

**ADVENTISM OF FOR 21<sup>ST</sup> C EUROPE**Rediscovering Adventist Identity and Mission in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Europe**Matthew 26**

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!"

At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

**ADVENTISM OF FOR 21<sup>ST</sup> C EUROPE**Rediscovering Adventist Identity and Mission in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Europe**2 Samuel 11**

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."



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### GUIDING QUESTIONS

#### LEVEL 1 - INFORMATION

- Pray – you are allowing the Holy Spirit to make space for the Word of God
- First allow yourself time with the text, then discuss in a group
- Read the text twice – one time to remind yourself the second time to:
  - Understand what is happening. You might know the story, but try and think about it again
  - Look at it from different angles (look at the main characters from the perspective of the characters around them – those who, perhaps, are not mentioned)
  - Make yourself aware of your own presuppositions about the story that come to the surface – are you biased towards the characters, why, how?

#### LEVEL 2 - IMAGINATION

- Read it like a real human story – try to imagine the scenes
- Find important words (in the text) that contribute to the experience
- Expand on the text (carefully, with wisdom): The report is quite short. What is missing in the story (the way it is written)?
  - If this was a movie, what would you add to make the scenes flow, on what would you focus, what would you try to emphasise? Imagine the angles the camera would take. Add light, sound effects if you can imagine them
  - If it was expanded on as a literary piece, how would the same story be described in more words?
    - Remember yourself retelling the story, or try retelling it – what do you remember, what do you miss (it shows what you find important)

#### LEVEL 4 - CONNECTION

- Try to bring awareness to the wall that is making you hurry up, find solutions, ask questions, find lessons
  - Remember: this layer of interpretation is about finding an experience, letting the Holy Spirit relate this story to your life, or the life of the people around you
- Try to relate to a character/different characters in the story... can you relate their experience to yours, or an experience you know of?
- Is there something that you haven't noticed before?

#### LEVEL 5 - ACTION

- What are your (new) reactions/responses to the interpretation of the text (before trying to logically organise them and make them fit with what we believe)?
- What do we do with these?
- How is it challenging us to act differently? To channel Christ into our lives and the lives of others?