



Reignite-2 Special Edition

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I've got around three dozen photos from Reignite-2 uploaded to our website.

<http://www.southernoregongnn.com/reignite2photos.htm>

I thank God for what he's doing through the Great News Network. Over 125 GNN seed sowers met in Las Vegas from Wednesday (17th) through Sunday (21st) intent on preaching the gospel. It was obvious from the start that we'd come to the enemy's turf. Many of us or our families experienced unusual delays, illnesses and other complications that either tried to prevent us or actually kept some of us from coming. As expected, wickedness was rampant and sin reigned on The Strip. Drunkenness, covetousness and lust met us wherever we turned. People from all over the globe came there intentionally to feed their desires and indulge their flesh. However, we were also reminded that sin and wickedness are found everywhere. Our home community may just conceal its unseemly underbelly, whereas a place like Vegas is more open and honest about it. This point was really driven home after I had two different encounters with people from Oregon. Another brother witnessed to a man that lived just down the street from him in Texas. Yet another seed sower from Canada met a man that lived near him in Toronto. We can't neglect that each of us has a mission field in our own backyard.

Still, Vegas proudly calls itself Sin City and our team came across a couple of tongue-in-cheek yet interesting reminders of the enemy's presence while venturing out on the streets that first night...



**We found the golden calf!
It's in a 6'x8' glass case right there on The Strip.**



We also found the "Sinful" office.

For those who've been to an EBC before, you know how it goes... you come with your own expectations, then God reveals His own plans and will while you're there. Reignite-2 was that ten-fold!

UNLV had to be my longest open air to date. I tried a new opening -- "The Bible's a book of fairy tales! It's a collection of myths ... much like other cultural or religious books! It was written by men to create a religion and further their political agenda!" Then I swung into "that's what I used to think" and what changed my mind.

I was blessed with three tag-team hecklers and that helped draw people. The first was Steven. He threw out a pretty decent objection about contradictions or translation errors in the bible, but then found himself shut up under the law. I simply asked if that would be his defense before a holy and righteous God -- "But God, my western civics professor told me that 'virgin' when describing Mary just meant she was a young woman." Another seed sower even expressed she was amazed his mouth was so readily stopped. Later, I found out that God had used the experience to humble Steven and prepare him for a one-2-one that Gene Keeth picked up with him afterwards.



A second heckler followed Steven, but he was more of a mocker than anything. Then came Casey. He was a good heckler and an astrophysics student on top of that. I thank God for Casey. He had great questions and objections, but was also fair and open to debate. In fact, he got upset with another student that flipped me off as they walked by. The open air went for an hour and a half! It could have gone longer, but Kerrigan mentioned we should give someone else a chance. Even then, I got to one-2-one with Casey for another twenty minutes after getting off the stool. Pray for him. He's mired in his education and pride, but the Holy Spirit gave him a lot to think about that day.

Then came the Las Vegas Strip. Thursday night I completely hit a brick wall. I'd packed one thousand tracts and came back with close to that still in my bags. It was hard to draw crowds in an open air, and if you were at EBC7 it was that same level of difficulty getting someone to talk in a one-2-one. I'll fully admit I came back to the hotel that first night with my tail between my legs.

Kerrigan and my team shared the corner at New York New York with Linda and Tony's team. During the night a number of us at one time or another voiced that we had to make a point to pray that next day; something above and beyond the one hour prayer meeting in the morning. Our teams recognized that if we were going to take The Strip in the physical, we had to first take it in the spiritual. We decided that we'd meet in my hotel room and we weren't going out until God said it was time to go.

I thank God for each and every one of you that met in that room Friday morning. I'd thought as a leader that we would meet to equip ourselves for battle -- to pray against the principalities and powers, to bind the strongman there in Vegas. However, God fully intended another work to be done in that room. Songs of praise and worship were lifted. Several of us found ourselves on our faces and in tears. You know how it is -- tears flowing and nose running as you cry out to Him. Some of us repented of dry eyes and hard hearts. We confessed wrong motives and turned over our selfish expectations. It was when we got low on our knees that Christ stood tall.



We left the room after an extra hour and a half of prayer and things began to be different on The Strip. Linda Essary told us she was moved to have regular intercessor praying on the corner. Team members could be seen in more regular one-2-ones. God, however, was to reveal His biggest shift in me at dinner.

Our team ate at the food court across the street from our corner. Afterwards, the others headed back to the hotel to rest up and get warmer clothes for the night shift. Gary Perez and I chose to stay behind. (Let me say here and now how much I sincerely thank God for you, bro!) I guess we'd thought we might pick up some one-2-ones or pass out some tracts during that time, but we ended up not even leaving our table. You know those times in scripture where Jesus would take the disciples off to the side for some personal time and lessons? That's what this became for us.



Gary and I sat at the table for at least an hour and a half. We were just two Christian men pouring out our hearts and baring our souls before the Lord and each other. We were far from sharing glory stories. We were repenting, hashing out scripture, examining ourselves openly and trying to work through what began in prayer back there in that room. Somewhere in the midst of it, an older woman got up and came to our table. She'd been sitting behind me, but neither of us had seen her. She stopped and told us how she appreciated what we were talking about. She'd thought it was wonderful and wanted to tell us so. I don't know if she was a believer or not, she didn't stay

to talk with us though we were able to give her a tract before she left. Whatever the reason, God had allowed her to see two Christian men honestly seeking to walk what they talk.

Our best one-2-one at Reignite-2 was the one where we never actually talked with the woman!

After that, Gary and I sought to stop struggling in the flesh and instead be at peace; having fun out there on the streets. We put away our other tracts and just went out with the pink & blue Curved Illusions. We approached people offering things like a free Sobriety Test or the Gender Supremacy Test. They'd relax and laugh. Even more amazing, the encounters were simple -- sometimes it opened into a one-2-one and other times it was just sharing the tracts while wishing them a safe night and letting them know we care -- yet even in the short encounters we began to actually see conviction over their drinking or language. I hadn't gone through a full pack of tracts up until then, and later that night I found myself begging pink & blues off the other seed sowers to replenish my stash. Further, unlike others I don't think we found the tracts we were passing out after that discarded or on the ground. Those last two days were a complete 180... Gary and I couldn't wait to get out on the streets and start showing the pink & blues to people.

That first morning, I told the team I'd wanted to learn to surrender to the Lord while there. God showed me that He's faithful to teach us when we'll earnestly seek Him.



Trev is one of the new laborers that joined us for City Invasion.

Several churches in the area then joined us on Saturday for City Invasion. Our ranks nearly doubled as new laborers were trained to share the gospel like Jesus, Peter, Paul, Stephen and others did. Even the local abortion clinic reported losing half their business that day because people were praying and witnessing in front of it. God is good!



We also ended the EBC on Sunday with three baptisms for GNN Seed Sowers. It was a blessing to share in this special moment with both brothers and fellow laborers in Christ.

Lastly, here's a highlight as shared by SOGNN team member Greg Beals.

Praise God for Reignite-2! I thank God for each person there! If you have never experienced getting together with an army of like-minded Christians on the front line for a City Invasion, start praying that God will get you to one. It is life changing for everyone involved!

The "Glory Story" I'd like to share started Thursday night when our team was heading back to the hotel to call it a night. One of our team leaders (Doug Koch) asked if anyone wanted to stay out a while longer. God placed it on my heart to stay with Doug, as we were walking the streets handing out tracts and engaging in conversations for the Kingdom we came across three men drinking frozen margaritas at a bus stop. God directed me to one of the men named Orlando. As we went over a few of the Ten Commandments he didn't hide the fact that he had broken these laws and would stand guilty before God. That clearly concerned him. He had been attending church but recently his girlfriend had said, "It's either me or God, you choose!" This left him devastated and he went back to drinking. When he understood what Jesus had done for him and that he needed to surrender and put his trust in the Lord, Orlando just broke down crying. God did a work in his heart right there at the bus stop. That evening Orlando prayed, repenting of his sins and asking God to save him.

After his prayer, we went back over to Doug and I introduced Orlando to him. I was blessed as God worked through Doug to further touch Orlando's heart as he shared about the cost of walking with Jesus Christ. We then went to McDonald's. Doug bought Orlando a hamburger and told him that if he wanted, we could meet with him the next evening to go over some scriptures. Orlando said he would like to do that, so Friday night Doug and I broke off from the group around midnight. When Orlando arrived he was different, not only was he sober and carrying his Bible but he was a changed man.



Orlando and Greg

I was amazed at how Doug (through Christ) came along side him to help him deal with some ongoing issues. For example, Orlando was out of work but had mentioned at the bus stop that he had a job offer. When I asked him on Friday what the job was, he said it was to handing out the advertising cards for strippers and escorts there in Las Vegas. You know what he ended up doing instead? He told Doug he'd rather join our team on Saturday. Orlando met up with us the next morning and spent the full day giving out gospel tracts instead of the porno cards. He didn't stop until we wrapped up that night. In fact, most of us feel he gave out more tracts than the rest of the team put together.

Since Orlando was a part of the team, Doug invited him to join us on Sunday morning for worship, prayer and a time of fellowship. Orlando shared a wonderful testimony about the power of preaching the gospel in the open air. As he heard us talking about our struggles and feeling that many times we were just preaching to nobody, he felt compelled to share with us. Orlando told us not to get discouraged. He told us how he was standing off to the side and he could hear people talking as they walked by. He said, "Even if they didn't stop, they could hear you and they were asking each other things like -- 'Do you believe in God?' 'Do you think you are going to Heaven?' or 'What do you think happens when we die?'" He said, "You guys got them thinking and talking about God and Heaven!" Praise God!

Please keep this precious new brother in your prayers!

What's an [Evangelism Boot Camp](#) really like? *If you wanna know ... you a gotta go!*

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'til the nets are full...

