

I. Surrender one's whole life to God through conversion; use the Bible as a basis for a relationship with Jesus Christ and a guide in all areas of life.

(Essential Elements)

1. Accept God as the Creator, Redeemer, and the Source of knowledge and wisdom
2. Have a developing knowledge of God's Word
3. Accept Christ as one's personal Savior as affirmed through baptism
4. Acknowledge the power of prayer and its role in making decisions
5. Value God's inspired writings and created works as sources of His revelation
6. Identify and use God-given spiritual gifts
7. Understand the appropriate roles of law and grace in salvation
8. Discover enjoyment in the study of God's Word
9. Voluntarily maintain personal devotions
10. Value and participate in corporate forms of worship
11. Accept God's Word as the basis for making decisions in the daily experiences of life
12. Apply biblical principles of Christian morality, integrity, and ethical behavior to all aspects of life.

II. Desire to know, live out, and share the basic tenets of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

(Essential Elements)

1. Participate actively in the offices and functions of the local church
2. Understand the structure and operation of the Seventh-day Adventist church organization
3. Become involved in the Global Mission of the Seventh-day Adventist church
4. Participate in the witnessing, outreach, and soulwinning activities of the local church
5. Understand the doctrines of the Seventh-day Adventist Church
6. Appreciate the rich heritage and providential development of the Seventh-day Adventist church
7. Relate to lifestyle and cultural issues based on biblical principles
8. Evaluate and exhibit lifestyle choices consistent with those of Seventh-day Adventist Christians.

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III. Develop a sense of self-worth, along with skills in interpersonal relationships needed for meeting the responsibilities of family membership, and respond with sensitivity to the needs of others.

(Essential Elements)

1. Develop effective interpersonal skills in family and other relationships
2. Recognize God's ideal of the family as the basic unit of society
3. Develop a sensitivity for the diversity in others
4. Acquire knowledge, attitudes and skills essential to meeting family responsibilities whether living alone or with others
5. Reflect Christian principles through refinement in taste, decorum, language, dress, and courtesy
6. Develop a sense of self-worth in harmony with Christian ideals
7. Understand sexuality and its expression in the context of God's ideal
8. Develop the attitudes and behaviors necessary for successful marriage and parenting.

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IV. Develop an understanding of multi-cultural diversity and historical heritage, and a working knowledge of governmental processes, while affirming a belief in the dignity and worth of others and a responsibility for one's local, national, and global environments.

(Essential Elements)

1. Understand, accept and respect the diversity of others
2. Exhibit concern and sensitivity for other peoples and cultures
3. Assume civic responsibility in one's local, national and global community
4. Have an awareness of the role of the Christian as a member of a global community
5. Understand the functions of governments and their impact on individuals and society
6. Analyze current events in the light of history and prophecy
7. Assume an active role in nurturing and preserving one's environment.

V. Accept personal responsibility for achieving and maintaining optimum physical, mental, and spiritual health.

(Essential Elements)

1. Recognize that a healthy lifestyle is a key to quality living
2. Engage in regular exercise for sustained health
3. Understand the relationship of wellness to an optimum relationship with God
4. Avoid at-risk behavior in the interest of preserving God-given health
5. Value cooperation, teamwork, and sportsmanship
6. Apply Christian principles to recreation and sports
7. Achieve a balance in work, leisure, social, and spiritual activities
8. Realize the impact of emotions on spiritual, physical, social, and intellectual growth.

VI. Adopt a systematic, logical approach to decision-making and problem-solving based on a body of scientific, mathematical, and historical knowledge, within the context of a biblical perspective.

(Essential Elements)

1. Broaden intellectual abilities through the study of God's Word
2. Use critical and creative thinking skills in decision making and problem solving
3. Develop intellectual competence in natural sciences and mathematics, arts and humanities, social sciences, and applied arts
4. Develop effective ways to learn, study, and to locate and organize information
5. Understand how intellectual processes are influenced by a healthy lifestyle
6. Relate thinking skills to "real world" experiences
7. Integrate Bible-based principles throughout the whole range of thought and intellectual development
8. Apply the principle of life-long learning.

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VII. Acquire optimum competency in verbal and nonverbal communication, in the use of information technology, and in effective communication of one's faith.

(Essential Elements)

1. Communicate effectively through the avenues of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and non-verbal language
2. Use communication skills in ways that enhance one's Christian witness
3. Understand how sensitivity to the feelings of others affects communication
4. Communicate effectively with other cultures and language groups
5. Use media to enhance communication
6. Employ language in ways that edify and uplift
7. Make appropriate choices when encountering all forms of media communication.

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VIII. Function responsibly in the everyday world, using Christian principles of stewardship, economy, and personal management.

(Essential Elements)

1. Develop responsible decision-making skills
2. Utilize effective communication skills
3. Recognize, develop, and maintain positive self-esteem
4. Appropriately manage one's personal finances
5. Develop basic home-management skills
6. Interact effectively in groups
7. Develop conflict resolution skills
8. Manage time effectively.

IX. Develop an appreciation of the beautiful, both in God's creation and in human expression, while nurturing individual ability in the fine arts.

(Essential Elements)

1. View God as the Author of beauty both in His creation and in human expression
2. Employ Christian principles as a basis for creative appreciation and expression
3. Appreciate the creative and performing arts
4. Develop artistic talents to their fullest potential
5. Develop self-confidence through practice and public performance
6. Use aesthetic expression as a means of communication and service.

X. Develop a strong work ethic and an appreciation of the dignity of service, along with an awareness of career options and opportunities, as they relate to one's personal involvement in the mission of the church.

(Essential Elements)

1. Develop a strong Christian work ethic which respects the dignity of labor
2. Develop an awareness of career options and opportunities as they relate to the mission of the church and to the changing world
3. Recognize the role of useful work in achieving and maintaining self-worth and self-development
4. Develop practical work skills that will enhance employability
5. Experience the joy of serving others
6. Identify the match between one's talents and career options.