

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." Matthew 28:19-20



# CHRIST SATISFIES

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While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and "sinners" came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and 'sinners'?" On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Matthew 9:10-13

## REACHING THE OUTCASTS

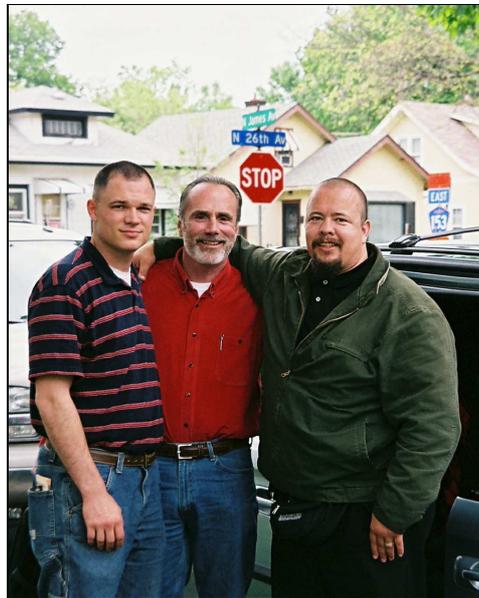
Driving up to a group of white T-shirted young men hanging out in front of a house which lacks "curb appeal" and calling out the "white flag" greeting, "We have a Word from the Lord for you," is how Christ Satisfies Ministries' May outreach was characterized. Last month James and two other men, Dan Bradley and Nathan Katterson, spent some time on Saturday, May

different areas of ministering the truth gang members, drug troubled youth of this With the increased hit our community fact that most of it is against young men by young men with drugs and the instigating factor, not without its need to count the unannounced and environment.

The day began at Dan, Nathan, his their 3 month old Gwyneth joining us devotional

topic of taking risks for Christ and stepping out of our comfort zone for Kingdom purposes followed by a time of prayer for the outreach. Anne and Laura stayed behind to pray for God's grace for the men's time on the streets, open doors for the gospel and hearts softened to receive the message of repentance and salvation in Jesus.

The men left with 31 Bibles, many more tracts and information on All Nations Christian Fellowship, a recent Bethlehem Baptist church plant located in nearby Brooklyn Center.



Nathan, Dan and James

20<sup>th</sup> driving to North Minneapolis of Jesus Christ to dealers and the community.

violence that has this year and the perpetrated African-American African-American turf often being this outreach was concerns and cost of walking unknown into this

our home with wife, Laura, and daughter, for a brief surrounding the

*Christ Satisfies Ministries is a Non-Profit Project of the National Heritage Foundation*

Not long after they left, Nathan called with the names of three young men that they met just off of West Broadway who were receptive to their message of Jesus and who also took Bibles. Anne and Laura prayed for each person to receive a new heart and believe in Jesus for salvation. Between diaper changes, feedings and naps, phone calls continued to come in after each stop. "Joseph and Jeremiah, James had previously given him a ride to the hospital." "Bernard, Lovely and Carlos on the corner of Logan and W. Broadway." "Jeff, Joseph, Ed, Vanessa and Earl." At first Anne had been wondering just what this time of prayer would look like while the men were gone. Soon, she had her answer! Between the babies and the phone calls there wasn't much downtime. The ladies were praising the Lord for His faithfulness, grace, protection and love toward the lost and toward their families.

Upon their return about two hours later the men were overflowing with the joy of the Lord having been blessed by seeing the mighty hand of Jesus Christ at work in themselves and our community. They were able to distribute all 31 Bibles plus many more tracts reaching about fifty people in all that day. There were no negative incidents. In fact, the people they met were receptive to their message and for the most part thankful. Even those that didn't want to take any materials were kind in their refusals. Praise the Lord for His mercy and love! This time out among the broader community proved to be a great opportunity for James to begin building relationships with these young men and women. Pray with us that the Lord would provide continued opportunities to meet and minister to these people. Also, please remember in prayer the many who received God's Word that day including:

***Tyrice, Tony, David, Joseph, Jeremiah, Bernard, Lovely, Carols, Jeff, Joseph, Ed Vanessa, Earl, Kajee, T, Tony, Angela, Nicole, Peace, Theresa, Oliver, Dee, James and Ron.***

## SUMMERTIME STUDY START-UP

*Preach the Word: be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage – with great patience and careful instruction.*

*2 Timothy 4:2*

We have asked you in past newsletters to pray that the Lord would open a door for us to start a Bible Study in our home to reach the people in our community sometime this summer. Well, by God's grace, we've set a target date of Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. We continue to beseech the Lord to bring this desire to fruition and would ask that you do the same.

By His great grace and mercy, He has opened a huge number of opportunities to set the stage for this study and even to begin ministering to the people of our community in a more in depth way at the Christ Satisfies Ministries evangelism table.

What began as an opportunity for James to simply hand out tracts, Bibles and other godly materials while encouraging the people taking them to look to the Lord has, in recent weeks, become a time of sharing with people and even

teaching some in a much greater degree. His table has two chairs and often the second is filled with a lost soul admitting his or her status as a sinner and listening soberly to both God's requirements and His glorious, indescribable gift, Jesus Christ.

Just this past week James has had the opportunity and privilege of presenting the full gospel to sixteen people as he sat at the table on the corner of Knox and 26<sup>th</sup> Ave. North! With a change in the dynamics of the corner – the store has been closed down by the City and the drug dealers seem to have relocated – witnessing opportunities have increased. We weren't certain what the Lord was doing when he took the store out of the picture. Would James still be able to set up his table? Would the ministry impact less people? These were just a few of our questions. Well, since James moved his table closer to the street, the number of people who come by and hear the gospel has greatly increased. In addition, the variety of people visiting the table are a broader representation of our community as a whole – kids, teenagers, the drug dealers & gangsters, young moms and many who drive by and stop for a Word from the Lord or a Bible. With the recent addition of a sign announcing "Free Bibles," people are pulling up and sending their children out to get the Word. Praise the Lord for

providing opportunities for His Word to reach people. Here are some of this week's highlights!

- Cedric a single dad with two children pulled over as he was driving down 26<sup>th</sup> Ave. "What are you selling?" he inquired. (Praise the Lord for His sense of humor in providing a great opening for an evangelist!) James told him that he was giving away Words from the Lord. Cedric acknowledged his need for that and quickly pulled into the parking lot. James went over to his car to deliver the Word, and the two spoke for a long time. Cedric shared some of his trials, struggles and needs. James was able by God's grace to listen with compassion, share the saving truth of Jesus and encourage Cedric to seek the Lord. He was quite open to the truth and even expressed a desire to go to church with his children on Sunday. James directed him to Bethlehem Baptist Church and gave him our phone number for future contact.
- Takeila was walking by with her two toddlers, Takeila and Keisha, and two of her friends, Danielle and Mary. They stopped at the table to inquire what James was doing. In turn, he shared the gospel with them pointing out their need for a Savior



*James teaching Micah, Phoebe, Titus and Caleb*

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utilizing the law to show them how far we all fall from God's perfect standard. They acknowledged their sin and lacking in God's sight. Each heard the truth and took materials pointing them to Christ and how to grow in a relationship with him upon salvation – prayer, daily Bible reading, church fellowship, etc.

- Mike stood at the table for quite sometime the other day and poured out his heart to James. He told of his past "good works" and his current trials and struggles. James shared the full gospel with him and challenged him to stop trying to work his way into heaven and surrender to the only Savior, Jesus Christ. Mike made a full confession of his sin, took a Bible and committed to reading the Book of John.

James is greatly blessed and humbled to be used by the Lord to present His glorious gospel of grace to the people he meets each week here in North Minneapolis. Please pray for the continued fruitfulness of this aspect of Christ Satisfies Ministries. Pray with us that the Lord might be pleased to use these many opportunities of sharing the gospel to plant seeds for the beginning of a community Bible Study later this summer.

## LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME

Throughout Scripture we are admonished as parents and teachers to guide children in the ways of the Lord. "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." (Deut. 6:4-7) In the New Testament, we read Paul's commendation of Lois and Eunice (2 Timothy 1:5) and see the fruits of their labor in Timothy.

Here James had the joy of teaching Titus and Phoebe along with Micah and Caleb Danielson one Saturday afternoon. Let us be diligent in teaching and encouraging the little ones to Jesus. He is their only hope!