

Challenge Ministries



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

earnestly contend for the faith
Jude 3

August 2022

Comic-Con, Boardwalk downtown, Balboa Park, Pacific Beach, & Mission Beach

We printed 5,000 “Where Will You Spend Eternity?” tracts earlier this year and they are completely gone. We tried to print another 5,000 but now there seems to be a paper shortage. We are allowed to print 1,000 at a time and the cost has nearly doubled! The good news is that God continues to provide all our needs according to His riches in glory. Philipians 4:19.

Comic-Con has been nearly absent for 2 years but has come back to San Deigo. Pastor Gil, Marc, and I went on the busiest day Saturday, just a week ago. Once again it was a “sold out” attendance at 135,000 allowed at the convention center. There were still zillions of people that came to just hang out in the gas lamp area downtown. We handed out tracts and did some open air preaching. We posted the video on YouTube. Most were too busy to talk but as always a remnant would listen to the gospel. The masses by far were young people just having a good time. Tragically, comics are leaning more and more to a dark and even demonic side. Death and evil is found everywhere in them where we can become numb towards God and His rightful claim to our lives. The gospel is so desperately needed by this culture.

This past month was also the Pride parade. Although we don’t attend the parade or it’s celebration afterwards we did display our banner, “LGBT... Do you not fear God?” from Grossmont overpass. An angry LGBT supporter stopped and pushed us out of the way and tore town the banner. Police quickly came and controlled the violent man. Fortunately none were hurt and even the banner went unscathed. This is extremely rare but a risk that we take every time we stand

for the truth. Even handing out a tract can trigger an angry response.

Our persecution is light compared to parts of the world. An example is, my church supports several missionaries in Belarus, next door to Ukraine. Just 2 weeks ago both husband and wife were arrested and jailed for promoting Christianity in Belarus. The husband was released but the wife is yet in prison with no contact whatsoever. We are told it could be a year or longer. Please pray for Lydia that God would protect her and that she might be released soon.

Brother Jim who has accompanied us many times told me of someone that started attending his church recently. Jim said that we spoke with this man at Mission beach 2 years ago. He said he was an atheist. Jim and I both shared the gospel with him and challenged him to read the gospel of John that we gave him. Jim also gave him a church invite card. Turns out the atheist read the gospel and God marvelously saved him. Now he is attending Jim’s church, PTL.

Just a week ago at Pacific Beach I started a conversation with a middle aged man that said he grew up Muslim. 6 years ago he became a Christian and was so excited about his faith in Christ. He said he was very active in his church in witnessing. He noticed the JW’s were near and said lets go talk with them and he wanted to lead. I agreed.

We walked over to them and he asked them a question about the Bible and them gave a verse. Almost immediately, they didn’t want to talk any more. As we broke up I challenged them to find out why the Watchtower had altered the bible to fit their interpretation in Colossians 1:16,17. They did take the time to look it up and insisted that there was no change even though they could see clearly that the word “other” had been added four times. Such blindness.

NEWSLETTER

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

Founded by Jerry & Dianna Benson

E-mail: challenge.min@cox.net

web sites:..... www.challengemin.org

Challenge Ministries

P.O. Box 20195

El Cajon, California 92021

*All contributions are tax deductible

More about July...



Another pair of Jehovah's Witnesses talking to this person at Balboa Park. I patiently waited and then as the gentleman walked by me I got his attention and explained why the Jehovah's Witnesses were not Christian. He didn't seem much concerned. However, when I told him no one would enter the Kingdom of God unless they were "born again" he was quite interested.



With the new supreme court ruling concerning abortion we decided to display this sign on La Mesa freeway overpass. The photo is an actual photograph of Auschwitz taken near the end of WW2. Millions of Jews were exterminated because they were not wanted. America continues to remove the unwanted through Planned Parenthood. Today I saw a freeway billboard by Planned Parenthood, "Abortion is Safe and still Legal!" Tragic.



There are actually 2 ministries to Muslims at Balboa Park. The man who runs this booth is an ex-Muslim now Christian and sets up every week at Balboa Park. Usually the Muslim booth is just a hundred feet away. I have spoken with him a number of times and he often has either an angry Muslim he's talking to or a Christian telling him he shouldn't confront Muslims.



Police are detaining a violent LGBT individual in the background while Marc is being questioned on his attacker. I can see little advantage of prosecuting this man so we let him go. The question "Do you not fear God?" was raised by one of the thieves on the cross who had come to his senses that Jesus was the savior. It is a serious question for all people. The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom. Proverbs 9:10.

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

Mormon outreach?... The LDS General Conference has not been in person for a couple of years. Also, the LDS Temple is undergoing a massive remodel so not much is happening in Salt Lake City. However, we are considering later in the year to have a Mormon outreach at the University of Utah during the school year. We are looking into this possibility.

Large events coming... Miramar Air Show, Carlsbad street fair, Escondido street fair and Poway street fair are just a few of the large events coming the remainder of this year. Lord willing we'll arrange an outreach at one of these events. Please let us know if you are aware of others.

*In Christ,
Jerry and Dianna*