When we think about outreach, or what we often call “personal evangelism,” what comes to mind is giving a Bible study or knocking on someone’s door. The word “evangelism” usually brings to mind public meetings in the church building, or possibly a rented hall.

There are, however, other kinds of evangelism that a Sabbath School class might be involved in.

**Introduction**

Our Sabbath School and Sabbath School classes can tell people about the plan of salvation and the Advent message in many ways. We are going to look at some in our program.

Personal contact with friends, relatives, work associates, and people in general is an important one. A secret to success in this kind of witnessing is to keep it simple. The tendency is to think of witnessing as giving a series of Bible studies, or debating with someone about doctrinal understandings, or trying to convince someone about a particular Adventist belief.

**Methods that “mingle”**


“Mingling” means doing things together. It is more or less what young people in many places call “hanging out.”

This may be visiting, working, playing, or just sitting together and talking. By mingling you discover people’s needs. Believe it or not, but there is a hotel pub (a bar) in one place with this motto above the entrance: “Everyone here is a friend — they just haven’t met yet.” Not bad!

What do you talk about if you are just hanging out and “mingling”? If you are already with a group of friends or acquaintances, you can steer the conversation into religious ideas. For instance, if the conversation is about getting along with some difficult personalities, you can say something like, “I remember that the Bible says that we are supposed to get along with people even if they seem like enemies. How would we make
that work?” That kind of simple comment opens the door to further conversation about religion.

**Motorcycle “Mingling”**

Some people have discovered unique ways to “mingle.” The Holy Spirit has also gifted some Christians with skills and interests that don’t fit quite so neatly into the more common outreach categories.

Here’s an example called “The Christian Motorcyclists Association (CMA).” This is an organization that serves motorcycle rallies and offers to help organizers, who in turn appreciate the alcohol-free CMA members taking tickets, keeping order, running food services, and performing many other tasks. CMA members are greeted like old friends by the rough-looking bikers at the annual rallies.

One Adventist member and his wife have been riding motorcycles most of their lives. They began going on road trips together after their last child graduated from academy. One day the wife decided she wanted a motorcycle of her own. They found a Harley-Davidson Sportster, and, at the age of 61, she got her motorcycle license.

Motorcyclists ride. They ride on their own. They form groups. They form clubs. They dress in garb designed for the open road. For non-motorcyclists the word “quirky” (unique or “strange”) comes to mind.

Our Adventist couple discovered that other motorcyclists were quite sociable and open to serious conversations involving spiritual issues. Over the years, they realized a need to minister to this unique segment of society. When they heard of the Christian Motorcycle Association, they joined it and proudly added the association’s patch to their black leather jackets.

They are awed as God leads them, in His perfect timing, to people who need Him. “We do a lot of hugging, listening, and encouraging,” they report, “and at the end of the day, we are grateful the Lord put someone in our way to share with.”

Once, while they gassed up, another biker came in—a tough-looking, poorly dressed woman wearing an old army hat. “She just seemed like a little waif,” they report, “with a large tattoo on her arm.”

They invited her to eat with them. “You’d never do that in a car, but bikers do that sort of thing. We’re programmed to look for opportunities like that.”

While they were eating, another CMA member who happened to be there told the woman, “We belong to the Christian Motorcycle Association. We don’t thump you with the Bible; we don’t preach religion. We don’t shove it down your throat, but what we’re all about is to make sure you know about Jesus Christ.”

The other CMA biker got the woman’s phone number and set a date to study the Bible with her. They had prayer for her before they parted.

“We think God wanted us there just at that time and for that purpose,” says the Adventist couple. “It is thrilling to know that the Lord looks out for bikers.”
Whatever unusual, unique, or “weird” outreach opportunity comes your way, you can find a way to “mingle” and open conversations about the Bible and Adventist beliefs. (Adapted from Sabbath School Toolbox magazine of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists).

**Suggested Songs**

*Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal* No. 369 “Bringing in the Sheaves”  
*Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal* No. 367 “Rescue the Perishing”

*Church Hymnal* No. 621 “Sowing in the Morning”  
*Church Hymnal* No. 624 “Throw Out the Lifeline”

**Morning Scripture Reading:** Isaiah 6:8