



## Episode 1: Introduction

### Discussion Guide

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**Episode 1: Introduction** is the first episode in the 10-part *Dear Church* series. It begins with Pastor Aren interviewing a variety of Adventist young adults about their feelings towards the Church, sparking his interest to hear more about their stories. In the end, Pastor Aren shares the mission of *Dear Church* and why it matters.

**STARTER** Prior to listening to Episode 1, how would you describe your relationship with the Seventh-day Adventist Church? (or Christianity, if you are not Adventist)

**Question 1** Starting at **3:50**, we hear the young adults share their favorite thing about being Seventh-day Adventist. What stood out to you about their answers?

**Question 2** During his interview, Dr. Allan Martin tells Aren that their research has shown Adventist young adults crave relationships with older generations in the Church. [**14:20**] Do you believe this to be true? Why or why not?

**Question 3** Starting at **22:52**, Pastor Aren asks, “If you could say anything to the Seventh-day Adventist Church, what would you say?” The answers were varied. Which answer did you resonate most with? How would you answer that question?

**BONUS** At the end, Pastor Aren says that we’re going to hear “topics discussed in ways that are different than how you or [him] view them.” [**29:08**] Do you think it is helpful or problematic to have views expressed in SDA Church media that do not align with official Church teachings? Share an explanation for your answer.