

Challenge Ministries



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

earnestly contend for the faith
Jude 3

February 2015

San Diego State, Balboa Park, Mission Valley, Santee Intersection and Death Valley

There are over 30,000 students at SDSU and we haven't talked to them all yet. I do know most all have at least seen us and even their newspaper mentions us from time to time. Some good news is that I know several that have been so encouraged by our outreaches they have been moved to do the same in some way or another. One young woman I met at Balboa Park said she was daily sharing her faith on Facebook and even has a website that likewise shares the gospel.

Sadly, she was discouraged that some of her Christian friends told her that she was too passionate about the gospel and would burn out quickly. Troubled, she asked me how long I had been active witnessing. I told her it began in the late 70's and had grown to the point that for about 5 years now I do 100 or more outreaches each year.

She was so delighted that her friends have it wrong. She then asked me a question that no-one has ever asked me, "What is the single most thing that keeps you going with such passion?" One of those rare moments that I didn't have to even think about it was my response, "The more I understand the majesty and splendor of God in all that He is, I can't help but proclaim Him from the mountains. He is worthy of all praise, honor and glory."

As I reflect each month writing the newsletter and reviewing photos I am overwhelmed how privileged we are to proclaim to a lost and dying world the wonders of the grace of God in Salvation through our Great God and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We are awaiting our King and Lord and delight in "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;" Titus 2:13

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing." Revelation 5:12 Amen and Amen.



This is a zoomed in video screen capture of what I saw while standing on the freeway overpass with our 8 foot cross. If you look closely there is a man who just shed his clothes in the middle of freeway 8. His smashed truck is to his right and those 2 items in the middle of the road are his clothes. He's walking directly in front of freeway traffic. Fortunately the police arrived within minutes and there were no injuries.



Quite a story in this photo taken last week at Balboa park. If you look closely there is a full grown Egret (white bird) standing on the edge of the pond. The man on the left with the suit and tie is Eddie, a JW. I walked up to him moments after photographing the beautiful bird and quoted Colossians 1:16,17 where Jesus created "all things by him and for him and by him all things consist" including the Egret. He listened but no comment.

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

ARE YOU READY?

As you know, we are using (2) 8 foot crosses in our outreaches. One is Styrofoam and the other is PVC with LED lights going all around. Both say "ARE YOU READY?" The Styrofoam cross can be used anywhere in the day and the other has 400 LED lights which is very visible for use at night.

I've taken them both to several bridge overpasses over freeway 8 in San Diego. I've also taken the styrofoam one to a number of busy intersections in Mission Valley and in Santee. They have also been to several college campuses and Balboa Park. Wherever there are people these signs do several things. At least momentarily everyone must ponder life, death and the afterlife. At least in some way I believe God can use this as a catalyst for further thought and perhaps a receptiveness to the gospel. I believe another great benefit is that Christians are encouraged likewise to be vocal about the faith.

I've had people get off the freeway and come to the bridge and thank me for this effort. Just a week or so ago a policeman stopped by to make sure all was O.K. but gave me great encouragement that he "was ready". A supervisor at my work saw the sign displayed near Costco and asked me if I was the one holding the sign. Of course we

were able to have a brief dialogue and I'm hoping he tells others at work of what he saw.

On two occasions Jehovah's Witnesses have stopped to talk to me in the last month. One stopped in the crosswalk, rolled down his window and handed me a Watchtower publication. I told him the Watchtower had a false Jesus and a different gospel that could not save him. We spoke for the entire red light and beyond. People waited patiently in his lane till we finished. He claimed he was an elder and was writing a book defending his faith. I encouraged him to give an answer why the Watchtower claimed that to have eternal life you must belong to the organization but the Bible said life was in Jesus alone.

I've even had non-believers stop as well as a Mormon recently. The Mormon told me that she was ready because she remembered each week Jesus in the sacraments. I told her the Jesus she believed in could not save her and was a false Jesus. Further, Joseph Smith was a false prophet and if she believed she could become a god it contradicted the Bible. We spoke for at least 15 minutes on the bridge. Her son (about 15 or so) sat next to her taking this all in. God truly works in all these ways for His glory.



Place: Carls Burgers El Cajon. These two Mormon missionaries were on their way out when I asked them, "Are you guys Mormon Missionaries?" Of course this led to a 15 minute discussion about God, Joseph Smith and the gospel. It was overall a delight. The one on the left asked for my phone number. Perhaps he will call.



There are actually 2 JW's in this photo. There is a second JW behind the large man who is perfectly blocked. They are now using a rather remote Watchtower rack to the right. We talked about a dozen minutes or so about Jesus, salvation and the Watchtower. I was very encouraged as they said they looked forward to talking in the future.

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

Larry Dubois coming to San Diego... Larry is a full time street preacher and evangelist who travels all over America. We've worked together before in outreaches here in San Diego. He's coming the middle of March for 10 days and Lord willing we we once again work in the Lords vineyard for His glory.

Saint Patricks day parade... An outreach we have had for a number of years is the Saint Patricks day parade downtown San Diego. This "green" day is perfect for our million dollar bill. It's always a huge hit and gives many opportunities to share the gospel.

Darwins birthday Feb 12... No doubt this event may escape your notice but it is celebrated by millions. Lord willing I will have another brother in the Lord "debunking" Darwin on his birthday at a prime location at San Diego State. We'll video tape the event an put it on YouTube.

TAX STATEMENTS... We have sent out the 2014 donor tax statements. If you didn't receive yours or have any questions, Dianna (my lovely wife) will be glad to help. Feel free to call: 619-440-7167. Thank you again for your kind support.

Blessings always,

Jerry and Dianna