WORLD PATHFINDER DAY

Worship Service Bundle

Change the World

SEPTEMBER 17, 2022

gcyouthministries.org | I WILL GO | #wpd2022 #wpd22

These World Pathfinder Day sermons are published by the Youth Ministries Department, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®. All rights reserved. Copyright © 2022, by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist Youth Ministries Department. It is available for free download at our website, gcyouthministries.org

Permission to photocopy these World Pathfinder Day 2022 sermons, granted for local use in churches, youth groups, and other Christian educational activities.

Special permission is not necessary. However, the contents of this World Pathfinder Day 2022 sermons may not be reproduced in any other form without written permission from the publisher. All rights reserved.

New International Version *(NIV)*. Scripture quotations marked *(NIV)* are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc. TM Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.zondervan.com / The "NIV" and "New International Version" are trademarks.

Writers: Andrés Samuel Reyes, Junior Féliz

Editor: Andrés J. Peralta

Senior Editorial Assistant: Kenia Reyes

Translator: Kenia Reyes

Photos by: © Freepik

Cover & Interior Designer:
HadGraphic Inc. | Tel: 718-926-5468
hadgraphic@gmail.com

TABLE of CONTENS

1. Greetings
2. About the Writers
3. Pathfinder Day Information
4. Pathfinder Day Program Suggestions
5. Tips for the Preacher
6. Consejos para el predicador / la predicadora
7. 72 Years of Pathfinders
8. Centennial Celebration of Master Guides: Master Guides throughout History
9. Sermon 1
10. Sermon 2

Greetings

Greetings Pathfinders:

We are celebrating one more World Pathfinder Day! And that makes us so excited!

As you know, we have had some difficult years that may discourage us and make us feel that there is nothing we can do, but that is not true. Although sometimes everything seems dark, God can make the impossible POSSIBLE. And best of all, he doesn't want to do it alone; God wants you to CHANGE THE WORLD with the gospel. He wants you to trust him and let him use you to make a difference. Even if your impact may seem very small, in God's hands, your impact will be powerful.

I hope you enjoy the joyful celebration of this important movement. And remember, God tells you today to "CHANGE THE WORLD."

HAPPY WORLD PATHFINDER DAY!

Andrés J. Peralta
World Pathfinder Director

Pathfinder Day Information

Pathfinder Day should be a full day celebration including:

1. Spiritual Activity *(Morning Worship)*
2. Outreach Activities *(Sabbath Afternoon)* / *(GPS: Global Pathfinder Service)*
3. Social Activities *(After the Sabbath)*

7 Recommendations for Pathfinder Day:

1. Church Services including divine hour conducted by Pathfinders.
2. Participation in Community Service on Sabbath afternoon.
3. Collection of a special offering for the Pathfinder Ministry.
4. Baptismal service for Pathfinders.
5. Study of the History of Pathfinders in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
6. Take a club picture and share it on social media #WPD22, #WPD2022
7. Invite friends to share in the activities of the day.

Resources available for you:

1. General Information about Pathfinder Day 2022
2. Recommend outline for the day *(Worship Service)*
3. Pathfinder Day Official Promotion Video
4. Loops
5. 5 min Countdown *(Church Service)*
6. Templates for Keynote & PowerPoint
7. Social Media promos
8. Flyer
9. Sermon Scripts
10. Sermon Presentations in Keynote & PowerPoint

Pathfinder Day Service Suggestion

- Welcome / Introduction to World Pathfinder Day
- Sabbath School
  - Praises / Singing Service
  - Opening song
  - Opening Prayer
  - Bible Reading
  - Welcome
  - Program
  - Special Music
  - Sabbath School Lesson Review
  - Special Music
  - Final Prayer
- Countdown video
- Processional
- Invocation
- Pathfinder Song
- Pledge, Law, Aim, Motto
- Welcome & Announcements
- Directors Greeting Video
- Opening song
- Prayer
- Special Part *(can be music)*
- Bible Scripture
- Tithes and Offering
- Special Part *(can be music)*
- Sermon: *(select from the options)*
- Closing song
- Closing Prayer
- Lunch
- Community Service
- Afternoon program
  - Concert / Drama / Missionary Work
  - Video of the story of the Pathfinder Club
  - Baptisms *(Can be done during the worship service)*
- Social Activity *(Indoor or Outdoor Games)*
- Farewell

Tips for the Preacher

- Remember not to extend the sermon too long
- Preach up close and remember to personalize your sermon
- Eye contact matters
- Be yourself
- Raise your energy!
- Preach the Word
- Use illustrations
- Greet your audience
- Engage with your audience
- Be relevant
- Remember to pray!

Path-finder Club History

1907 saw the birth of a powerful ministry called the Missionary Volunteers. With the continued and full support of the General Conference, the Missionary Volunteers grew and impacted young people, bringing them closer to God and developing their leadership skills. The success of the Missionary Volunteers led to the need for a similar program focused on the younger children of our church.

Thus, the Junior Missionary Society was born in 1909. It was born out of a need and desire to bring our younger children closer to Jesus and to help them in their development and growth as fruitful members of society and the church.

Today, we know it as The Pathfinder Club, and there are approximately 2 million members spread out across 187 countries.

Time Line

1

1919. Arthur W. Spaulding organized a club for his children, called Mission Scouts in Madison, Tennessee.

2

1920. Harriet Holt, who was born and educated in England, became the first Junior Youth Director in the General Conference Youth Department.

3

1921. Harriet Holt decided to use a small group of junior youth as an experimental group to practice and try innovative ideas that she had in mind. She formed and adapted the pledge and law that Arthur W. Spalding had written for his club in Tennessee. Since then, it has remained in use and is now known as our very own Pathfinder pledge and law.

4

1922. Harriet Holt created what she called the Comrade band for the development of leadership. This included the receiving of a Comrade pin when one would join as a member. Then they would receive a pin at their investiture as a regular Comrade and later would receive a Master Comrade pin.

5

1925. First junior camp of the Seventh-day Adventist church occurs in Australia.t

6

1928. John McKim began the first registered Pathfinder club, in Anaheim, California. Charles Lester Bond was named the secretary for the Junior Volunteers Department at the General Conference. While in office he introduced the first 16 merits, which we know now as Pathfinder Honors

Time Line

7

1929. The name "Pathfinder" was used for the first time along with a summer camp in southeast California in Idyllwild.

8

1936. The neckerchiefs or scarves for the different progressive classes were adopted by the Department of Missionary Volunteers during the General Session that took place in San Francisco. Among these new items for the official MV Uniform was the sleeve patch which was adopted that same year.

9

1938. Initiation of the official third Pathfinder club in Loma Linda, California.

10

1946. The first Pathfinder club sponsored by a Conference was presented at the Southeast California Conference, in Riverside. John Hancock designed the first Pathfinder Club emblem.

11

1947. Laurence A. Skinner became the Associate Secretary of the M.V. Department, serving faithfully until 1950. At the Central California Conference, Henry Bergh designs the Pathfinder flag and Helen Hobbs makes it.

Time Line

12

1949. The General Conference asked the Pacific Union director, J.R. Nelson, that he meet with his council of M.V. directors and that they prepare a Pathfinder program that was already being used in the Pacific Union. They requested he present it during Fall Session.

13

1949. Following the Autumn Council in San Francisco, California young 19-year-old schoolteacher, Eliezer Melendez, went back to his home country of Puerto Rico and began a Pathfinder Club. The first of record in the Interamerican Division. Eliezer Melendez later became the Inter-American Division Youth Director.

14

1950. The General Conference officially authorized the JMV Pathfinder Clubs for the World Field. Pr. Laurence A. Skinner becomes first World Pathfinder Director.

15

1951. The first Pathfinder club in South America. The Club, named "Betel" was born at the Miraflores church in Lima, Peru. t

16

1953. First Pathfinder Club in India.t

17

1954. First Pathfinder Club in Trinidad y Tobago.

Time Line

18

1957. World Pathfinder Day is added to the official church calendar. First Pathfinder clubs in Chile and the Dominican Republic.

19

1958. First Pathfinder Club begin in South Africa.

20

1959. First Pathfinder Club in Sweden.

21

1960. First Pathfinder Clubs in Brazil, Austria, Argentina, and Uruguay.

22

1963. John H. Hancock was elected as World Pathfinder Director. First Pathfinder club in Boliviat

23

1970. Leo Ranzolin was elected as World Pathfinder Director. First Pathfinder Club in Portugal

24

1971. 25th Anniversary of the Pathfinder Club.

25

1972. First Pathfinder Club in Italy.t

Time Line

26

1980. Michael Stevenson was elected as World Pathfinder Director.

27

1986. Malcolm Allen was elected as World Pathfinder Director. First Pathfinder Clubs in Romania, the Czech and Slovak republics, Russia, Ukraine, and Moldova, among others.

28

1994. First East Central-Africa division camporee near Victoria Falls. There were more than 10,000 Pathfinders in attendance. First International Pathfinder Camporee in Colorado USA "Dare to Care" with Ron Whitehead as Director.

29

1998. First Pathfinder Club in Latvia.

30

2000. 50th Anniversary of the Pathfinder Club..

31

2005. Jonathan Tejel is elected as World Pathfinder Director.t

32

2018. Andres J. Peralta is elected as World Pathfinder Director.

33

2022. Centennial Anniversary of Master Guides. t

TIPS:
Use this timeline to prepare a Sabbath School centered on the history of the Pathfinder Club."

MASTER GUIDE THROUGH HISTORY

At College View there were 19 Friends, 3 Companions, 9 Comrades, and 9 Master Comrades who received their merited insignia. These, together with the previous candidates in January, make a total number of 53 Friends, 9 Companions, 17 Comrades, and 15 Master Comrades for the college and church societies which have been developed during the past school term.

At Shelton there were 25 Friends, 16 Companions, 2 Comrades, and 10 Master Comrades upon whom were conferred the honors of their attainments. To Mrs. B. G. Butherus, the M. V. leader at Shelton, is due the credit for the development of this fine class. She worked untiringly in leading the youth of Shelton in these fine endeavors, and in the meantime acquired a Master Comrade degree herself.

We are very proud and appreciative of the 27 Master Comrades in Nebraska and their interest and ability for junior leadership. Many of these have from 12 to 16 vocational honors to their credit. A Master Comrade class in every church is our goal. The response to this for junior leadership during the past few months has been most gratifying and we are optimistic for the future.

The Junior Progressive classes are gaining in favor in our conference. During 1931, 12 completed the Friend's requirements, 3 completed the Companion, 3 completed the Comrade, and one the Master Comrade. We also issued a total of 51 Vocational Honors, to which should be added four others that came in too late to be included in the order.

Pastor Bernardo Rodriguez, Colombian Union president, is interviewed on the Telepacífico TV station.

Central America

"Invested to Serve", was the motto of the first Central American Master Guide Camporee held March 29 to April 2, 1994, at the Orotina Adventist Camp in Costa Rica. The 1,140 participants came from the nine local fields and the Central American Adventist University (UNADECA). A delegation from the new Dominican Union, comprised of Pastor Aristides Gonzalez (union president) and four youth ministries directors also attended.

The camporee ended on Sabbath, April 2, with many activities. The day began at 5:00 a.m., with the baptism of four prospective Master Guides, followed by a communion service. After breakfast, Pastor Daniel Scarone presented the devotional message. In the divine message, Pastor Juan O. Perla, Union president, challenged the youth to dare to be different; to remain in Christ.

Colombia

On Tuesday, March 29, one thousand nine hundred Master Guides from 78 clubs converged on the COMFANDI Recreational Center in Cali, Colombia, for their second National Master Guide Camporee.

"One small Junior M. V. Society interested a young person in the Junior work. Through this he was brought into the Sabbath school and the church, and was recently baptized. One very small Junior Society of only five or six members has already interested some people not of our faith, who are now attending Sabbath school because of the interest aroused in their Junior movement. A Senior Missionary Volunteer Society that had been dead for years is now alive and active because of the interest aroused in the Master Comrade movement. In another place, of some fifty-odd members in a church with a membership of 150, the young people's society is the mainspring of action, and for some time has been the only thing that has kept a number of the young people in contact with the church."

At the 1973 Barbados Independence celebration, on the invitation of the government, a large contingent of over a hundred uniformed and well-trained Pathfinders and their marching band participated in clear view of appreciative spectators. The Master Guide Training program brought one hundred and fifty senior youth from thirty Adventist Youth Societies across Barbados under the leadership of Chief Master Guide Carlyle Bayne for intensive sessions, culminating in the largest investiture of Master Guides on July 7, 1974. Well coordinated plans were executed by Carlyle Bayne, Macauly Hood and others to develop closer interaction between all the Adventist Youth organizations in Barbados. The activities promoted closer comraderie and developed necessary leadership skills among Adventist youth.

Sixty-five Master Guides were invested, January 30, at Lowry Memorial Higher Secondary School in an impressive service conducted by Pastor Y. R. Samraj, South India Union youth director. Master Guides invested at Lowry in two investitures number 108. A report is yet to come on the third investiture service conducted March

The breakdown of those invested is as follows: 11 Master Guides, two of whom are members of the staff, 17 Guides, 10 Explorers, 5 Companions, 14 Friends and 15 Sunbeams.

-1939 On May 19, Dr. Charles J.B. Cave dies at his residence after a brief illness. His death was greatly felt by the Seventh-day Adventist community who benefitted from his vision, work and talents in the fields of medicine, music and religious instruction.

John Haynes of the King Street S.D.A. Church Youth Society earns the largest number of "honors" of all Barbadian Master Guides in the island.

Cecil E. Matthew, one of the first Adventist Missionary Volunteer Master Guides in Barbados during the early 1930s. Originally from Trinidad he became an outstanding literature evangelist and in late 1970s became Director of Church's literature ministry in Barbados and across the Eastern Caribbean.

Some of the sixty-four Master Guides invested are being congratulated by Audrey Howell, wife of the Youth Director. It was the largest Master Guide Investiture Ceremony held at Marine House in 1973.

Master Guide Camp, Shelley Beach, East London, South Africa

Camp Theme: "TAKE HIS LIGHT"

Basketry Class Under J. S. Khumalo, MV Secretary, Natal-Swaziland Field.

A Happy Group of Master Guide Campers Washing Dishes After Lunch.

Glorified Glass Painting Class Under Mrs. F. de Villiers of Bethel College.

Every God-given recourse is being used. Laymen are holding efforts everywhere. The Jalapa MV's celebrated a Voice of Youth effort, accompanied by Operation SAVE and branch Sabbath schools, which resulted in 17 souls won for heaven.

While the youth are winning souls they are also supporting the MV classes. Every church has its Pathfinder Club and Master Guide class, which should result in a large investiture service before the end of the year.

The thirteen invested received fifteen progressive class pins from Busy Bee to Master Guide, two of the children having completed the required work for two classes. Over 30 honour tokens were also awarded that evening, mostly to the children, an evidence that they had been busy in school and out to get the necessary work done. They were both proud and happy when they were called forward to receive their awards.

There is a keen interest among the children in the MV program as well as the progressive class work, and they are anxious to finish the requirements of the next class so they can have another investiture this year.

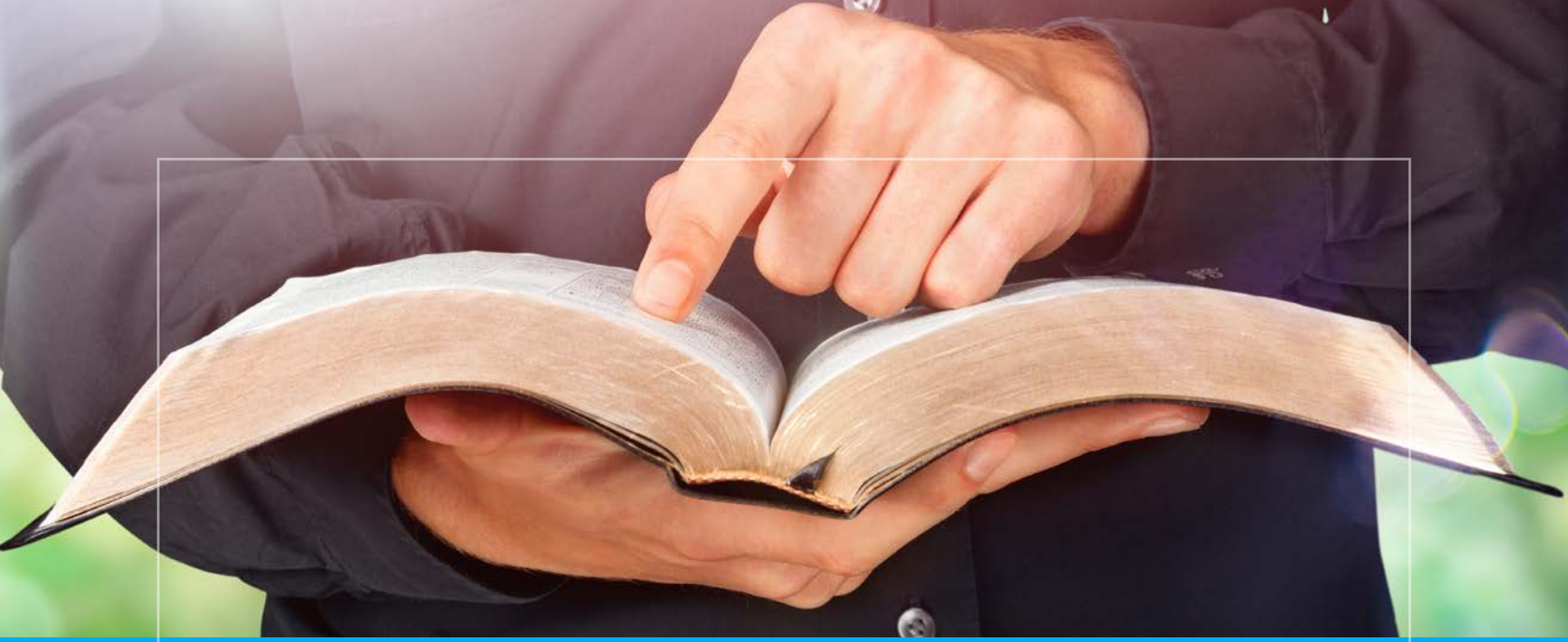
The inspiration received at the investiture service influenced many to prepare themselves to be "servants of God and friends to men." One of the candidates, Nilda Llanes Kim, presented the following thoughts on the importance of being a Master Guide:

"In our MV meetings we often hear programmes on the MV classes, and many times we ask ourselves: What does being a Master Guide really mean? or Why should I be a Master Guide?

"A Master Guide is a person trained to carry out God's will . . . He is commissioned to obey the requirements of the MV organisation, which has spent time and effort outlining a programme of physical, mental, and spiritual activity in harmony with God's design for youth.

The youth movement here in West Africa is on the march. We have good MV secretaries in each field. With each year there is an increase in societies and members. Junior and Youth Camps are being held in some of our missions. As a result of our school and church societies, many of our young people are being invested and are earning honours. There is much that will be promoted in the future such as "Voice of Youth Evangelism," Leadercraft Courses," "Community Service," and "Master Guide Courses."

In our 178 schools we have nearly 24,000 pupils, but in our 331 MV societies we only have 11,515 members. If only 50% of our school pupils were organized into MV societies, we would have 12,000 members. Let us set a goal of 400 MV societies and 20,000 members by July of 1960. Wouldn't it be wonderful to be able to report this gain at our great Youth Congress in Holland, 27-31 July, 1960. If we "attempt great things for God," we can, "expect great things from God."



Sermon

Like Gideon: Change the World

Bible Text: Judges 6:12 (NIV)

When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior."

Introducción

Good morning to all our Pathfinders, Master Guides, Parents, and all our brothers and sisters present. It is a joy to celebrate the 72nd anniversary of the Pathfinder Club with more than 2 million Pathfinders in the world receiving the challenge to Change the World. However, sometimes we may ask ourselves the question: How am I going to change the world if I don't know what to do? Probably you or your parents have heard the expression "my prayer does not go beyond the ceiling." Pastor Alejandro Bullón, who was a Pathfinder and served as Youth Director for more than 15 years, wrote in his book "Knowing Jesus is Everything" that he asked his teacher why his prayers do not go beyond the ceiling. The teacher replied to pray outdoors. What a joke right? Immediately the professor told him that sometimes we pray and see God as so far

away, where our sight in heaven is lost and it is difficult for us to imagine him here near us. That is why I want you to accompany me to this biblical account found in chapter 6 of the book of Judges.

Before I get into the story, I must tell you that, at first glance, God's way of acting can often seem strange to us. The wonderful thing about everything, Pathfinders, is to be able to know that God knows you and knows what you can do by his side. Let's set an example of what God saw and did through Gideon.

DEVELOPMENT

For seven years the Midianites had been treating Israel as slaves. That yoke of oppression was so strong that the Israelites " prepared shelters for themselves in mountain clefts, caves and strongholds" *(*Judg. 6:1-2NI*)*. Everything the people sowed, they came and took away. For them to be able to live, they had to hide and hide their food. Then God set out to liberate His people, but He decided to do it in a very peculiar way.

The Bible says that one day Gideon was cleaning the wheat as usual, secretly, so that the Midianites would not steal it *(*Judg. 6:11 NIV*)*. If he was hiding it is because he was afraid of the Midianites. The strange thing is that when the angel of the Lord appeared to him, he did not call him "fearful," even though he was hidden. No, the angel said to him: Mighty Warrior*! (*v. 12*)*.

Mighty Warrior? This is a joke, right? How many battles had Gideon won? Wasn't he just hiding? We don't even know if he had participated in any battles*!* But that's not all, Pathfinders. Later the Lord says to him, " Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand." *(*v. 14*)*.

But what strength? Even Gideon himself did not seem to know where that strength was, because the answer he gave was, "Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family." *(*v. 15*)*.

Pathfinders, it seems, Gideon had no idea that he was strong and brave, nor that he could deliver his people from their enemies. But God thought otherwise*!* God did not see Gideon as a coward who was hiding for fear of the enemies of his people, but for what he could become with God's support *(*Judg. 6:14*)*. In other words, dear Pathfinders, leaders, and parents present, the Lord saw in Gideon what he would come to accomplish if he learned to trust God, if he recognized God in all his ways, if he accepted the order to go and change the world, if he stopped thinking that God is only in heaven watching our story as a movie, eating popcorn in his seat. No, God sent his angel to be with Gideon and show his full potential as a leader that God would forge from the caves, hidden but not defeated, and with the support of the almighty God.

Pathfinders we might feel small, but God is forging our character through the Pathfinder Club. We must learn from the Bible, from the history of the church, and from nature. God uses leaders filled with the Holy Spirit to develop us to our full potential so that we learn to trust God and can go out into the battle that awaits us. Dear church and club leaders don't only see us as kids running around the church, children who just go on hikes or to camporees. Do not see us as what we are now, but as what we can become, with the support of God and you. Although it may not seem like it, we are strong and courageous Pathfinders, God is with us*!* And with God on our side, there are no heights we can't

climb, no challenges we can't face, no hearts we can't touch.

Let's go back to the story. With great difficulty, Gideon managed to gather 32,000 men. Remember that God acts strangely, right? This is one of those times. God told Gideon that there were many people with him and reduced the army to three hundred soldiers *(*Judg. 7:2, 7*)*. Can you imagine? Gideon was left with almost 1 percent*!* What a challenge to be faced with*!* He would have to fight 135,000 men with as few as three hundred soldiers *(*Judg. 8:10*)!* If this is already a challenge, imagine not having actual weapons of combat but having to use trumpets, empty jars, and lit torches *(*Judg. 7:16*)*.

CONCLUSION

Pathfinders, what was the result of that battle? The Bible says that Gideon, with his brave three hundred and with the support of the world-changing Almighty God, destroyed the Midianites, including their kings. What lessons can we learn from this story? Well, at least two.

1. Although now you might look or feel small and wonder how you will change the world, God has a plan for you. You might not see it now, but allow God, through the pathfinder club, to continue to make you strong and brave, be a part of the Club's events and programs, and allow your parents, leaders, and church members to guide you, and when the time comes, with God's help you will change the world.

2. Parents, leaders, and friends, maybe you have failed to trust God or the Pathfinder Club, but I tell you that God has been glorified in these 72 years of the Pathfinder Club and tens of thousands of children, adolescents, and young people of yesterday, today serve God in their church thanks to the powerful work of the Pathfinder Club. Therefore, even though we are small today, tomorrow we will be the ones who will continue God's work on this earth. God is on our side. Although sometimes God acts strangely, trust in him, because if God is with you, who can be against you?

ILLUSTRATION

Pathfinders, I want to end by telling the story of a Pathfinder named Geuris, who was baptized at the age of 10 in one of our Adventist schools and immediately encountered a Pathfinder Club in the city of San Pedro de Macorís in the East of the Dominican Republic. Even though his parents were not Christians, in the club he found leaders who began to see how strong and brave he was and saw past what he was at the time, and focused on what he would come to do in the future. They didn't worry about him jumping or and playing, and they started preparing him in the club, teaching him about the Bible, church history, hikes, and camporees. They became that spiritual family that helped him prepare for the future God had planned for him. As he got older, he began to work as captain of the club, as a counselor, as a deputy director without even imagining the tasks that God still had in store for him.

When he went to college to be a pastor, he helped lead the Pathfinder club. But God who moves in peculiar ways, had more battles for him to fight because he eventually was chosen to lead the Pathfinders of the East Dominican Conference for 10 years, and then

as Youth Director of the Dominican Union for a short period of time, and later he was called as president of the East Dominican Conference, where his story began. His father, mother, and part of his family came to know Jesus through him. Geuris Paulino thanks God and the Pathfinder Club for the leaders who cared for him, visited him, and supported him because in him they saw a Gideon; in him, they saw not what he was at the time, but what he could become.

APPEAL

Dear parents, Pathfinder leaders, the ball is in your court, it is your responsibility to teach and prepare the Gideons or Geuris in this church – children and adolescents who today are just that, children and adolescents, but tomorrow they will be the ones who will lead the final battles of the people of God. If you accept this call, I invite you to stand at this moment. In addition, I take this opportunity to talk to parents whose children are not yet in the Pathfinder Club because they saw it as a waste of time or had any doubt about the influence of the Pathfinder Club. God can help your children reach their full potential. He can fill them with his spirit and make them Gideons as well. So now I say to you, get up from your seats, listen to God's voice, it is never too late to begin. Today is a day of victory that will change the world and this church.

I also want to speak to those who were once Pathfinders and today are no longer in the club for various reasons. I want to remind you that "once a Pathfinder, always a Pathfinder." We want to count on you, your advice, your prayers, your resources, and your potential. I ask you to get up from your seats and join this great army around the world.

Finally, dear Pathfinder, now we are not leaders, but we are part of the Lord's flock. Today we are the present of the people of God, and tomorrow with His help we will overcome evil, sin, and proclaim to the world that Christ lives forever and ever. Are you willing to be part of God's army, accept the challenge of change the world? Will you be strong, faithful, and courageous Pathfinders? If so, then get up, stand up, take your place. God created you to succeed and I want to pray for you.

Prayer

ABOUT THE WRITER

Pastor Andrés Reyes

Andrés Reyes is currently serving as a Pastor for a local church in New York City for the Greater New York Conference. For the past 15 years, he has worked as departmental director for Youth Ministries, Evangelism, and for Family Ministries in his home country. He is happily married to Miguelina de Jesus with whom he has two beautiful children.

Sermon 2

Change Your World to Change The World

Bible Text: Esther 4:14

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?

Introduction

Pathfinder, club leaders, church, when we see the title of today's sermon: change the world, what comes to mind? The immediate question that comes to mind might be: how am I going to change the approximately 7,750 million people who live on this planet? It is a very big and difficult task, but I am here to encourage you by telling you: change your world, the world of those around you, and the people you will meet and impact throughout your life.

Toni Esteve, an editor who specialized in economic and consumer issues, says the following in one of his articles: "In the world, there are 7,750 million people. But out of all of them, at most, we will know a total of 5000 throughout our lives, and no more than 150 will have a real impact on us." They won't always be the same, but never more than that number, which is known as Dunbar's number, after anthropologist Robin Dunbar. This British scientist theorized about the number of people who can fully relate in a given system and concluded, in 1992, that 150 is approximately the "cognitive limit of individuals with whom a stable relationship can be maintained"; a number related to the size of our brain neocortex region and its processing capacity, but of course through social networks these figures can vary greatly.

How are you going to change your world and the world of the people around you? I want to share with you 7 keys to do it, extracted from Queen Esther's life. We generally like to see the moments of success and greatness, but we forget the process; those small actions, decisions that seem tiny but end up changing everything. And you know, the most interesting thing about all of this is that only you can make these decisions. Join me in changing the world.

1. **First key:** Let's stop self-pitying: believing that you can't do something or always have an excuse not to achieve it, that is the most common thing today. We pay so much attention to what we don't have that we lose sight of the opportunities that are presented to us. The Bible says that Esther was an orphan, she had grown up with an uncle. Even with her limitations, she kept moving forward, and you can do it too.

Esther 2:7 ***"Mordecai had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. This young woman, who was also known as Esther, had a lovely figure and was beautiful. Mordecai had taken her as his own daughter when her father and mother died."***

Pathfinders, Esther did not receive the blessing of having her parents alive. She was adopted by her cousin, and with his guidance, she began to face the challenges that life put before her.

If you are short, tall, brown, white, straight hair, wavy hair, thick hair, different hair, very intelligent, a little slow to learn, very cheerful, very quiet, with your parents or without them like Esther; in any case, feeling sorry for what we are living will not get us out of the situation; we have no excuses for not getting ahead in life. No matter what difficulties you are going through, to change your world and the world of those around you, you must trust this powerful verse of God's word. Isaiah 43:6,7 says: "Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth— everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and

made." Remember that God called you, created you, and formed you, and THAT gives you all the value in the world. Can you say amen for what God did?

2. **Second Key:** Wear God's Grace

Esther 2:9 ***"She pleased him and won his favor. Immediately he provided her with her beauty treatments and special food. He assigned to her seven female attendants selected from the king's palace and moved her and her attendants into the best place in the harem."***

- Esther's grace is not due to her, it comes from God
- Apparently, Esther's inner beauty was greater than the physical one.
- People don't want to be with the arrogant
- It is the humble who manage to impact and change many lives

3. **Third key:** Being obedient always blesses.

Esther 2:10 ***"Esther had not revealed her nationality and family background, because Mordecai had forbidden her to do so."***

- In the first beauty contest that the word of God mentions, a discreet and obedient lady appears, indispensable qualities to change us and change others.

4. **Fourth key:** Practice empathy *(put yourself in the place of others)*, do not forget their situations.

Esther 4:4 ***"When Esther's eunuchs and female attendants came and told her about Mordecai, she was in great distress. She sent clothes for him to put on instead of his sackcloth, but he would not accept them."***

- When Esther received the news of the depression her cousin was going through, not knowing what was going on with him and his people, she felt a lot of pain. If we want to change the people around us, we need to put ourselves in their shoes and understand their needs sincerely.

5. **Fifth key**: Realize that you are set by God at the right time

Esther 4:10-14 ***"Then she instructed him to say to Mordecai, "All the king's officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned the king has but one law: that they be put to death unless the king extends the gold scepter to them and spares their lives. But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king." When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, he sent back this answer: "Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"***

- Every family member, every friend, every neighbor, every fellow student, and every co-worker that God allows to be part of our radius of action, has been placed in that hour so that we can impact that life for him and change it positively. We have arrived for that hour and God has placed us there for a purpose of salvation.

6. **Sixth key:** be decisive, consecrate, and act.

Esther 4:15-17 ***"Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish." So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther's instructions."***

- Amid life's adverse situations, we need to put ourselves in God's hands, he is the God that transforms our circumstances.
- Remember Esther's formula: decision + consecration + action = Success.

7. **Seventh key:** Be an instrument of salvation

Esther 9:1 "On the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar, the edict commanded by the king was to be carried out. On this day the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, but now the tables were turned and the Jews got the upper hand over those who hated them."

- Esther is an example of what we can do when our lives follow God's plan, we can change ourselves first: from an orphan to queen, from coward to brave and secondly, we can change circumstances and save lives as Esther did with her people.

STORY:

During a beautiful sunset, a lady was walking along a deserted beach in Cabo de Gata, Spain. As she walked, she began to see that, in the distance, a young man was approaching. As he got closer, she realized that he was a teenager and that he was leaning over to pick up something that he then threw into the water. Again and again, he threw those things hard into the sea. As she got closer, the woman observed that the young man was collecting starfish that the tide had left on the beach and that, one by one, he threw back into the water.

Intrigued and curious she approached the boy and greeted him:

–"Hello. What are you doing there?"

–"I'm returning starfish to the sea. Now the tide is low and has left all these starfish on the beach. If I do not return them to the sea, they will die from lack of oxygen."

–"I understand, but on this beach, there must be thousands of starfish. There

are simply too many, and most likely, this is happening on hundreds of beaches along this Mediterranean. Don't you realize that what you're doing is impossible?"

The boy smiled, bent down to pick up another starfish, and with all his teenage strength, as he threw it back into the sea, replied:

—"For this one it is important!

A single smile, a single look, that we have shared in our day to day contains all the necessary statistical data to support the best evaluation of results and that evaluation of results is: impact and save one life at a time. You can get started today.

APPEAL:

On this 72nd anniversary of the Pathfinder club, under the theme "Change the world," I invite you first to change your world every day by putting your plans in the hands of God and then challenge you that each person who crosses your path experiences the love of Jesus, either through your example or through your words.

How many of us, with God's help, promise to change ourselves first, and then change others?

Let us pray.

ABOUT THE WRITER

Pastor Junior Féliz

He was born in the city of Barahona, in the southern part of the Dominican Republic on July 21, 1985. At the age of 16, he met Jesus and was baptized on February 4, 2002, with the Pathfinder club being his motivation to enter the church. He studied theology and received a call as pastor on June 16, 2008. He married in 2010 with the lady Ingrid Mejía and procreated 2 children, Jair of 10 years and Samir of 7 years. In 2018 he received a call to be the Youth Director of the Dominican Association of the East where he served the Pathfinder with much joy.

I WILL GO

GENERAL CONFERENCE **YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM**