

FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Policy Statement

SUBJECT

TITHING

POLICY NUMBER

2550

EFFECTIVE DATE

01/01/2016

REVISION DATE

Tithing is a basic Biblical principle which speaks to a person's relationship with his/her Creator. This relationship is ordained of God for the benefit of His children. Systematic and regular tithing yields rich rewards. Among these is the bond which results between a person and his/her Creator. Another is experiencing the intrinsic satisfaction of giving one's self and one's means to the Lord. The Lord's promise of special blessings to the faithful tither can be received in no other way.

A. CHRISTIAN EXAMPLE

Seventh-day Adventist denominational employees are to be examples in their financial support of the Lord's work. Church members must see in Church employees a fidelity to basic principles which is unequivocal. Such commitment needs to be exercised in respect of all the standards of Christian living. Such employees are to demonstrate an exemplary commitment to the Lord and the teachings of His church.

B. RELATIONSHIP OF TITHING TO EMPLOYMENT

Adherence to the basic beliefs and practices of the Church are a condition of employment for all employees. Because of the importance of tithing as a principal and the spiritual experience it represents, no church organization shall employ a Seventh-day Adventist who is not returning a faithful tithe.* In the case where an employee transfers to another denominational organization, the employing organization will re-verify the employee's return of tithe. At the time of employment each employee shall be informed in writing of this requirement.

The tithing practices of each employee may be subject to periodic review.

If it is determined that an employee is not faithfully tithing, the president of the Florida Conference or his designee shall discuss the matter with the employee in the spirit of pastoral concern and endeavor to help the employee understand that following such a course is harmful to the employee's relationship with the Creator.

If an employee does not commence and continue faithful tithing following pastoral counseling from the President of the Florida Conference or his designee, further counseling, corrective and disciplinary action, up to and including separation of employment, may be taken at the discretion of the Conference.

*When this is not prohibited by law.