

**STATEMENT PREPARED FOR THE GENERAL CONFERENCE  
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS**

February 28, 2013

This statement has been prepared by myself in consultation with and approval by our Gospel Ministries International (GMI) board and with the advice of other well known and denominationally respected ministry administrators. It is being issued at the request of Pastor Mike Ryan, General Vice-President of the General Conference who along with Dr. G.T. Ng, Executive Secretary of the General Conference, met on November 29, 2012 with my wife Becky and myself at the headquarters of GMI in Mc Donald, Tennessee.

**This statement expresses what is in my heart regarding the church I love and whose mission I will support with my time, resources and influence.**

1. I, as well as the ministry I represent, am sorry for speculative statements made in the past that have caused problems for church administration. It is my intention to refrain from making speculative, unverifiable, or sensational statements in my presentations.
2. I recognize that some of my sermons have been interpreted in a way that disparages church administration. This is not my intention and I regret that such a situation exists. I believe the Seventh-day Adventist church is God's true church on earth and that I should respect and not speak against those elected by God's church. It is my heartfelt intention to make my commitment to this church evident through my words and actions.
3. To help demonstrate the good working relationship that I desire to have with the church, and to restore a mutual relationship of trust, I will work in harmony with GC policy, as far as it is applicable to a lay person or a supporting ministry, in the acceptance of speaking appointments at church owned properties and institutions. I recognize as a lay person I am in a different relation to the church structure than is a denominational employee. Nevertheless, when visiting the lay operated ministries with whom I work, I will seek for opportunities to meet with church leadership to inform them of the work being done and facilitate coordination. I will also continue to work in harmony with Section K05 which pertains specifically to supporting ministries. My desire and intention is to respect and work with church authority and to make this plain through my actions.

David Gates  
Gospel Ministries International