

Christ Satisfies Chronicles

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Meeting Needs and Neighbors

The Lord graciously blessed the first Yard Giveaway of 2008. Not only did many people come to the giveaway, a number of them were neighbors from our block. This is a change from some of the previous times we've hosted this outreach. In the past most of the people living on our block were more transient in nature, but right now there are a number of families, one or two which have actually been here for several months, even a year in one case. This gave a different flavor to the outreach. In addition, several people who are "repeat customers" came by to get some needed things for their families and homes. That is a great blessing for us to see. We are grateful that the Lord is not only building opportunities to minister to those who live in our immediate community, but also that He is creating a history here with Christ Satisfies Ministries in our neighborhood.

Several brothers and sisters joined us to serve at



Serving up scoops

the giveaway. They did a variety of tasks from hauling donated items and setting up tables of merchandise to assisting those who came looking for things and sharing Christ's love through practical help and gospel tracts.

About fifteen people were lined up and ready to "shop" at 11 a.m. when the giveaway was slated to begin. As they entered our yard several believers were on hand to greet each person, offer him or her a gospel tract and

assist with locating various needed items.

This giveaway had a new feature that was a rousing success. A dear brother who works for an ice cream maker donated several large containers of ice cream. He manned the scooper serving up cones for all who were there. This added treat was a blessing on that sunny Saturday afternoon. With more ice cream than we could serve before it melted, James loaded some into the van and delivered a welcome, cool treat to some families in the community.

The concept of giving things away from our front yard free of charge always generates surprise with some individuals. This opens the opportunity to share with them our goal in having a yard giveaway in the first place: it is an occasion to share the love of Jesus with others and to proclaim Him and praise Him for His goodness to us and others. The Lord often uses this proclamation as a way to open the door for sharing the gospel with our neighbors and those in our community. Pray with us that the Lord would save many in north Minneapolis and continue to provide a way for us to minister to those He places in our path.

"He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he has done."

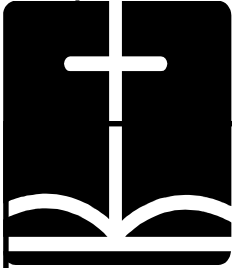
Proverbs
19:17



Waiting for the giveaway to open



Some of our returning "shoppers"



THE OBSERVATION DECK

The Lord has blessed James with many opportunities to teach in the course of Christ Satisfies Ministries' ongoing work. This new feature in the newsletter is a forum for presenting the fruits of some of his studies with the hope that you will be encouraged to search the Scriptures and praise and worship King Jesus with a greater depth of knowledge and insight.

MEDITATIONS AND OBSERVATIONS FROM GENESIS 3:15 AND ITS SURROUNDING CONTEXT

"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." Genesis 3:15

1. There will be a Savior through a godly line.
2. The Savior would be sent by God – "I will put . . ."
3. The Messiah, Sent or Anointed One, would be victorious.
4. There is and will be a war – "enmity."
5. The Messiah would defeat not just Satan but also his offspring – like Cain who belonged to the Evil One (1John 3:12).
6. The Messiah would have the authority, wisdom and power to crush Satan's head.
7. The Messiah would be sinless to pay for Adam's sins and defeat Satan.
8. The Messiah would have to be righteous to accomplish what Adam could not.
9. The Messiah would experience pain – "you (Satan) will strike his heel."
10. The Messiah would have to die if the due penalty was to be paid, thus, shed blood (Heb. 9:22) – "the wages of sin is death."
11. The Messiah would have to be typified or substituted by a death/shed blood that day if strict justice for the threat was upheld. Adam thought death was imminent. He was terrified and tried to hide. Genesis 3:21 shows that the Messiah's substitutionary death was typified that day.
12. The Messiah would be born of a woman, therefore, true man.
13. The Messiah would be Judge/King over Satan and his offspring.
14. There will be two kingdoms. Adam knew the kingdom concept because he was King. At the Fall he lost his kingdom and God delegated it to Satan. Adam knew the kingdom concept.
15. Eve and her godly offspring would be in God's/Messiah's kingdom and would be victorious.
16. The Messiah would absolutely accomplish His mission of crushing the serpent's head. God cannot lie, therefore, Christ would be sinless (the impeccability of Christ promised).
17. The Messiah would be head/ruler/king of the offspring of which He was part – Son of David, Lord of David; Son of Man, Son of God.
18. There will be two categories of people: the elect, Messiah's offspring and the reprobate, Satan's offspring (unconditional election).
19. Christ will be crushing Satan's head for His offspring. This shows limited/definite atonement.
20. Christ will apply His work to His offspring – "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers." The effectual call of God is an "irresistible grace" because it produces regeneration.
21. Christ will accomplish His purpose — crushing Satan's head — for the woman's offspring. This shows perseverance of the saints.
22. The context leading up to Genesis 3:15 shows the utter fallenness of man, the blinding power of Satan and man's inability to humble himself and repent on his own. God had to put enmity between man and Satan. God had to change their hearts. This shows total depravity.
23. God snatched Eve back from Satan's clutches and promised she would be His and would produce the Messiah through her offspring. Genesis 3:20 shows that Adam clearly believed this promise that God would spare Eve and send the Messiah through her offspring. He named her Eve, the mother of all the living. This shows fruits of Adam's faith.
24. God promised the Messiah would crush Satan's head and proved that future prophecy by fulfilling the near promise that Eve would be saved. We see fruits of her salvation in Genesis 4:1,2. Eve states, "With the help of the Lord I have brought forth a man." She was leaning on the Lord through her painful childbirth and gave Him the glory despite the curse of painful labor.
25. The fulfillment of the seed/offspring of the serpent was clearly revealed in Cain. The first baby born was a murderer just like his father, the Devil. In 1 John 3:12, the Lord says, "Do not be like Cain who belonged to the Evil One."
26. Adam, being the federal head and king of all the earth and its creatures, was cursed and all of creation under him was cursed also because of his headship – "As in Adam all die." (1 Corinthians 15:22)

GOOD SAMARITAN EVANGELISM

The Lord had an interesting encounter planned for James earlier this month. On his usual route around the community he came across a tattooed man in his twenties along 5th Street near 30th Ave. N. James pulled up next to him and opened their conversation with his usual query, "Would you like a word from the Lord?" The man, John*, took it and responded that he does his own thing with regard to religion. James asked him if he had ever read the Bible. He replied, "No," and was fairly closed to the gospel.

However, he said to James, "If you really want to help me, you could help me move a ladder. It's a tremendously long ladder and would have to go on top of your van."

"But that could scratch my van."

"Yeah, it could," John agreed.

"Well, how about in the van?" James asked.

"No way. It's way too long." he explained.

"Sorry, man, I can't do that," James determined.

Upon pulling away from John, James was seized with conviction of his sin of not loving others as himself, not helping those in need and being overly concerned with worldly possessions. He drove up to John who was continuing to walk down the street toward his house.

"Man, who cares about the van! Let's go get your ladder." James called to him. With a smile, John got into the van and the two of them drove to a house two blocks away to move said monstrous ladder.

During this time of driving, loading up the ladder and moving it from one house to another,

James and John began to talk about spiritual realities once again. As John challenged the veracity of Scripture, James pressed him again on whether or not he had ever read the Bible. "No, I can't read or write," he admitted. James was filled with pity for this young man who was lost and helpless.

They reached their destination and unloaded the huge ladder. James invited John to church, gave him the church

*"When He saw the crowds,
He had compassion on
them, because they were har-
assed and helpless, like
sheep without a shepherd."*

Matthew 9:36

information as well as his card and phone number. "Call me," he said, "I would love to come and read the Bible to you." John took the information and turned to go back into the house.

As James drove away, he was again convicted of his initial sin against God and John. Yet, he was grateful for God's gift of repentance and blessed by the grace He poured out, which allowed him to love this man and minister to him by meeting one of his needs. James is encouraged that a relationship between the two of them has begun and the door has been opened for future opportunities to share the saving truth of the gospel with John. He is looking forward to meeting him again in the neighborhood should the Lord see fit to bring about another

encounter.

A few minutes later, James pulled up to a man in his thirties with a Word from the Lord. This man, Charlie*, asked for a ride. After a couple of questions, the request appeared to be legitimate. So, the two of them drove off. Charlie shared his great need, which was to move all of his belongings into a storage unit because he needed to vacate his residence early in the following week. (It was Friday afternoon.)

James agreed to help Charlie move his things. The next morning he and a dear friend of CSM, John Nelson, met Charlie bright and early, loaded up the van with most of his possessions and drove off to the storage unit. During their trip, James was able to share the gospel with Charlie. He took him through the law, and Charlie was sobered by the realization that he had personally broken so many of God's commandments. The understanding that he himself was a liar, an adulterer, a thief greatly affected him.

The Lord used these disturbing facts coupled with a difficult situation at the storage facility to humble Charlie and set the stage for the presentation of God's indescribable gift of grace in Jesus Christ. Brought low by the law and his present circumstances, which were the consequences of sinful choices, Charlie was open to the gospel. James was blessed to be able to share Christ's saving work and love with Charlie.

(Continued on page 4)

* Names have been changed.



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“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

Praise & Prayer Requests

- Praise the Lord for His faithfulness in providing for the needs of both Christ Satisfies Ministries and our family.
- Praise the Lord for opening doors to reach people for Christ in N. Minneapolis.
- Praise the Lord for the grace in ministering to men through the jail & prison ministry and to those in recovery.
- Pray that the Lord would bless the upcoming ministry with a youth group coming to north Minneapolis for a short term missions trip next week.
- Pray for opportunities for James to visit churches and share with them what the Lord is doing in North Minneapolis through CSM.
- Pray for increased opportunities to minister to the lost and hurting in our community and to develop deeper relationships as the Lord leads.
- Pray that our family would seek to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ and to honor Him in all that we do.
- Pray for the salvation of our children: Trace (16), Titus (5), Phoebe (3) and Hadassah (2).

Tract Ministry

(Continued from page 3)

James saw Charlie once more after that Saturday morning move when he assisted him with some additional moving chores. During their time together, James was able to encourage him with eternal truths. At that time Charlie claimed Christ as his Savior.

Ministering God's word to people in our community through the distribution of tracts has been very fruitful. Since we first began a fulltime ministry here in north Minneapolis, many doors have been opened for further discussion of the gospel and many relationships have begun with the question, "Would you like a Word from the Lord?" Please join us in prayer for the Johns and Charlies of our neighborhood. Pray that the Lord would save those who don't know Him and strengthen those who do. Pray that He would continue to use us clay pots to carry forth His truth to the lost.

CLEVELAND BOUND

We were greatly encouraged by the Taylor family — Bill, Natalie and their 5 children — who are headed to the urban mission field in Cleveland Ohio later this month. With a heart for the city and a vision to plant a solid, Bible teaching church within its borders, they spent a few days at Family Baptist last week to glean from our pastor some insights on ministering to an urban population and to observe and participate in the varied ministries of our church. James had the opportunity to meet with them and take them around the neighborhood to join him in CSM's evangelism outreach. Bill and Natalie joined him in pouring out their hearts in prayer for the lost and hurting they met on the streets. It was a great time of worship, petition and intercession. They were encouraged and spiritually refreshed during their stay and reminded of the huge part prayer plays in the daily life of those involved in ministry. Pray with us that the Lord will use this family and those on their team to build His Kingdom in Cleveland.

PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER A PARTNERSHIP WITH CHRIST SATISFIES MINISTRIES TO REACH MINNEAPOLIS FOR CHRIST

- We **desire** financial partners who will assist us in achieving **100%** of our support goals for this ministry.
- We **need** prayer warriors who will lift up the work the Lord is doing here and His servants.
- We **want** to continue to minister as the Lord leads and opens door to spread the Truth.

All donations are tax deductible
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