



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

earnestly contend for the faith
Jude 3

Fishers of Men

September 2009

PETCO Park, Midway & Star of India, Pacific Beach, Ocean Beach, Mission Beach, Seaport Village, Lindburgh, La Mesa Car Show & El Cajon Car Show

I think this was a record month on outings. Some weeks we went out 3 times.

Lindburgh airport still amazes me of the freedom we've been given to go anywhere unrestricted. Our last time out (pictured below), one of the airport security personnel was so angry at our freedom given us to hand out



The Amazing Ricky with the white bag full of tracts. This line to check in was 25 people behind me and another 100 people longer inside. I'm seeing more and more that those who say they are Christians don't really wish to talk about spiritual things. I spoke with 3 people on this Saturday that said they would go to heaven because they were a good person. After I shared the gospel, one lady rebuked me for saying man was sinful. She said she was willing to trust in her goodness rather than trust in Jesus and the cross. Very sad.

I spoke with another elderly woman that broke my heart. She said she was going to hell and that her sins were so grievous that God could not forgive her. She would not be comforted.



I was amazed how many Muslim families were at the El Cajon Car Show. This young lady stopped to read the entire million dollar bill. Just a short time before I spoke with 5 teenagers from Pakistan. They asked many questions about Christianity. After about 5 minutes, 3 of them left. The last two were genuinely moved by the gospel. One especially I feel was very close to becoming a Christian. I gave him the Gospel of John and encouraged him to trust in Jesus. I gave him my email and asked him to keep in touch with me. Perhaps one day he will contact me with good news.



John sharing the gospel with a man at Seaport Village. Gary, a new fisherman (with the white bag full of New Testaments), gave away 50 Gideon New Testaments and many tracts.

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

Sharing the Gospel with a Mormon

I've discovered that generally speaking that Mormons will talk with you at length, even if they know very little of their distinctive doctrines. This is especially true of the missionaries (at least the hundreds that I have had contact with).

However, when we meet LDS in our outreaches, they are often caught off guard, such as a family visiting Balboa Park, and the conversations are rather brief. But, I've still had many excellent discussions about truth even recently with Mormons.

Ricky began a conversation with a young LDS woman and her Christian friend at one of our outreaches at San Diego airport. After a few minutes Ricky invited me to share with them as well. This lady was from Minneapolis and was visiting San Diego. She was committed to Mormonism but somehow she could see the seriousness of the error of their doctrines.

I prefer to establish with them what I believe is their most serious doctrinal error, the belief that God progressed to become God and that there are many Gods. This sets the foundation for who Jesus is and the great salvation he accomplished on the cross.

I reminded her of the LDS concept of God, "As Man is God once was and as God is man may become." This was a rather fussy doctrine to her as it was not emphasized in her LDS upbringing. After looking at a number of verses such as Isaiah 43:10, 44:6 and 44:8, she was definitely concerned that Mormonism may not be based on the Bible.

I pointed out Joseph Smith's teaching on this doctrine as well as what LDS scripture says about many gods in their *Pearl of Great Price and Doctrine and Covenants*.

We discussed who Jesus really is (not spirit brother of Satan) and His great redemption on the cross. I believe the greatest benefit of this particular witnessing encounter, is that her room mate that claimed to be a Christian, could see and understand what the gospel really is and what is a Christian. I sensed that she was probably religious, but may not truly have been saved.

I generally don't spend a lot of time on a conversation that I feel isn't producing some fruit, but this was well worth at least 50 minutes on the edge of the crosswalk at terminal number 1. They both were so enthralled that they were in no hurry to leave for their destination. Truly this meeting was ordained by God, and we pray His mercy on these 2 young ladies.

Sharing the Gospel with a Jehovah's Witness

Every month on our outreaches we run into Jehovah's Witnesses. If you ask a stranger where he will spend eternity, and you get a reply such as: "I hope to live forever on a paradise earth", you've obviously come across a Jehovah's Witness.

Actually, I'm finding that witnesses are quite reluctant to talk about spiritual things unless they initiate the conversation, such as when they come to your door. It seems to me they are much more comfortable with another witness where they direct the conversation.

At any rate, in their door to door work, they are looking for weak or unprepared individuals who are easily satisfied with their answers, and have a shallow understanding of the Bible. It may take hundreds or even thousands of doors to find such a contact, but persistency and time will eventually produce converts.

Although there is no absolute perfect method of sharing with a Jehovah's Witnesses, I am still of the conviction that sharing the truth of the person and work of Jesus Christ is still the best starting point.

Beginning a conversation with the question, "Where will you spend eternity" starts a conversation about spiritual things. If I know it is a JW to whom I am speaking, I will attempt to point out that this Jesus, who He is and what He accomplished, is the key to eternal life.

It really does matter what we believe about Jesus and who we say He is. The Watchtower Jesus is unable to save anyone, so who do we say Jesus is and exactly what did He accomplish? Of course we need to see ourselves as we really are which is the purpose of the law to bring us to Christ. Sadly, over the past months, the many JWs I have spoken with are quick to leave when they discover you have a good grip of the Word as well as a good understanding of their teachings.

However, it is God that does the work in the heart through the Holy Spirit. In spite of our inadequacies, I'm convinced that as we seek to boldly share the truth with Jehovah's Witnesses, even a very brief conversation can be used by God to bring forth fruit.

So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

I Corinthians 3:7

What's Happening???

\$1,000,000 tract giveaway... We've already given out about 1500 million dollar bills in the last few weeks. Although we printed 5,000 (our largest printing to date), we'll probably be reprinting in the next month or so.

Open Air Preaching month... Four times we did "Open Air" in August. All videos are on the internet now.

By the way. Our video at the JW convention has exceeded all expectations. Now over 11,000 views!!

Open Air Preaching 3 Preachers 3 Beaches 1 day... www.youtube.com/watch?v=arBVHL7eseY

Open Air Preaching Midway and Star of India... <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZTQM0MGRko>

Open Air Preaching La Mesa Car Show... http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9kQXBO_dk6o

Petco Park and 1 Preacher... <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ha2mIqITv4>

Petco Park and 3 Preachers... Lord willing. September, back to PETCO with 3 Preachers, Open Air.

Your Warriors in Christ, *Jerry and Dianna*