



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

earnestly contend for the faith
Jude 3

Fishers of Men

January 2012

Glacier Point Yosemite, Monterey, Balboa Park and San Diego State

You can probably tell we were on vacation for a week. We've never seen Glacier Point and didn't intend to see it this year since it's almost always closed by mid November because of snow. Tioga pass as well as Glacier point were open to tourist. Strangely absent was snow even in the highest mountains in Yosemite. I'm sure in the sovereign rule of our Lord He had determined we would communicate the gospel on the top of the world at Glacier Point just before New Years day.

It was a delight that no one turned down the million dollar bill. Between Yosemite and Monterey we were able to hand out about 300 tracts and still have plenty of time to enjoy the grand creation. To most of the people we were just trying to place the literature, so to speak, and encourage them to read the million dollar message later.



This is without a doubt one of the most beautiful view points on the planet. Glacier Point, Yosemite just a few days ago. That's Half Dome in the background. Everyone in the picture has a million dollar bill to remind them of the million dollar view. (I'm in the center with the hooded coat with my back to you.)

One woman that I spoke with in Monterey told me the answer to the million dollar question (Where will you spend eternity?) was "heaven of course". I asked her why and she told me she had accepted Jesus. When I asked her "What does that mean to accept Jesus?"

She became a little irritated and flustered that she had no answer. Her friend on the other hand said it meant to trust in the blood of Jesus that was shed on the cross for our sins and that He rose from the dead. I explained to her that I spoke with people from all over the world with radical views on what it means to be a Christian and how we can go to heaven. My purpose was to clarify the gospel and to encourage my brothers and sisters in Christ to live godly lives and to share this wonderful gospel complete in Christ often.

I thanked them for stopping and talking with me and gave them some extra million dollar bills to share with others. They were delighted. I am reminded often that we as Christians should encourage each other in the faith to be salt and light to the world and seek opportunities to boast in our Savior.



Dianna handing out our gospel million dollar bill in front of the Monterey Aquarium. We've been there before and people are very cold toward the gospel. Never-the-less we were able to hand out about a hundred and fifty 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

JWs Challenged

Although the Jehovah's Witnesses are increasingly refusing to speak with us at Balboa Park, I continue to walk by them hoping for a new team which often happens. I've tried to dress differently and not wear my typical straw hat when I go to their table.

I decided to try a slightly different approach about 2 weeks ago. There were 2 JW men in suits at their table once again. I walked up and told them I had a question about the Bible. I read from John 2 beginning from verse 19 where Jesus said "destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up". It goes on he was talking about the temple of his BODY.

I asked if Jesus told the truth. At first they did not want to answer and then agreed that the Bible was true and Jesus told the truth. I then reminded them that the Watchtower does not teach this but rather claim Jesus was raised a "spirit creature". His body was disposed of by Jehovah God which means that Jesus did NOT tell the truth or the Watchtower is wrong.

Immediately, I think they realized they had been warned not to talk with any of us and refused to speak further. When I tried to tell them that Jesus showed Thomas a body with the same marks that he received on the cross they became even more adamant that the conversation was over.



This is a 7 foot tall lighted cross on top of our house that was displayed during the month of December. It's the same one that we took to December Nights at Balboa Park a couple of weeks ago. If you think about it Christmas really is about the cross.

Islam Challenged

The Bible command all believers to "be ready always to give an answer" or defense for the faith (I Peter 3:15). Of course in these modern times it means we must not only understand the gospel but often we need an understanding of what is NOT the gospel as in Islam.

The photo below is a family from Pakistan that are very devout Muslims. Ironically, I spoke primarily with the wife who was totally covered except for her eyes.

I began our conversation asking if Allah was merciful. She said that he was. I then asked if he was also JUST. To this she replied yes. I then explained that if Allah was to forgive those that sinned against him without a penalty being paid then there was no justice only mercy. If god were not just he could not be good.

From this I explained the superiority of Yahweh, the God of the Bible that is a greater God than Allah. Yahweh is merciful, just and good. Further, Yahweh is a loving God Who seeks us and provides the solution for our sins by dying on the cross. This Jesus is not one of three gods but rather one person of the true God.

I encouraged the man to write my e-mail address on the tract.



This is a photo of a Muslim family as they walked away. We spoke for a good 20 minutes on the gospel, the crucifixion of Christ, the trinity, and heaven as compared with Islam. I believe that are truly thinking about Christianity. Perhaps God will open their eyes and save their souls.

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

Parkway Plaza Mall... Lord willing, sometime in January or the beginning of February we'll go to Parkway Plaza on a weekend. We've been there about 5 times now and it's our favorite of all malls. We've given out over 5,000 tracts there and had hundreds of one on one conversations. It has been an excellent place for sharing the gospel.

Islam Awareness Week... The last couple of years we've gone to University of Californian San Diego for their Islam Awareness Week. It's in February. We hope to make a couple of videos there this year doing open air preaching on the topics of Allah vs Yahweh and Mohammed vs Jesus. This campus is very active in Islam. Please pray for us.

FREE CASE OF BOOKS... We would like to donate 700 of Peter Barns' book, "The Watchtower in Light of Scripture." This book sells for over \$10. There are 40 in a case. If your church or a ministry that you know can use this excellent book we'll even pay for the shipping.

May God bless your efforts to serve Him,

Jerry and Dianna