

## Evangelism Newsletter - Spring - June 2008

### **Dear Friends in Christ**

I am in the midst of living my dream of being able to minister in evangelism full time. For the past three weeks I have been going out 6 days a week allowing one day of rest. A typical day of witnessing for me starts out by spending about three to four hours preparing. This includes Bible reading, Bible study, prayer, worship and meditation on God. The outreach lasts for about 2-3 hours which involves preaching, handing out Bibles & tracts, talking one-on-one, and praying for people. We try to meet as many urgent physical needs as we can. The day is not done until we pray for all that the Lord did that day. I call this debriefing. After coming home there is always administration work and domestic chores to do. My concern I have in all this is my energy level. Please pray that God would strengthen me spiritually and physically. Also, that I would grow in my inner man and maintain personal holiness.

As many of you know I have diabetes. I have Adult onset type II which is not as bad as type one. I have been on insulin this last week due to my high blood sugars over the last several months. I feel great now that my blood sugar is under control and I have more energy than I had. I will go off of it shortly in order to try some new oral medications which if do not work will put me back on the insulin. We all are in dying bodies and look forward to the resurrected body, right? I do want to do my part to keep my body running until God is done with me. So let's pray for all of our health until we go home.

I wanted to thank many of those in Washington State for all the fabulous support through your prayers and gifts. As much as I like doing this newsletter from the stand point of the artistic design, I think most of all it is important to keep in touch to let you know my affairs down here. I am really close to our Lord and I believe I am right in the center of His will which brings great satisfaction. Once again thank you all!

### ***Ministry Highlights***

#### **Oakland**

Richard and I have been going into downtown Oakland once a week preaching the Gospel. We have found a corner that has been very fruitful. The people of Oakland including business people will take our tracts, which is amazing. One of the things we are seeing is that the common people hear us gladly, something our Lord was able to accomplish even though there is great opposition of the Gospel. There are many demonized people who we come in contact with out in the streets, especially in the more torn areas of the city. Last time I mentioned about going into the bad parts of Oakland which we are advancing on a little slower pace than expected. Maybe we should start on our block. There was a murder here on our street May 21st. It was gang related although we don't have much of that here, normally it is about 5 miles from here which is the worst area according to Oakland's murder map.

#### **San Francisco**

Expanding our territory in San Francisco is becoming a reality. Lately we have gone to 16th & Mission and 24th & Mission. These places both have many Hispanics and they also have the drug addicts who frequent these areas. Sharing my past drug abuse has proven an advantage in these areas and has been very exciting. We use a small battery operated maxi mouse amp with a mic. One day I was preaching the Salvation message which includes the reality of hell. A lady came up to us and said that it was so great and that she felt the mercy of God. Well my friends

that is an answer to prayer. I pray that the Holy Spirit would speak through me with the balanced message. WOW! These areas have proven to be fruitful as we get to pray and talk to many. We also hand out hundreds of tracts on any given day here. People come up and ask how much the Bibles cost. When we tell them they are free they can't believe it (and are thankful). I can't believe they are amazed that the Bibles are free. The biggest problem I see is that although most of the people are open and have faith, their commitment to Jesus is shallow and hard for them to keep. Please pray they would be solid on the Rock.

*Fisherman's Wharf* is still on our schedule as a place to go evangelize. The new process of getting permits through the Port Commission has been overall a pleasant experience. We hit it hard down there in April and will continue to go there as a big group or small about three times a month during the summer. The wharf has a high tourist population. It is like preaching around the world and never leaving home. If the weather is good on a Saturday it is not uncommon to see thousands of people pass by and hear the Gospel. We have specialty tracts for the tourists and those go over big.

*Powell & Market* is where they turn the cable cars around. We go there quite often as part of the SOS group. Eric and I also go there most every Sunday after Church for a few hours. It is mostly tourists although many residents walk the street as it is a main thoroughfare. This was the first place I preached by myself about a year ago to see what it would be like. God was with me like he was with Philip the Evangelist; however I like to go with two or more. To the left is a picture of me in 1970 at age 13. I was visiting my Uncle down here as I did most every summer growing up. The scenery has changed somewhat since then. The Woolworth's drug store is now a GAP and about where the yellow circle is there is now a chain barrier to prevent people from getting close to the cable cars. Back then you could help turn them around. Who would have thought back then I would be in the same place preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

## **Sacramento**

On Easter Sunday Richard and I went to my niece's. I missed the Riggles, some old friends of mine that came to San Francisco that weekend and went to my Church, not knowing I went there until they talked to some of the people. Well it was a great trip. We purposely came back on the following Monday in order to preach in downtown Sacramento during the lunch hour. Because of the Capitol, there are lots of people on the streets during that time. I preached without an amplifier. The object is to lift your voice loud enough so people can hear you without straining your voice so that it sounds like you are just screaming. The Lord has gifted me in this area and I have improved by experience as well. Richard handed out tracts as I preached. When I took breaks we prayed with people that approached us. The highlight was when the Police on bicycles passed us on the corner as I preached and one of them said, "Praise God". We concluded the day by going to the Caesar Chavez Park and talked to a group of people that for the most part were from the "streets". They knew about jail and sin. We were able to give them the Gospel of John and share the faith. We all prayed at the end. I frequent Sacramento to preach about four times a year.

Below are some pictures another ministry took of us Memorial Day in Sacramento during the Jazz Festival. It is a great opportunity because there is a passage way between downtown and Old Sacramento where most of the festivities took place. We stayed the whole day and handed out many tracts to the several thousands who passed by. Besides me on the left, there is my nephew Pat Moneybrake (top right) handing out some tracts. Below Pat's picture is Richard Latimer a fellow laborer with me at SOS Ministries in SF. He is also handing out some tracts. Not pictured is Pat's son Jacob age 10 and Sarah who is attending college in Sacramento. Both of them proved to be a great help and worked hard all day.

### **Fruit of the Month**

On a recent Saturday we were at the *United Nations Plaza* in the heart of Civic Center. This is a place we go fairly often. The area skirts the tenderloin district which is basically San Francisco's skid row. There are also a number of other city residents, as well as, a few tourists. I was on the microphone and I was sharing part of my past; using prescription pain pills and then later heroin. I also mentioned my stays in jail. Because of the area once I share that I can speak many things into the lives of the locals. After that I shared about Jesus Christ and the way of salvation. When I was done a young man named Brent came forward in tears and said that he heard me way down the street and that he had just got out of jail a few hours earlier. He also mentioned that he had used pain pills and then heroin. He had been clean for the ten or so days in jail. I grabbed Paul Coca and we went over to the side and began to pray for him. Paul had Brent cry out to the Lord himself and ask for salvation and deliverance. With many other words we exhorted Brent. Paul had shared how his two brothers had died of heroin overdoses, something I had not known about Paul which was very moving for me, as well as, Brent. I asked Brent if he had anywhere to stay. He pulled out a train ticket to Fresno where his family was. He didn't say but I imagine his family had sent it to him and it was put on his account in jail. I gave him a new testament and my card. We have been praying for him and I ask that perhaps you would mention him in your prayers too!

### **Coming Up - SOS Week-Long Summer Outreach**

Once again our week long summer outreach will take place this July. Please pray for this event. For more information you can go to the SOS website at: [www.sosmin.com](http://www.sosmin.com)