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Evangelism Update 07-06-08

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Note from Jim:

[Justin Peters](#) speaks on the Word of Faith movement and what lays behind many of these false teachers and alleged "revivals" we're seeing today. Check out the videos below.

A Call For Discernment

- [Part 1](#)
 - [Part 2](#)
 - [Part 3](#)
 - [Part 4](#)
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Scripture of the Week:

He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it. (Titus 1:9)

Quote of the Week:

"A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act." (Mahatma Gandhi)

Recommended Resource:



[The New Million Dollar Bill Tract](#)

New Design:

1. Longer message. The old one had 167 words -- this one has 196.
2. An unfamiliar president that stirs curiosity. People often start a conversation with "Who is this?"
3. With 20 million in print, some have seen the original tract before. You can now say, "This is a new one. There's a bigger message on the back. Make sure you read it."
4. It has a unique, classic "collectible" appearance, and therefore a perceived value.

Message Text:

The million-dollar question: Will you go to Heaven when you die? Here's a quick test. Have you ever told a lie, stolen anything, or used God's name in vain? Jesus said, "Whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart." Have you looked with lust? Will you be guilty on Judgment Day? If you have done those things, God sees you as a lying, thieving, blasphemous, adulterer at heart. The Bible warns that if you are guilty you will end up in Hell. That's not God's will. He sent His Son to suffer and die on the cross for you. You broke God's Law, but Jesus paid your fine. That means He can legally dismiss your case. He can commute your death sentence: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." Then He rose from the dead and defeated death. Please, repent (turn from sin) today and trust in Jesus alone, and God will grant you the gift of everlasting life. Then read your Bible daily and obey it.



Isn't it ironic that our health problems started when our ancestor Adam ate a piece of fruit?

Questions & Objections:

This Q&A comes from [The Evidence Bible](#).

Q. Could you be wrong in your claims about Judgment Day and the existence of hell?

A. The existence of hell and the surety of the judgment are not the claims of fallible man. The Bible is the source of the claim, and it is utterly infallible. When someone becomes a Christian, he is admitting that he was in the wrong, and that God is justified in His declarations that we have sinned against Him.

However, let's surmise for a moment that there is no Judgment Day and no hell. That would mean that the Bible is a huge hoax, in which more than forty authors collaborated (over a period of 3,000 years) to produce a document revealing God's character as "just." They portrayed Him as a just judge, who warned that He would eventually punish murderers, rapists, liars, thieves, adulterers, etc. Each of those writers (who professed to be godly) therefore bore false witness, transgressing the very commandments they claimed to be true.

It would mean that Jesus Christ was a liar, and that all the claims He made about the reality of judgment were therefore false. It would also mean that He gave His life in vain, as did multitudes of martyrs who have given their lives for the cause of Christ. Add to that the thought that if there is no ultimate justice, it means that the Creator of all things is unjust - that He sees murder and rape and couldn't care less, making Him worse than a corrupt human judge who refuses to bring criminals to justice.

Here's the good news, though, if there is no hell: You won't know a thing after you die. It will be the end. No heaven, no hell. Just nothing. You won't even realize that it's good news.

Here's the bad news if the Bible is right and that there is eternal justice: You will find yourself standing before the judgment throne of a holy God, who has seen every sin you have ever committed. Think of it. A holy and perfect Creator has seen your thought-life and every secret sin you have ever committed. You have a multitude of sins, and God must by nature carry out justice. Ask Him to remind you of the sins of your youth. Ask Him to bring to remembrance your secret sexual sins, the lies, the gossip, and other idle words. You may have forgotten your past sins, but God hasn't. Hell will be your just desert (exactly what you deserve), and you will have no one to blame but yourself. This is the claim of the Bible. If you don't believe it, it is still true. It will still happen.

Yet, there is good news—incredibly good news. We deserve judgment, but God offers us mercy through the cross. He paid our fine so that we could leave the courtroom. He destroyed the power of the grave for all who obey Him. Simply obey the gospel, and live. By doing that you will find out for yourself that the gospel is indeed the "gospel truth." Jesus said that if you obey Him, you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free (see John 8:31,32).

Get on your knees today, confess and forsake your sins. Tell God you are truly sorry, then trust the Savior as you would trust yourself to a parachute. Then you will find yourself in a terrible dilemma. You will know for certain that hell is a reality. When you get up the courage to warn people you care about, they will smile passively, and say, "Could you be wrong in your claims about Judgment Day and the existence of hell?"

Weekly "Fishing" Report:

We were back on the streets Saturday. Though it's getting hot, we still gave out a good number of gospel tracts between downtown and the park. I tried getting into a couple of one-2-ones, but met with stiff opposition this time out. One was a young teen boy that was surprisingly hardened. He crumpled up the [Million Dollar Bill](#) and threw it on the ground shortly after I'd given it to him. He said he was an atheist and he didn't need this *bleeping* stuff. I attempted to get him talking by asking what it was that convinced him to not believe in God, but he just spat out more arrogance and venom. He took off across the street and his friend followed. Thankfully, the friend still had hold of a tract as the left. At times like this, it's good to keep in mind that we're just called to sow the seed and share the gospel. Their response isn't up to us. It's God who chooses if he'll soften their heart and grant them repentance.

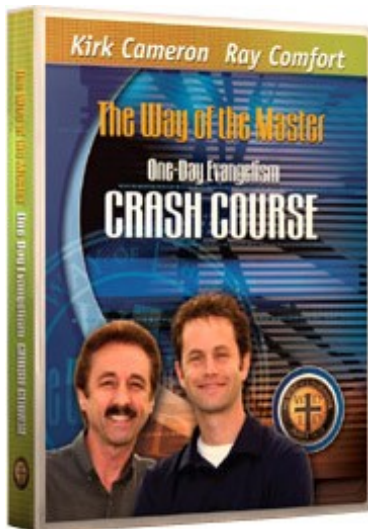
And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will. (2 Tim 2:24-26)

The other encounter was at the park where I came across three kids in their late teens sitting on a bench. I gave them each a [What If?](#) card and they naturally asked "What if, what?" I asked what if it was their last day on earth, where would they go when they die? The girl was an agnostic and figured there wouldn't be an after life. One of the guys said he was a Christian but was very uncertain with his answers. The last young man wasn't serious at all. They all started acting silly, just cutting up and playing off each other. I tried to bring some direction to the conversation, but it was like herding cats. The sad part is the "Christian" guy told me he was part of the youth group in one of the churches that would be part of Church in the Park that Sunday, yet he was no more serious about the gospel than the others. He was acting just as silly, interruptive and uninterested in me sharing with their group. After spending several minutes trying to take it somewhere and fielding a number of inane questions, I decided it best to cut it off. I think it shocked them a little when I did. I found as I looked back that one or two of them were reading the back of the tracts as we left.

Sometimes, people think just because they can't meet us for street fishing or get out and do something like we're doing that they're not really able to witness or reach the lost. There are a plethora of venues for sharing the gospel if we'll just make ourselves available and watch for the opportunity. Darrin has been going to some of the online community sites and witnessing to people in the chat rooms there. Several times over the past few weeks he's told me about sharing the gospel of salvation with someone, taken a person through [The Good Person Test](#), or answered some questions for a young Christian and pointed them to some online resources. OK, so maybe have your reasons for not hitting the streets. How about some chat room fishing?

Pray for the seed that was sown.

One-Day Way of the Master Training:



We would be glad to host a Way of the Master evangelism training for your church or small group. This one-day seminar is a proven, effective way to help people overcome their fear of witnessing and show them how to reach out to the lost. We will quickly equip those who attend to simply and effectively share their faith with family, friends, and strangers. What makes our training unique is when the classroom training is over, you have the option to hit the streets and immediately start to use the new tools you have just learned. The seminar consists of the following activities:

- Three powerful interactive messages that will equip the attendees in how to share the gospel effectively and biblically with anyone, anytime, anywhere.
- Quick Tips on how to have fun sharing your faith while overcoming your fears.
- Quick Tips on how to effectively witness one-2-one using the Way of the Master.
- Hands-on, in-the-trenches training with proven leaders.

The One-Day Way of the Master Training is **FREE** for the host and to all who attend.

** The Way of the Master has been commended by Franklin Graham, Dr. D. James Kennedy, David Wilkerson, Bill Gothard, John MacArthur, Ravi Zacharias, David Jeremiah, Joni Eareckson Tada, Josh McDowell, and many other Christian leaders.

Prayer Points:

- Pray that each seed sower around the world will keep his or her eyes fixed on the cross this week.
 - "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:37-38, ESV)
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Calendar:

- **Downtown Fishing Hole** (Recurring)
Saturdays
Street witnessing (3pm to 6pm) downtown along 6th Street. Meet in the Budget Internet parking lot (4th St & F St).

If you would like to join us, [email us](#) your contact info.

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'til the nets are full...

