

# Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237 Phone: (845) 306-1100

October 12, 2013

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Re: Use of electronic tablets

Dear Brothers:

Electronic tablets have become increasingly common in many parts of the world. So the Governing Body has decided that the use of such devices from the platform at our theocratic events should be left to the individual discretion of each program participant. This is not something for which elders would need to establish a rule. However, sensible steps should be taken so as to avoid distracting anyone in the audience. For example, the user (whether on the platform or in the audience) should set his device to a mode that would not emit sounds, and he should void electronic alerts, such as incoming e-mail notifications. Additionally, it may be wise for a brother using such a device during his talk to have a backup hardcopy of his notes for use in the event he experiences a technical problem.

If a brother will be giving a talk in an area where he knows such devices are not commonly used, it would be appropriate for him to inquire if his doing so from the platform would not be advantageous.—Compare 1 Corinthians 10:24; 1 Timothy 3:2, footnote.

Thank you for noting this direction. We send our warm Christian love.

Your brothers,

*Christian Congregation  
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

cc: Field instructors  
Traveling overseers

PS to coordinator of the body of elders and secretary:

Please arrange for this letter to be read to the congregation at the first Service Meeting after its receipt. Thereafter, it should be posted on the information board.

This letter replaces the letter dated November 8, 2011, to all bodies of elders in the United States branch territory. That letter should be destroyed. This letter should be retained in the congregation permanent file of policy letters. You may wish to update the congregation copy of *Index to Letters for Bodies of Elders* (S-22) at this time as well.