 28, 2021

Linda Biswas | From Associate Pastor, Vallejo Drive church, as of October 30, 2021.

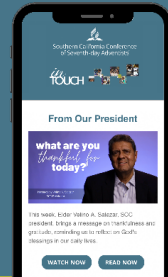
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Lauren Lacson

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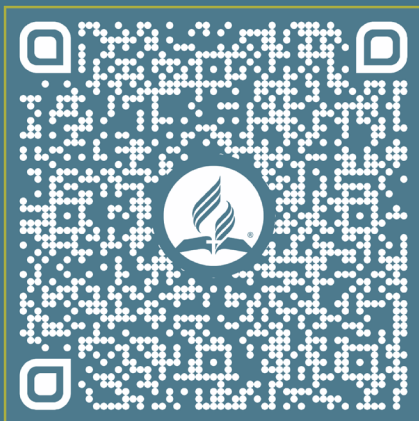
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