

# REVIVE



## HOW ARE YOU PREPARING?

We are less than six weeks away from the Division's Executive Committee which will take place in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, on October 27, 2012, and will be transmitted online for the entire Inter-American territory.

Perhaps you have already planned with your church board where to meet to follow the webcast, in a place with a good connection. You may have already identified what computer will be used and which video projector and sound system will be used to allow all board members to view the transmission and learn of the proposed activities for the Year of the Laity 2013 for discussion and approval.

Share with us these arrangements. What place did you choose? What system will be used? Are you ready? Tell us by writing at :

[2013@interamerica.org](mailto:2013@interamerica.org)

Don't forget to visit our site for the Year of the Laity for more information:

<http://2013.interamerica.org>

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8100 SW 117 Ave. Miami, Florida, 33183

## Church elders play an important role in the Year of the Laity A VIRTUAL COUNCIL IS BEING ORGANIZED

The ministry of the church elder and the pastoral ministry are similar in many aspects, in that both have been called to nurture, protect and guide the flock to the ideal that God has for His children according to His purpose (Ephesians 4:13). This purpose is what makes the difference in the ministry of each believer in the fulfillment of the mission (1 Corinthians 12:1). Therefore, the elder truly committed to the Lord and His church guides his ministry focused in two aspects of paramount importance:

He is an unconditional partner of the pastor in search for a divine purpose. Each day he goes before God to achieve the kind of maturity in his service that no matter how many differences may exist between himself and his pastor, how many personal problems he could be facing, or any other obstacle, he never loses sight of God's purpose. He is faithful and true to God under any circumstance. We praise God for the thousands of church elders and pastors throughout Inter-America who know who they are and their purpose as leaders.

He loves his church, watches for it and shares his lifestyle to all who are under his care. He encourages each church member to be faithful and give testimony of his change to a new life with the Lord. He is clear in what the mission of the church is for the last days and supports every initiative oriented to the fulfillment for this mission. Therefore, he believes and practices the advice given in the church manual regarding his functions, such as the following: "Under and in cooperation with the pastor, elders are spiritual leaders of the

church and are responsible for fostering all departments and activities of the work. Elders should maintain a mutually helpful relationship with other officers" (p. 74).

As a reward, each faithful elder will receive the incorruptible crown from the hands of the Prince of pastors.

As part of the activities of the Year of the Laity in Inter-America, we are highlighting the role the elder plays as an agent of change and influence in the local church, by organizing a virtual council which will be transmitted live from Miami, Florida to the Division territory.

On Sabbath, February 9, 2013, thousands of church elders throughout Inter-America will be able to follow the program and interact through questions and commentaries. This initiative will be one of the activities, which will be proposed in the Division Committee on October 27, 2012. We invite you to be on the alert to this first transmission and listen to the details of the virtual council and other important initiatives.



*Ministerial Secretary  
Inter-American Division*

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind. Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away." | Peter 5:2-4. KJV