



Evangelism Update 10-22-06

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Note from Jim:

Please note the change of plans for this coming weekend. The team will be meeting Friday (the 27th) instead of our usual Saturday, so that we can be street fishing during opening night of the *Rocky Horror Picture Show*. We'll meet at the Budget Internet parking lot at 7pm for some solid prayer and then make our way over to the Rogue Theater to be out front as people began to arrive.

Scripture of the Week:

"Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent." (Acts 17:30, NASB)

Quote of the Week:

"I do not believe that any man can preach the gospel who does not preach the Law." (Charles Spurgeon)

Evangelism Resource:



Ray Comfort was a guest on Joyce Meyer's *Enjoying Everyday Life* TV program for two days this week, talking about the value of witnessing and hindrances to sharing our faith.

You can watch the two 1/2 hour broadcasts online at the links below.

Thursday 10/26

<http://www.joycemeyer.org/OurMinistries/Broadcast/TV/Archive/20061026.htm>

Friday 10/27

Questions & Objections:

O. "I can't believe in a religion that would do something as awful as the Crusades."

A. Yes, it's a matter of history that the Crusades were carried out in the "name" of Christianity, but the violence was carried out in direct contradiction to teachings of the Bible. Jesus told His disciples to love their enemies. When Jesus was being arrested the night before the crucifixion, Peter pulled out his sword and cut off the ear of one of the servants. Jesus healed the man's ear and told Peter to put away His sword. The kingdom of God is not advanced through violence.

Don't let the actions of so-called Christians keep you from your salvation.

Let's put it this way...

Say I was talking with you and your friend, when all of a sudden your friend slapped me across the face. Would it make sense for me to get angry and blame you for what your friend did? It's the same thing here. Don't make assumptions about Christ or Christianity based on the actions of some of His presumed followers. Acts chapter 11 is where we first encounter the early church being called "Christians" and the roots of the word stems from them being noticeably Christ-like.

Now, getting back to what we were talking about... you said you were a "Christ believer." What do you mean by that? Why do you believe He died on the cross?

Basic Training Course:



We would be glad to host the eight-session *Way of the Master* Basic Training Course for your church or small group. It's an excellent resource to equip Christians to share their faith simply, effectively; the way Jesus did! All we would need is an investment of your people's time. There is no financial commitment required from you or the church. We just want to help believers overcome their fears and do what our Lord asked us to do; seek and save that which is lost!

More info on the Basic Training Course: <http://www.wayofthemaster.com/btc/>

Weekly "Fishing" Report:



Praise God! *Transformed* was amazing! More than 1,500 people came together for the four-hour event to be challenged and equipped in carrying out the Great Commission to share their faith. Ray, E.Z., and Todd challenged the sleeping bride to wake up and step into something that will lead each of us to pray harder, dig further into the Word, and discover a deeper love for Christ -- seeking and saving the lost, the way Jesus did.

As I was making the 6 hour drive to Sacramento, I saw the trailer in the picture below parked on the other side of a fence right alongside the I-5. I felt it more than appropriate, considering what we would be gathering for.



Thank you, Lord.

Greg and I got in around 5pm on Friday. After checking in at the motel, we met Bart and his lovely wife for dinner in Old Sacramento. My "Name Ten Get \$20" shirt sparked the interest of some college kids, so I stopped by their table and had a brief one-2-one with one of the girls. It was a typical post-modern encounter, but she at least recognized her sin in the Mirror of the Law and they each took tracts which I noticed they were carrying when they left.

Bart then gave us a tour of Old Sac and the mall. He had a couple of one-2-fours with some teens and we passed out a number of tracts. Bart and his wife then had to leave and get back to their hotel. However, Greg and I felt we weren't done for the night, so we grabbed the OA stool and our tract bags from the car and headed down to the bus stop we'd seen on the other end of the mall. It was great fishing! Praise God!

I've posted the MP3 of the open air on our website. You can find and listen to it by going to our [audios page](#).

After I preached open air, we picked up some wonderful one-2-ones. Greg got to talk with a young man that was very interested in what we were doing there and wanted to know about *Transformed*. Greg also talked at length with a Jewish man that had been listening through the whole OA. You hear this young man in the audio quoting different things from the Bible (including the New Testament - "Sin is transgression of the Law".) He didn't have a Bible so Greg gave him one, and he left with a promise to read it. I got to speak with a woman that had stood at my left and listened to the full OA. She's the one you hear take the Bible (with the \$5 hidden inside) that I offer at the end. She asked some sincere questions, and I know that afterwards I most likely could've lead her in the sinner's prayer. However, the Holy Spirit was doing a work in her, and I trust that God will complete what He's started.

Perhaps the most memorable encounter that night was with a young couple that'd also been listening through the OA. If you don't think God has a sense of humor, check this out: first, remember my name is Jim Jones... now for this young man's name... **Kool-Aid!** That's right, Jim Jones was witnessing to Kool Aid that Friday night!

The girl was a former Catholic now turned professing Christian. He was a Catholic-Buddhist-Wiccan. The

encounter was delightful. I think he expected his Wiccan religion and that his parents were witches to spook the Christian man. When I told him I had been a practicing witch and druid for years, it actually got his attention. Our talk ranged everywhere from how can I take the Bible literally, to how he could possibly blend those three diverse religions. They asked intelligent questions and were receptive to my answers. It felt like Paul "reasoning" with the Greeks. Finally, in the end I reached the point where I pointed out to Kool-Aid that in fairness we must agree that we believe in two different Jesus'. Either I was right, he was right, or we were both wrong... but we both couldn't be right. He acknowledged that. I then just challenged him to make sure he was rock solid in what he believed because eternity rested on it. As we came to the end, Kool-Aid asked, if he didn't believe in Hell or the Ten Commandments, could he still be judged and sent there. An answer just came to my mind and I thank the Holy Spirit for it. I said, "Many college kids go to Mexico for spring break. Sometimes they'll break a law and go to jail. Several get put away for a long time even if they didn't know it was a law." He nodded, saying that was a good point. Both of them took "[Are You Good Enough To Go To Heaven?](#)" tracts and said they really appreciated talking and how reasonable I'd made it.

Praise God! We just got to work with Him.



Todd Friel (center) hosts Way of the Master Radio.

Saturday night, approximately 100 seed sowers from *Transformed* converged on Old Sacramento. The majority were busy with open airs, one-2-ones and tract attacks along the main strip. I figured I'd pick up a few seed sowers and scoot back over to the bus stop on the other side of the mall where we were on Friday.

I started an open air by drawing their interest with trivia. When I shifted into the message, a young man came up and stood at my left. He was a rough looking guy, with body piercings and tattoos all over the place. He'd gotten there just as I asked "Is there anyone here that honestly think God wants you to go to hell?" It's a rhetorical question that naturally no one responds to, but it leads me into the reason for the cross. However, this guy actually raised his hand. I asked him, "Really? You think God wants you to go to hell?" He said he didn't think God wants him to, but that he thought he was going there. So I continued on, asking him and the others in the crowd if anyone could tell me what God did to show that He doesn't want you to go to hell. He didn't answer, but someone else said Jesus died on the cross. I then began to open up the suffering Christ faced. The young man had moved around to stand right in front of me. As I spoke about repentance and faith, his eyes began to water. Tears formed and you can hear him in the audio softly saying "I've got to get saved. I've got to get saved."

I asked one of other seed sowers over to take off to the side in a one-2-one. His name is Randy. His dad is a pastor. He's with his mom and had just gotten drunk with her that night. The piercings and tattoos are a way of punishing himself. From what I was told, Randy was broken in his sin. We pray he comes to the Savior through that narrow gate of repentance and faith.

I've posted the MP3 of the open air on our website. You can find and listen to it by going to our [audios page](#).

Following that, Kim Battenfield, John Horazy, Randy & Terri and others showed up. I stepped into a second open air while they actively picked up one-2-ones from in the area. This kind of became an extended open air, since the coming and going of the busses made it a fluid crowd. I ended up putting three extensions on the end of the message as I kept going back to the Mirror of the Law for the new people that showed up. At the end, I again offered the Bible with the \$5 hidden inside to make my point that salvation doesn't come as we expect. Two teens had shown up and stopped to listen toward the end of things and one (Tony) was the only one to raise his hand. I gave him the Bible, wrapped up the OA and then got to talk with him and his friend (Steven). They come from mixed Christian and Jehovah's Witness backgrounds. I recapped the message of law and grace to make sure they were clear on the gospel. I made sure they felt it made sense and that they didn't have any further questions. Steven didn't have a Bible, so I gave him one as well and they both got "[Are You Good Enough To Go To Heaven?](#)" tracts.

I've posted the MP3 of the open air on our website. You can find and listen to it by going to our [audios page](#).

As we wrapped up the night, Randy's "Name Ten Get \$20" shirt caught the attention of a young scientologist named Keith. Randy & Terri got into a one-2-two with him, which was a little frustrating ... scientology is kind of like post-modernism as a religion. Still, they faithfully tried to witness and warn him of the judgment to come. May the Holy Spirit work on him from there.

I've posted the MP3 of the witnessing encounter on our website. You can find and listen to it by going to our [audios page](#).

It was an excellent time laboring in the fields. We got to fellowship with members from the Russian Baptist church, encourage new seed sowers, and above all cast the net wide as we sought the lost for the glory of our Lord.



Some of the GNN Southern Oregon Team with Ray Comfort (center).

I was really blessed that we were able to make *Transformed* a team event. Randy, Terri and Greg all made the drive down to Sacramento. I thank God for each of you!

Pray for the seed that was sown, and the Jesus Christ receives the glory He is due!

Prayer Points:

- Continue to pray for Greg's wife Patti.

- Pray for our safe travel to and from Sacramento. Also pray for the Holy Spirit's power in the messages that are delivered at Transformed, as well as the seed that will be sown on the streets.
 - "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest." (Matthew 9:37-38, NASB)
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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).
- **DMV O/A** (Recurring)
Wednesdays
Open Air preaching at 8:45am to the people waiting for the DMV doors to open.
- **Seed Sowing at Rocky Horror Picture Show**
Grants Pass, OR / October 27 (7pm - Rogue Theater)
The 500 seats are expected to be sold-out for this raunchy, worldly, cross-dressing feature. After our usual street fishing time, we'll regroup for some solid prayer and head over to be outside as people begin to arrive.

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

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'til the nets are full...

