

Challenge Ministries



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

earnestly contend for the faith
Jude 3

Fishers of Men

August 2009

Seaport Village, LaMesa Car Show (again), Lindburgh Airport, Balboa Park, U.S Open Sand Castles

Over 1,000 tracts this month and perhaps a hundred conversations.
Praise the Lord!



The Amazing Ricky offering a tract at Lindbergh Airport, Terminal 1. There were people everywhere. Many were willing to talk. I spoke with a young woman who was raised in a Christian Church, knew the gospel, but admitted she was NOT a Christian. Sadly, many young people abandon the faith when they leave home.



Aaron, just 13 (in the lime shirt), has come to the La Mesa Car Show on Thursday evening twice now. He's never been tracting before!



Ricky and I went to the Imperial Beach U.S. Open Sand Castles. Perhaps 150,000 people on Saturday. We handed out 700 plus tracts and talked with dozens on the gospel. This photo is one side of the pier.



Somewhere in there Ricky is handing out tracts on the Imperial Beach Pier.



I went with my wife for a picnic to Seaport Village and did some tracting as well. Summer months are filled with people. Shared the gospel with many.

NEWSLETTER

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

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*All contributions are tax deductible

What is “Official” LDS Doctrine?

How often I have shared some of the serious errors of Mormonism by quoting a LDS prophet to a Mormon, only to have the response, “That was just his opinion.” Or that isn’t “official” LDS doctrine.

The question “What is ‘Official’ LDS Doctrine, really has no consistent ‘official’ response.

Consider a LDS web site that attempts to answer this question:

The Prophet can add to the scriptures, but such new additions are presented by the First Presidency to the body of the Church and are accepted by common consent (by sustaining vote) as binding doctrine of the Church (See D&C 26:2; 107:27-31). Until such doctrines or opinions are sustained by vote in conference, however, they are “neither binding nor the official doctrine of the Church.”

How can we know if teachings, which have not been voted upon, are true? J. Reuben Clark explains that when “we, ourselves, are ‘moved by the Holy Ghost,’” then we know that the speakers are teaching true doctrine. “In a way, this completely shifts the responsibility from them to us to determine when they so speak.”

It is likely that the Lord has allowed (and will continue to allow) his servants to make mistakes—it’s all part of progression and the growing process. (MormonTimes.com)

This guidance is NOT official but common among many Mormons. Mormons believe that we MUST have latter-day revelation and we must have a living prophet and apostles who speak for God, yet when they speak, even if they say they are giving us truth, it may not be so.

LDS prophets have stated that even if they contradict the past prophets the new information must be accepted over the old. Was this just their opinion? Should you pray about it?

Most LDS doctrines have never been voted on and when they have, like the blacks receiving the priesthood in 1978, the leaders determined the new so called revelation, and it is sustained at general conference. Shouldn’t Mormons pray about it first and then a poll of all Mormons around the world taken to see if the revelation is true? What if the spirit tells you it is false?

Of course Biblical revelation need not a vote to be God breathed!

Must we go Door to Door?

Our 10 minute video on YouTube, of the International Jehovah’s Witness convention has been viewed over 8,000 times in less than 2 months! Nearly 1,000 a week continue to view the Open Air preaching at the stadium. Almost 200 have commented on the video, most it seems are Jehovah’s Witnesses.

Other than name calling one of their favorite criticisms is summed up, “If you had the truth you would go door to door instead of preaching here at the stadium.”

It doesn’t take much thought that if truth were determined by who went door to door, others likewise would have to be considered. Mormons are also very zealous in their door to door work. Actually, I have been door to door and I know many non-witness churches whose missionaries are very active going door to door witnessing in the countries where they preach the gospel.

Nowhere in the Bible are we told to go door to door visiting people on their doorstep as a work that is required for our salvation as witnesses are taught. The apostle Paul and Peter taught publicly (synagogues, marketplace, temple, river etc.), in believers homes and even in jail. The Apostle Paul said:

“While I did not hold back from telling you any of the things that were profitable nor from teaching you publicly and from house to house“ (teaching in believers homes) - Acts 20:20

We are permitted to go wherever there are people, including door to door, but this won’t help our salvation, nor is it a test for truth.

Jesus never went door to door in His ministry but rather when making disciples he spoke publicly:

Jesus answered him: “I have spoken to the world publicly. I always taught in a synagogue and in the temple, where all the Jews come together; and I spoke nothing in secret.” - John 18:20

Strange as it may seem, the June 2009 issue of the AWAKE! Magazine has an article of witnesses handing out literature at a non-witness stadium event. Of course this is OK for them but is unchristian if we do the same.

What’s Happening???

\$1,000,000 tract... The million dollar tract was actually, recalled by the printer. Seems after reviewing the poor print quality, they felt it was “too real” and preferred not to print it as is. After serious consideration we decided we would give the bill a MAJOR face lift and print it again. Any references to “legal tender” or official government names, Federal Reserve Note, and logos were removed and redone. At quick glance it looks more real than ever, but a careful examination is that it is a 100% gospel tract. The front of the tract now has 9 Bible verses or references and 12 on the back. (see if you can find them). The message is the same and we’ve already handed out over 500. Next step is to place them on our site for FREE! Included in this month’s newsletter is one of the new and improved \$1,000,000 bills.

Fashion Valley Coming... (Lord willing), Fashion Valley Mall will happen this month. We weren’t able to get the permit last month but are working on it for this month. If you’d like to volunteer, we could use help following through and obtaining permits for some of our outreaches. It’s quite time consuming. Please send us an e-mail if you’d like to help.

3 Preachers, 3 Beaches, 1 day... (Lord willing), New Open Air video next month!

Your Warriors in Christ, *Jerry and Dianna*