

# Challenge Ministries



be ready always to give an answer  
I Peter 3:15

earnestly contend for the faith  
Jude 3

## Fishers of Men

April 2011

### Irish Parade, San Diego State University, Balboa Park, and UCSD

We were able to get out 8 times this month to these 4 places. We gave out several thousand tracts and had dozens of serious discussions with people that God was convicting. Sadly, I can think of at least 10 that claimed they were going to heaven that didn't want to talk about it. Pray that God will move in the Christian community and that His people would have a passion for Him.



Balboa Park, 10 a.m. Rainy day with lots of kids. Just moments ago I offered the kids a million dollar bill. Within seconds, nearly a hundred kids with hands out. Teachers let them.



Jerry at San Diego State near the "Freedom Stairs." There were 5 open air preachers that day. Some students waited to talk with us afterwards.



Jerry doing open air at SDSU. A policeman and a campus staff parked near us, checked us out, and then left. No one said a word. Amazingly, students were willing to talk about spiritual things if someone would just take the time.



This is Larry from Sacramento at the Irish Parade not far from Balboa Park. Larry is a full time evangelist, open air preacher. He heard about our ministry here in the San Diego area and contacted me. He's a very soft spoken preacher with a passion for the lost.

## NEWSLETTER

**Challenge Ministries** is a non-profit Christian ministry dedicated to the defense and proclamation of the Gospel and Biblical truth.

Founded by ..... Jerry & Dianna Benson

E-mail: ..... challenge.min@cox.net

web sites:.... www.challengemin.org www.fishersofmen.us

**Challenge Ministries**

P.O. Box 20195

El Cajon, California 92021

\*All contributions are tax deductible

## America is a Mission Field!

I met a missionary from Egypt that had come to America for his mission field. He was a Muslim in Egypt that had converted to Christianity. In his attempt to evangelize in Egypt his life was in serious jeopardy. Now he spends much time on college campuses trying to convince Muslims they must trust in Jesus who is the Savior that died and rose again. Even while I spoke with him a Muslim woman walked by and he ran after her with some Arabic tracts.

Not only are there various non-Christian religious groups in America that need evangelizing and decipling, but a whole new generation of people has arisen that were NOT raised in the church and have but a vague understanding of Christianity. I come across people weekly that do not have a Bible in their home and have no idea where they will spend eternity.

Sadly, many modern churches have more of a social gospel. Those that name the name of Christ and claim to be going to heaven are unsure of specifically why they will go there. The majority of those that tell me they are Christians rarely tell me it's because of the work of Christ on the cross. Oh yes, if you ask them enough questions they will tell you they believe it is because of the blood of Christ, but this is not foremost in their explanation. If you ask why they are going to heaven, it's often because I try to follow Jesus. I believe in God. I pray and go to church. I'm a good person. Of course there are those who have a clear understanding and have truly been born again.

Our purpose is not to judge them but rather to clarify the gospel and what it means to be a Christian. Then challenge them to live it and proclaim it.



Irish Parade San Diego. Some 30,000 spectators most in "green." Walking down this sidewalk you could easily give out hundreds of tracts in just a short time. We try to be sensitive that people are there to see the parade and not take up all their time. It still amazes me that many are willing to talk at length concerning their eternal destiny.

## JWs Challenged

This is the third month in a row that we have encountered Jehovah's Witnesses with a table at our outreaches. If you recall twice at Lindburgh Airport and this time was at Balboa Park.

I began our conversation by telling them that the Watchtower has consistently criticized the Christian churches for false teaching and even false prophesying. I then told them of the Bible's warnings about false prophets and testing them by what they prophecy. I explained that witnesses went throughout the world with books and magazines proclaiming the truth that 1925 would mark the end. Also of Rutherford's mansion and prediction concerning the return of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to BethSerim in San Diego. They knew of "mistakes" of the Watchtower but I don't think it penetrated them to the degree of this so called 1925 mistake. I explained that there was no light in this teaching and how did they know that what they believed today wouldn't be changed in the future.

Overall we had an excellent discussion. Ricky addressed the error of blood transfusions. That to save a life was not "drinking blood" which is 2 separate systems of the body. The black lady insisted she would let her child die rather than take blood.

I thanked both of them for their willingness to talk about difficult subjects. Truth does matter and we shouldn't be afraid to discuss it.



The Amazing Ricky was back for awhile with a cane and lots of pain. These are two Jehovah's Witnesses that had a table set up at Balboa Park. We spent at least 20 minutes talking to them. They said they would be there for a couple more weeks. Hope to talk with them again.

## What's Happening and What's Coming???

**Easter Egg Event Poway...** In a few weeks thousands will attend an Easter Egg hunt in Poway the day before Easter. Lord willing we will also be there to hand out 500 Easter Eggs with gospel tracts and candy inside.

**25,000 tracts arrived!** 3 boxes of million dollar bills have arrived. We've already given out well over a thousand. Besides the million dollar bills we ordered 1300 "Are you a Good Person" comic for kids. We've given about 500 of them away at Balboa Park on Tuesday mornings when schools are there for the free museums.

**Earth Day mid April coming...** Lord willing, I'll take a team to San Diego's Earth Day at Balboa Park. 70,000 plus are expected. We will try and give out 2,000 tracts and talk with many mother-earth'er's.

**Phoenix preaching cancelled...** Jerry had 2 herniated disks in his neck and had to cancel the preaching opportunity in Phoenix. Feeling better and he's returned to work. Perhaps we'll be able to go in the fall.

Blessings,

*Jerry and Dianna*