



Open Air Campaigners

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"Presenting Christ by All Means Everywhere Since 1892"

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May 28th, 2018

My Dear Friends:

I'd like to take a little different turn in my letter to you today and focus on individuals that I have spoken about Christ with recently in counseling after our open air meetings. Here are their stories:

- **Kyle and Sierra:** Were a young Catholic couple that I shared with at Seal Beach Pier. Both indicated that they believed in Jesus, but it became apparent that their faith was not personal. The Nicene Creed, that is recited in Mass every Sunday morning is a statement of faith. I told them my own story of how I came to Christ, as a result of hearing the meaning of the creed's statement "and He shall come again to Judge the living and the dead". I know I was not ready to meet Jesus when He came. I asked my Dad if we could have a Bible. I told them that I read the Revelation as the first book in the Bible that I ever read, and in that process Christ became very real to me, and I trusted him as Savior. I emphasized the need for a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, based on what the Bible said. Both of them prayed with me, and they trusted Christ, to be their personal savior. Since they had a Bible, I gave them a Jesus Film DVD. I never try to talk anyone out of going to the Catholic Church, but suggested, a near by church that they might consider trying.
- **Marlene** (Redondo Beach), was a young Catholic girl, with a similar story as Kyle and Sienna's, and I reasoned with her in the same way, and she trusted Christ.
- **James** I met at Santa Monica Pier. He was 73 year old Hispanic. He told me that he had trusted Christ as a young person, but a recent health scare had convinced him that he needed to follow the Lord fully in his life. Further conversation convinced me that he knew the Lord, and just needed encouragement to follow through with his decision. Since he did not currently have a Bible, I gave him a Spanish/English New Testament, as he was at home in either Language, and a Jesus Film. He already knew of a church in his area, which I suggested he get active with.
- **Bishoy** I met at Santa Monica Pier, a week ago Saturday. His first question to me was "Is premarital sex wrong?" I found out he was a Coptic Christian (Eastern Orthodox) from Egypt. He had come to the States in 2005, like many Coptic's, to escape the persecution his people have undergone for centuries from the Muslim majority. Getting back to his question, I got him off his list of "do's and don'ts" as his way to God, but a personal relationship with the Living Christ, who through His Word, sorts out the issues we have in our lives. He responded to that, and I believe that (though largely untaught) he had a personal faith. I gave him an English Bible (which he preferred) but had run out of the Jesus film's we have in 22 Languages except for one, that was only in Arabic. He spotted it, and said, "that's my native language". "I can read about Jesus in English, and see his life in Arabic: that's perfect!" he told me. We both knew that God was at work that night in his life.

On the web at: www.oacusa.org



Open Air Campaigners is an evangelistic ministry of preaching the Gospel to lost people and mobilizing the body of Christ primarily through effective open-air outreach.

Russ Hodder Prayer Requests For May, 2018

Thanks again for your prayers and practical help that keep this ministry going! Here's a few needs I'd like to share with you.

1. I'm about 2/3 done with the update of the History of Open Air Campaigners. I confess that it is going slower than I had hoped, but progress is being made. Pray that the book will have the desired result: to encourage those who support the ministry in seeing what God is doing across the world, and also to open the eyes of those who might be drawn into our ministry on a global-basis. Our staff reflects the truly international scope of our ministry, drawing from the 31 countries where we currently work.
2. Pray for those who I mentioned in the first part of this letter, Kyle, Sienna, Marlene, James and Bishoy, that they will see the Lord working in their lives, and that they will be protected from the evil one. Pray for the many others that other staff and our workers have led to Christ; that God will truly show Himself in their lives.
3. Praise God that my health is under control, and that I am able to continue to do ministry. I have noted, however the increasing medications I have to take to keep things OK. Pray I can do some things that will help, such as loosing some weight and disciplining myself in a regular exercise program.
4. Pray that the staff and volunteers working in this local ministry will be aware of and avoid the traps that the enemy would try to set for us. We all thank God for how He has delivered us in the past. Pray for the protection of all of our workers world wide. Pray for our workers in India, in particular, who have been undergoing much persecution, which have included death threats and even physical assault from the majority religion in that country. God is doing great things in India. in spite of all that.

Thanks again for your ministry of prayer!

Russ Hodder