

"The Passion of the Christ" Adventist sharing booklet soon available

Nampa, Idaho (March 2, 2004) -- A timely sharing booklet from Pacific Press and Signs of the Times is being released in response to the much publicized Mel Gibson movie "The Passion of the Christ." This 16-page, beautifully illustrated sharing booklet, called "The Passion of the Messiah," tells the story of Jesus' death and resurrection, using selections from Messiah, the popular contemporary adaptation of Ellen White's classic on the life of Jesus, The Desire of Ages.

"The Passion of the Christ," a US\$30-million motion picture released this past weekend, tells the story of the last 12 hours surrounding Jesus' death. This controversial film--co-written, produced, funded and directed by actor Mel Gibson--has sparked worldwide discussion leaving many to speculate on Gibson's motives in making the film and its gory nature.

Adventist leaders, such as the Voice of Prophecy's Lonnie Melashenko, are encouraging church members to take advantage of the witnessing opportunity this film presents. Melashenko says "I would strongly encourage (churches) to get out to theaters and offer sharing materials that advertise the Discover Bible Studies to those leaving the film."

"The Passion of the Messiah" sharing booklet does include a response card for free Discover Bible Study guides, and is designed and priced for mass distribution by churches or conferences--or for individual use as a sharing piece. It is also ideal for outreach during the Easter season.

Priced at only US\$0.39 each with quantity pricing as low as US\$0.17 each, this full-color booklet is an inexpensive sharing option. Quantity zip code pricing is also available and is a great way to take the hassle out of mailing sharing booklets to multiple addresses within a zip code.

Each church in North America will receive a sample copy of the "Passion" sharing booklet along with ordering information. The "Passion" booklet will be available beginning Monday, March 8th to order through your local Adventist Book Center or online at www.AdventistBookCenter.com. You can also order by calling toll-free (800) 765-6955.

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