

Challenge Ministries



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

earnestly contend for the faith
Jude 3

Fishers of Men

June 2012

Mormon Battalion, Cinco de Mayo, San Diego State, Balboa Park

Another new event this month was Cinco de Mayo in Old Town San Diego. This year this event fell on Saturday which only happens every 7 years. They claim it is the largest Cinco de Mayo celebration north of the border. We handed out hundreds of tracts and had many exciting conversations. I spoke with one young man in his 20's that never understood the gospel before. He was visibly moved by this wonderful message and thanked me profusely. I gave him my e-mail and hope to hear from him.

We handed out tracts in front of the Mormon battalion, which was near the Cinco de Mayo event, and asked people coming out if they were Mormon. This began many discussions about the God of Mormonism. Most just got angry and left but a few were perplexed and said they would study further.

I'm teaching a class on evangelism using "Way of the Master" videos at Mapleview Baptist Church in Lakeside. We still have about 4 weeks left if you are in the area. Please come.



John is talking with this woman about the gospel at Balboa Park. You can see she wasn't in a hurry and heard a clear presentation of the gospel. May God be glorified.



Goodbye Gary. Gary Smith here with his wife Denise on his birthday just a few days before he died of Cancer. I spoke at his funeral last week. Gary did most of the art work and typesetting on our tracts. He and his wife served on the board on this ministry. You are missed.



Pastor Gil, with the hat, is talking with one of the missionaries from the Battalion. He wanted to know what we were doing but refused to listen to the answer.

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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Challenge Ministries

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*All contributions are tax deductible

JW's Challenged

Next month I'll give more information on the Jehovah's Witness Convention at Qualcomm Stadium which was on the last weekend of May. I did however want to share one exciting thing that happened.

After over 12 years at the stadium for the JW Convention, I discovered how to have short but major impact discussions with the JW's. This was quite by accident but I was overwhelmed.

The convention had been over by an hour and those exiting were just a trickle. Their guards were down and no elders there to rescue them. I moved away from the visible exits and waited for young people coming out that seemed less than somber just enjoying themselves.

I'd simply ask "Are you a Jehovah's Witness? Yes. May I ask you a question? Sure. In John 20:28... The youth had no answers but on 4 or 5 occasions seemed fascinated. The conversations were short but this was a major milestone to me since in the past they wouldn't speak at all. Nearly half those I asked, about a dozen responded favorably. Will pursue this more in the future.



Pastor Gil offering a million dollar bill at the Cinco de Mayo event in Old Town.

Mormonism Challenged

Generally when I speak to Mormons or Jehovah's Witnesses in our outreaches the conversations are quite short. I usually focus on the person and work of Jesus or the God of the Bible.

Last week I had a rather lengthy talk with a woman who was a temple Mormon. Although she bore her testimony ("I know the church is true") she listened very carefully when I said I had a strong testimony that the church was false. We had a dilemma. Which testimony was from God or were both false, but they couldn't both be true.

Rather than use the Bible initially, I was able to point out that Joseph Smith changed his mind about the character of God compared to what the Book of Mormon taught which was his earlier thinking about God.

This of course led to what the Bible clearly taught about God which is the foundation of the Christian faith.

As we shared it was clear to me that the Holy Spirit was speaking to her. I pray that others will water and God will bring the increase.



This is Bill at the Cinco de Mayo event handing out million dollar tracts. The majority of people gladly took the tracts. Bill had to bicycle in from several miles.

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

P.O. Box... ??? The majority of our mail is getting through....but... recently one was returned "Box Closed". We have well over 100,000 tracts with this P.O. Box plus dozens of web pages on 2 different web sites with this address. You can imagine getting a different address would be quite difficult. We will continue to try and straighten this out. If you prefer you can mail to our home address just don't make checks payable to us, continue to use Challenge Ministries.

Jerry Benson, Challenge Ministries, 1727 Milton Manor Drive, El Cajon, California 92021

Parkway Mall coming soon... Please pray for this outreach. In the past we've given out up to 2,000 tracts in one afternoon. Hope to lead a team sometime next month.

JW Convention in San Diego Yes we went again this year with some exciting results. Will report next month.

In His service,

Jerry and Dianna