

Challenge Ministries



be ready always to give an answer
I Peter 3:15

earnestly contend for the faith
Jude 3

February 2024

Grossmont Overpass Balboa Park & Surgeries

Definitely a strange month. We started strong early in January but came to a halt before mid month. Dianna had her right knee replaced on Friday January 12th and just a week later I had surgery on my left knee, which was replaced 14 years ago, for orthoscopic surgery. With much help from many Christian friends we worked through the many difficulties. Long story short Dianna is 3 weeks into the new knee and doing fairly well. Still a lot of pain but she can move around on a walker and is making progress daily. Another couple of weeks and she should be able to progress to a cane. Will probably take a few months to walk without a cane.

My surgery wasn't nearly so invasive and I have recovered to use of a cane and should be driving soon. Although I haven't been able to get out yet I should be back on the streets by time you receive this newsletter. Please pray for our continued healing.

One Sunday morning we were watching a "Zoom" service of our Church. As the pastor preached our doorbell rang. I could see 2 JW men with briefcases. Witnesses have avoided us for many years. The leader introduced himself as Tom. He said he had spoken with me more than 20 years ago here in my home. He had recalled with great passion I had witnessed to him even going into my office and bringing out out a JW bible to point something out.

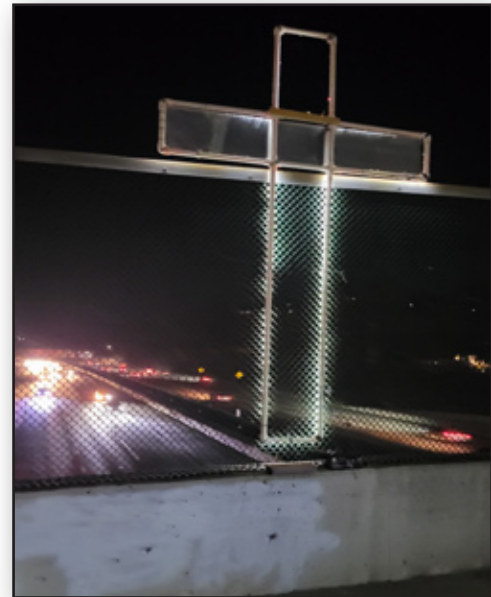
His purpose in coming by was he simply wanted to know if I still lived here. Also, he recalled we both had raced motocross. With that we spoke briefly about our motocross careers. He willingly gave me his phone number and the latest

Watchtower brochure. Since he was with someone and their spouses were waiting outside they left cordially.

Although with great anticipation when I contacted him by phone he didn't want to talk further on religious issues. I decided to send him a single question anyway by text concerning the resurrection and identity of Jesus.

It breaks my heart that he doesn't want to talk further. I told him I would pray for him and please contact me again.

God knows the details. I was so excited and so broken hearted, yet God must be at work. I pray this will be the year God rescues a JW who will be a bold witness for Christ. Perhaps like Peter Barnes was to many of you and me as well.



7 p.m. at night on the Grossmont overpass in La Mesa on January 1, first day of the new year. Sorry you can't see the other side of the cross which has 10 inch LED lights that spell out, "Are You Ready?" This is the same 8 foot cross with battery powered LED lights we used in the past at December Nights at Balboa Park. It is easily readable from the freeway.

NEWSLETTER

Challenge Ministries is a non-profit Christian ministry dedicated to the defense and proclamation of the Gospel and Biblical truth.

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Challenge Ministries

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*All contributions are tax deductible

More about January...



This is a Muslim couple at Balboa Park. He's actually reading through our tract "Jesus and the Quran". I was surprised that he was somewhat indifferent and didn't want to talk further. Who knows what he read may have an impact.



The Lady sitting is a long time Jehovah Witness speaking with Lisa at Balboa Park. Lisa had a pleasant conversation with her about the gospel. Regardless of how well we know what they believe the gospel is always the message they need to hear. Amazingly, just a short time later her husband, also a JW sat in nearly the same spot. I also had a pleasant talk with him about Jesus. Both of them were actually taking a break from their Watchtower stand where they probably wouldn't have been as open to speak.



I always attempt to speak with JW's even though often I have tried before. The man on the right is a JW since his youth. I encouraged him to read the Bible without Watchtower helps. I told him JW's in the past were told that if they did they would go into apostate Christendom beliefs. He told me that was false. Later I brought and read to him the quote from the official online Watchtower library. When confronted he said it didn't matter, he was willing to trust the Watchtower anyway. Heart breaking.



This is an interesting photo. The man on the right is a Catholic. His wife told him to give this homeless man his shoes which were in his backpack. The homeless man was barefoot. I spoke to the Catholic man shortly after and commended him for his kindness. Then I told him of the greatest kindness of Jesus and His sacrifice.

What's Happening and What's Coming???

IRS 501-c Tax statements have been sent... We have sent out the 2023 giving statements. This lists each of your tax deductible donations to Challenge Ministries for the year. If you haven't received yours please let us know. Of course you can still use your check stubs as receipts as well for income tax purposes.

Darwin day Feb 12 outreach... We are planning a special outreach for Charles Darwin's birthday on the 12th. We'll use our Creation and Evolution tract and film a video for YouTube at SDSU. Millions around the globe will be praising Darwin on this day and we'll try and respond with Creation and the gospel.

*In Christ,
Jerry and Dianna*