

Evangelism Update 02-12-06

This newsletter has been formatted for HTML capable email clients (like Outlook Express, Thunderbird, or Hotmail). If you're using a text-only email client, I suggest reading the Evangelism Update online here: www.fool4given.com/evangelismupdate.htm

Note from Jim:

It's still a few months out, but I wanted to give you a heads-up. I'm working with Earon Harwell, another GNN Local Leader, to organize a (mini) Evangelism Boot Camp here in Southern Oregon. This mini-EBC will be in July and promises to be a time where people can come together to sharpen their swords and learn how to be a more effective witness for Jesus. If you're able to, make plans now to join us! We'll be taking the gospel of salvation to the Jackson County Fair, Ashland and the streets of Grants Pass.

[Click here](#) for the event flyer.

Scripture of the Week:

"If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels." (Mark 8:38, NIV)

Quote of the Week:

"We talk of the Second Coming; half of the world has never heard of the first." (Oswald J. Smith)

Evangelism Resource:

Gospel tracts are weird! Is that how you feel or what keeps you from giving them out? I can't encourage you enough to check out the tracts at the [Living Waters](#) store. These are cool, fun tracts that are easy to give out and each presents a biblical gospel message. Plus, I'm not kidding when I tell you I've had people actually come back and ask for more!

[Click here](#) for a video of some of their popular tracts.

Questions & Objections:

Q. If there really is a God, how can He allow all the disease, starvation and suffering in the world?

A. Here's an analogy I'll use at times.

Let's say you and I happen to drive by the scene of an accident. A Chrysler minivan has plowed into a tree alongside the road. The front is crumpled, windows are shattered and glass is everywhere. Is it logical to ask, why would Chrysler make a minivan all beat up and damaged like that? Of course, not! When that minivan passed quality control and rolled off the assembly line, it was pretty much perfect. Someone wrecked it.

The Bible tells us when God finished creation it was good. The world was orderly... perfect. However, through the fall of man sin entered the world. Scripture tells us the soul that sins shall die, that the wages of sin is death. Further, God had given authority over the earth to Adam & Eve (Genesis 1:28). Their disobedience effectively changed camps and they handed the "title deed" of this world over to Satan. The Bible refers to Satan as the ruler, prince and even god of this world (John 16:11, 2nd Corinthians 4:4). Jesus doesn't contradict Satan's claim of holding the kingdoms of the earth when He's tempted in the wilderness. Further, we're told Satan's job description is to steal, kill and destroy. That seems to match what you're saying is going on in the world.

The problem with your question is who you're blaming. You're trying to point a finger at God and blame Him for death, suffering and a fallen creation when an impostor is currently sitting on the ruling seat of this world.

Now, Satan was defeated at the cross. Through His sacrifice, Jesus satisfied the Law's cry for blood and also took back the "title deed" and keys. However, Satan hasn't been evicted yet. Like in World War II, D-day occurred at the deciding battle, but V-day came later. The cross was D-day and His 2nd coming will be V-day when Jesus returns and takes possession of this world.

One-2-One Quick Tip:

I got to test a new icebreaker this week that I learned at Reignite. It worked great! Stephen Starnes told me about it. (I thank God for you, bro!) Basically, the approach is offering \$20 to anyone that can name the Ten Commandments. It works whether approaching a single person or small groups, and I've done it with both youth and adults. Give them two minutes to name all ten. They can try it as a group, but must then list all ten in order. Otherwise, just one of them can try and they can give them in whatever order they come up with. You can play with them, if they're struggling you can say something like "Hey, I like you... I'll give you an extra 30 seconds." After they've named as many as they can, then just say something like, "OK, so you know these five commandments... how many of these have you kept?" You can see where to take it from there.

The law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. (Galatians 3:24, KJV)

I've added one more thing. I had a t-shirt made that says "**Name Ten Get \$20**". I wore this while out on 6th Street yesterday and I had people coming up and asking what it was about. I simply let them know I'm working on a project and I'm offering \$20 to anyone that can name the Ten Commandments. I showed them the \$20 bill, pulled out a notepad and pen to jot them down as they listed them, and turned on the MP3 recorder ... it was an instant one-2-one. I probably had ten different witnessing encounters that afternoon from it!

Now, the cool thing about this approach is this:

1. No having to shift from the natural to the spiritual. You get to start off in the spiritual from the get go.
2. This can be really convicting. When you show them the Mirror of the Law, you're using commandments they've just told you they **know**. No excuses like "I didn't know that was a commandment" or "what's adultery?"
3. Despite what you may think, it's a cheap approach. Stephen said he's had about 300 people try for it and has only had three name all ten and claim the \$20. I've gone through a few dozen before giving over the \$20. I'm really only giving out tracts once the one-2-one (or group) has started. I give them a [Ten Commandments Coin](#) as a consolation prize, and if it's a decent witnessing encounter I'll give them a Gospel of John and an "[Are You Good Enough to Go to Heaven?](#)" tract at the end (or maybe a [Greatest Gamble](#) DVD or a [What Hollywood Believes](#) CD, depending).

Note: If anyone else is interested in the t-shirt, let me know. The shop that did mine said if I put together a minimum order of 15, we can get them for about \$7.00 each (\$1 or \$2 extra for plus sizes). They'd be quality black t-shirts with white screen printed letters.

Weekly "Fishing" Update:

Praise our Lord for an abundant day of seed sowing!

As I mentioned in **One-2-One Quick Tips** above, I tested out the "Name Ten Get \$20" icebreaker. It really was amazing! I even had one guy (one of the juggalos from before) gathering people and bringing them to me to try and name them. He was like my "P.R." guy for one-2-ones. I wouldn't be kidding if I said I think I have a good share of the street kids and regulars on 6th Street learning the Ten Commandments and thus studying the "Mirror of the Law" (Romans 7:7, 1st John 3:4, Galatians 3:24). In the Quick Tips, I mentioned I'd give them a [Ten Commandments Coin](#) as a consolation prize if they don't make it. Also, if they asked about my shirt and but didn't even try (some say they don't know the Ten Commandments or maybe only one) I'll still give them a coin and tell them to study up for the next time I'm out there. They excitedly take the coins and say they'll be ready.

God is good! I had at least ten different witnessing encounters when it was all said and done. He even let me have some follow-up conversations with people I've met out there before. I met with Lindsey and Liota again (the lesbian couple I met about a month ago). I had a great talk with Lindsey. I also saw Gary, he's the young Christian I mentioned broke into a worship song with his guitar while Greg and I were street witnessing a while back. I got to see Josh again and touch on a topic from our talk from last week.

I've posted four new witnessing audios at our website. Click here to go to our [One-2-One & Open Air Audios](#) page. The new ones to look for are:

- **Josh & Braxton**
This is a pretty straight forward one-2-two using the "Name Ten Get \$20" icebreaker.
- **Gabe & friends**
Gabe had four or five friends with him when we started the "Name Ten Get \$20" challenge. However, once the Light of the Law came on, all but one of his buddies pulled a "cockroach" and scattered (John 3:19-20)
- **Gary & friend**
Gary's a young guy I've met a time or two before. He's a Christian and seems to be actively seeking after the Lord. He and a young woman were playing guitars when I came across them and we got to talking. It seems she was vaguely familiar with the [Way of the Master](#) from some witnessing she'd done in the past. However, she also has a problem with people saying homosexuals would go to Hell. I got to share and it was an interesting talk. I gave her a [Greatest Gamble](#) DVD at the end, and she recognized Ray & Kirk. Perhaps it can help fan the spark for witnessing she once had.
- **Laura**
This is a heartbreaker. Laura is the girl I met briefly when I came across Josh last week. I'd given her a [Ten Commandments Coin](#) before she had to leave, and apparently she'd read and studied it. She admits she stands guilty under the Law, but says she doesn't want anyone paying her fine. In the courtroom analogy she'd accept life in prison if she deserved it instead of letting someone sacrificing to pay the \$500,000 fine. Taking it to the Judgement Bar of God, she says she'd face Hell if she deserves it rather than have someone (the Savior) sacrifice Himself for her. I was stunned. We can only pray the Holy Spirit will work and reach her.

Pray for the seeds that were sown. May Jesus receive the glory He is due!

Prayer Points:

- Pray for the seeds that were sown.
 - I'll be working with another GNN Local Leaders to organize a two day mini-EBC here in Southern Oregon in July Begin to pray now, if it is God's will, we'll find blessing and favor in coordinating this event.
 - "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields." (Matthew 9:37-38, NLT)
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Calendar:

- **Mini-EBC - Southern Oregon**
Grants Pass, OR / July 21-23
[Click here](#) for the event flyer.
- **Downtown Fishing Hole** (Recurring)
Street witnessing each Saturday (3 pm to 5:30 pm) downtown along 6th Street. Meet in the Budget Internet parking lot (4th St & F St).
- **DMV O/A** (Recurring)
Open Air preaching Wednesdays at 8:40 am to the people waiting for the DMV doors to open.

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

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May Jesus receive the glory He is due!

'til the nets are full...