



# hiv/aids

**AIDS is spreading so rapidly that Christian churches in many countries of the world will soon include at least one member who has a friend or relative with the disease.**

**What positive action is the Seventh-day Adventist Church taking?**

# hiv/aids

Seventh-day Adventists believe the Christian response to AIDS must be compassionate, helpful, personal, practical and redemptive. We are to love and care for those with the disease just as Jesus loved and cared for the sick of His day.

Avoiding sexual contact before marriage and maintaining a faithful, monogamous relationship with an unaffected person in marriage is the best way to reduce the risk of contracting the HIV virus. Avoiding the use of needles that have not been sterilised and ensuring the safety of blood products can also help prevent HIV.

Adventists are committed to:

1. Providing education that teaches prevention of HIV
2. Fighting against the circulation, sale and use of drugs
3. Supporting sex education teaching that human sexuality belongs only within the marital relationship of a man and a woman
4. Promoting the biblical concept that sexual intimacy excludes promiscuous and all other sexual relationships that may increase exposure to HIV

The Bible writer, James, advises, "If one of you says to him, 'Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?" (2:16, NIV).

The Seventh-day Adventist Church released a statement on AIDS in 1990.  
Visit [www.adventist.org.au](http://www.adventist.org.au) to read the full statement.



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For information contact the Communication & Public Relations Unit

**Locked Bag 1115, Wahroonga NSW 2076**  
**Ph: +61 2 9847 2222 [communication@adventist.org.au](mailto:communication@adventist.org.au)**