

Evangelism Update 05-14-06

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Note from Jim:

I've finally put a page together at our website with info and pictures of The "Fishing" Team.

Click here to to [meet the team!](#)

Scripture of the Week:

The Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will. (2 Timothy 2:24-26, NIV)

Quote of the Week:

"One of these days some simple soul will pick up the Book of God, read it, and believe it. Then the rest of us will be embarrassed." (Leonard Ravenhill)

Evangelism Resource:

Send this e-card to all your Christian friends and inspire them to see evangelism as **their** job!

[Not My Job](#)

Questions & Objections:

Q. Oh sure, I claim to stand boldly for my Savior and Lord. I approach strangers, lead them through the process of sin-awareness and conviction, warn them of judgment from a holy God who calls all to repent and revealed the grace in Christ's sacrifice as their own personal Savior. I've stood in the open air and proclaimed the name of Jesus. Yet, repeatedly, I hear our Lord's name used as profanity, burning my ears and stinging my eyes with an instant swelling of tears. Yesterday was the last straw! The Lord brought such conviction in my own life that I must do something about this major flaw in my "bold stand". I was walking down the aisle of a flea market when I heard a lady loudly and in a vulgar tone "Jesus Christ" in a demeaning, wicked way. I was riveted from my forward march. I turned around, quickening my pace to gain on her and her family. Once facing the offender eye-to-eye, I fell back ... silent ... merely handing each of them a tract; saying very little and nothing of any eternal value. I need help with this. How do we approach these situations? Anger takes over, and I question my effectiveness in this state of emotion. What are you doing about this?

A. I like to take an approach I heard Ray Comfort talk about a little while back.

Let's say I'm standing behind some young guys in line at the store or passing by a knot of them as I'm out on the street. I hear one or two of them burst out with some blasphemy like G-- D--- or J---- C-----! Pipe up with a response like "Hey! I overheard you having a religious conversation and I can't help but ask... what do you think happens after you die?"

Naturally, you're bound to get a wide-eyed look or an intelligent response like "huh?" so just press on. "Well, I heard you mentioning God (or Jesus) so I naturally figured you were having a religious conversation. Really, I'm curious ... what do you think happens after you die? What do you think is waiting out there when you walk out of here?"

See if you can turn their blasphemy around and use it as a springboard. They've made the swing straight into the spiritual for you. Once you've got an answer from one (or more) of them on what they think happens after death, take it into a one-2-one and the [Good Person Test](#). Naturally, when you get to the Mirror of the Ten Commandments you can simply point out they broke the 3rd one just three minutes ago and the Bible tells us the Lord will not hold him guiltless who uses His name in vain.

Weekly "Fishing" Update:

Wednesday morning, a line didn't form at the DMV until about ten minutes before 9am. Since I've had them open the doors early on me before, I figured I may not have enough time for an open air. However, I still swept through the line and left around 15 people each with a [Million Dollar Bill](#) tract in their hand. I still get a kick out of the laughs and "thanks" you get when passing them out.

Saturday, our team went to Cave Junction to join a new Seed Sower (Nadine) for "fishing" at Jubilee Park. We were excited to begin stirring the waters over there, since this is also where Caves Christian Fellowship is located. Pastor Nehf has invited me to come and speak on evangelism for a couple of upcoming Sundays.

We arrived at the park around 3:45 and prayed up in the parking lot. We then crossed to where pockets of small groups were gathered around the skate park and basketball court. I set down my stool, then pulled out the tombstone and propped it in front. This naturally drew a few looks. After giving the others a quick heads up, I mounted the stool and began drawing a crowd. Since there was a possibility of some homeless being in the park, I thought it prudent to avoid offering cash for trivia questions and instead I had a backpack full of small stuffed animals (dogs, bears and monkeys). The little critters did the job and soon there were 30 or so people around us; sitting on the grass or gathered on the court behind me.

Here's the audio of the open air. It's about 20 minutes. You can also find it at our website under the *Audios* link.

- Click here to [download or play](#) the MP3.
- Click here to [stream the audio](#) online.

Afterwards, we were met with a definite divine appointment. I'm pretty much certain it was the reason we were there. A young man (Justin) came over from the basketball court and sat near me, patiently waiting until he got my attention while I handed out [Are You Good Enough To Go To Heaven?](#) tracts. Justin asked me for a Bible. He said the one he had used to be his grandfather's and it was falling apart. I gave him a New Testament that I had in my bag and asked him if he'd heard what I'd been saying earlier. He said yes. He'd been on the basketball court playing hacky-sack with some friends, but was listening. (Note: This goes to show, you never know who's listening when you're witnessing. I would've said those guys weren't paying any attention to me, yet Justin certainly was.) I asked him if it made sense to him, and he asked some really good questions about repentance and what he'd read in the Bible about Jesus coming like a thief in the night. We talked for a while and I asked if he had any other questions and he said no. I then told him if it makes sense and he doesn't have any other questions, then he must now decide what he'll do with this information. He needed to get alone somewhere with God and weigh this out. Surrendering to Christ isn't just a snap decision, but the most important decision he'll make in his life. (Luke 14:27-33)

The others were passing out tracts. Meanwhile, Terri was on the other side of the court witnessing to two of Justin's friends. Brian and Robert were identical twins, and both deaf! Yet, God had put someone on our team

that knew sign-language and there she was, witnessing to the two of them in sign. Oh... did I mention they were also Jehovah's Witnesses!

Afterwards, we regrouped but Justin couldn't get enough. While some of the other teens scattered back into the darkness, he was drawn to the light. He kept hanging around us. We each had some more opportunities to talk with him. We found out he used to go to a church in the area, until the pastor got caught in adultery and he hasn't been to church since. We gathered around and prayed over him before he and the twins had to leave.

It was apparent this was what we'd been brought to the park for. After the open air and the follow up encounters with Justin, Brian and Robert the park pretty much cleared out. I mean it went from us drawing a good crowd for open air to the whole park being little more than a ghost town. Keep in mind this was a Saturday afternoon. God had us accomplish what He'd set before us, and then He let us know when it was done.

Here's some pictures from Jubilee Park.



Starting the open air next to the basketball court.



A glimpse at part of the crowd we were able to draw.



Terri witnesses in sign to the twins (Brian & Robert) and their little brother.



Randy, Terri & Greg talking with Justin. (He just couldn't stay away.)

Pray for Justin, Brian & Robert and all the other seed that was sown.

Prayer Points:

- ***The DaVinci Code* movie opens May 19th. We'll be outside the theater Friday and Saturday night. Pray for laborers and support in this effort.**
- "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)
- Please continue to pray for our Lord's blessing over the Southern Oregon Seed Sowing mini-EBC we'll be holding in July.

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).
- **DMV O/A** (Recurring)
Wednesdays
Open Air preaching at 8:45am to the people waiting for the DMV doors to open.
- **[Davinci Code Outreach](#)**
Medford, OR / May 19-20
We'll be out there at Tinseltown opening weekend.
- **[Seed Sowing at Boatnik](#)**
Grants Pass, OR / May 27
Thousands of people attend this Memorial Day Weekend event.
- **[Seed Sowing at the Rooster Crow](#)**
Rogue River, OR / June 25
The city of Rogue River fills with people for this annual event.
- **Church in the Park**
Grants Pass, OR / July 2
- **[Mini-EBC - Southern Oregon Seed Sowing](#)**
Grants Pass, OR / July 21-23
Our first mini Evangelism Boot Camp. We'll be taking the Gospel to the Jackson County Fair, Ashland, and the streets of Grants Pass.
- **[Seed Sowing at Back to the 50's Summer Celebration](#)**
Grants Pass, OR / July 28-29
Last year there were hundreds, if not thousands, of people along 6th St for the Friday night parade. Saturday downtown and at the park should be good "fishing" too.
- **[Seed Sowing at Josephine County Fair](#)**
Grants Pass, OR / August 19
We gave out 800 tracts along with doing one-2-ones within just three or four hours last year.
- **Seed Sowing at Asian Cultural Festival**
Grants Pass, OR / September 9
We'll hit the park and "fish" amongst the people this will draw on Saturday. We may even get to witness to Buddhists.
- **[Seed Sowing at Art Along the Rogue](#)**
Grants Pass, OR / October 7
Last year I was able to open air preach to about 300-400 people. Big time fishing opportunity right there are 6th & H St.

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

We'll be out there opening weekend. Click below for details.



The banner features a dark background with a wooden box containing a scroll on the left and a close-up of Leonardo da Vinci's face on the right. The text is centered and reads:

The Da Vinci Code Outreach
May 19th & 20th
Tinseltown Theaters
Medford, OR
www.fool4given.com

Our first mini-EBC is coming this July. Click below for details.



**Southern
Oregon
Seed
Sowing**

**mini Evangelism
Boot Camp**

**July 21st-23rd
Grants Pass, OR**

www.fool4given.com

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May Jesus receive the glory He is due!

'til the nets are full...

Jim Jones

"Sin and hell are married unless repentance proclaims the divorce." - Charles Spurgeon

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