

THE EVANGELISTS

MAGAZINE

Issue 20 November 2015 - April 2016

The Doctrines of Successful Evangelism

Part 2

EVANGELISM
Our Primary Task

OAC Ministries
Impacting the world with the Gospel

*Interruptions,
Inconveniences and*
divine appointments



The Commission

with Tim Knowling

THE EVANGELISTS MAGAZINE

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Soldiers of the Cross, founded by Tim
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church become the mighty, mature and
fully-functioning army of God it is meant
to be, in a war that has already been
won through Christ's atoning death and
resurrection.

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Soldiers of the Cross

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*And it came to pass, that, as they
went in the way, a certain man said
unto him, Lord, I will follow thee
whithersoever thou goest. And Jesus
said unto him, Foxes have holes, and
birds of the air have nests; but the
Son of man hath not where to lay his
head.*

*And he said unto another, Follow me.
But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go
and bury my father. Jesus said unto
him, Let the dead bury their dead: but
go thou and preach the kingdom of
God.*

*And another also said, Lord, I will
follow thee; but let me first go bid
them farewell, which are at home at
my house. And Jesus said unto him,
No man, having put his hand to the
plough, and looking back, is fit for the
kingdom of God." Luke 9:57-62*

In November last year, I was blessed
again to listen to the music minis-
try of Steve Grace. For those who
don't know, Steve is an Australian
gospel singer/songwriter, who also has
a passion for evangelism. Over the last
three decades, in answer to the call of
God, Steve has taken his concert ministry
to hundreds of cities and regional towns
across Australia.

Steve's ministry could best be summed
up by the words from one of his well-
known songs, 'Follow', from the album of
the same name.

"If I could tell the world one thing, I'd
talk about Your love..... I will follow,
wherever You lead me I will go....."

I praise God for the testimony of those
who, like Steve, have been obedient to
the Lord's calling. The Lord Jesus Him-
self spoke of the great need of every
generation in Luke 10:2, *"The harvest
truly is great, but the labourers are few:
pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest,
that he would send forth labourers into
his harvest."*

In 1909, a young Swiss man, by the name
of Ernest Kramer, felt a strong conviction
within his spirit that, "to Australia I must
go". As a result of his obedience, Ernest
and his wife, Euphemia Kramer, spent
over twenty years ministering to both
the Aboriginal and white folk who lived
in central Australia.

They travelled the outback tracks in a
wagon drawn by donkeys, with Bible
passages written on its side. They experi-

enced every harshness that outback
Australia could throw at a person - the
ferocious heat of summer, and the desert
sandstorms; the lack of water, yet experi-
encing God's miraculous provision of it.

All these trials and hardships they
endured for the sake of the Gospel,
that men and woman, even in some of
the hardest-to-reach areas might hear
about the love of God, as expressed in
the sacrifice of His own dear Son, for the
forgiveness of sins.

Romans 5:8 says, *"But God commendeth
his love toward us, in that, while we were
yet sinners, Christ died for us."*

This is the message that men and woman
in every generation, who have been
called of God, have been commissioned
to proclaim. And in case you think that
because you haven't been given a spe-
cific call to missions that you're exempt,
2 Corinthians 5:8 makes it clear that if
we are a believer, then we, too, have
been given this ministry of seeing men
and woman reconciled to God. *"And all
things are of God, who hath reconciled us
to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given
to us the ministry of reconciliation."*

Since our last issue of TEM, we here at
the ministry of SOTC, have had many op-
portunities to be able to proclaim Christ
to the people and the communities He
has led us to. I pray that our reports on
some of these activities in this issue may
inspire others to look for opportunities
where, either individually or as a group,
you may be able to engage with the lost
in sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

In this issue we conclude, with part two,
L.W. Munhall's message, *'The Doctrines of
Successful Evangelism'*.

Since we also like to bring to our readers'
attention the work of other 'evangelism'
ministries, we have an article on the
excellent work that OAC (Open Air Cam-
painers) are doing in Australia.

The report, on page 3, about the activi-
ties of Operation 513, I hope will remind
us of just how important it is to be about
God's business of declaring the Gospel to
those who are still dead in their sin.

The article on page 8, *'Evangelism - Our
Primary Task'*, is a good reminder for all
who make up the body of Christ.

Shalom.

Street Preacher arrested on the Gold Coast



George, a Queensland street preacher with the Operation 513 group, was arrested on 4th December, Friday night, despite being authorised to assemble and preach peacefully in the Surfers Paradise Cavill Mall under the state's Peaceful Assembly Act. Operation 513 had preached in Cavill Mall on several previous occasions without any complaints.



At about 10.30 pm, a police sergeant approached George and told him to "move on" after he had mentioned some sins listed in the Bible (eg 1 Corinthians 6:9-10) – such as adultery, slander, theft, greed, swindling and homosexual conduct.

George, and the group organiser, Ryan Hemelaar, asked for clarification. The female sergeant said (in part): "You have talked about homosexuality, offending members of the public about homosexuality. You are talking about

other religions – [saying] that they aren't right, aren't God's way. Now we have members of the public here who are of other religions. Your words over this speaker are causing anxiety. A member of the public has had a go at you and this man here [George] is antagonising him by quoting [from the Bible] in the opposite of what he is trying to say."

Ryan Hemelaar tried in vain to explain that the group had official authorisation, so that under section 45 of the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act, police could not lawfully give a "move on" order.

An acting senior police sergeant and an inspector then arrived and told George to move on immediately, or be arrested. George refused to move on. He was handcuffed and arrested for disobeying a police direction. He was later released and appeared in court in late December.

Family Voice Queensland director Geoffrey Bullock is deeply concerned by the police action.

"Since when has it been an offence to discuss Bible teaching in Queensland?" he asked. "Whatever happened to religious freedom? Are we rapidly becoming a 'police state'?"



Please pray for George and the ministry team of Operation 513, as the matter has been set down for trial in the Southport Magistrates Court on 16th May 2016.

Source: Family Voice Australia and Operation 513

Sowing and Reaping

A Devotion by Dr James R. Miller

"One soweth, and another reapeth" - John 4:37

This word of Christ is oftentimes illustrated in its literal sense. Many a man sows a field of wheat, and before the harvest lies in his grave. Many a man plants a tree, and does not live to taste its fruits; others coming after him enjoy the benefit of his labor. Then still more frequently is this word illustrated in its spiritual sense. Oftentimes the sower does not reap any harvest in this world. Many people work hard and faithfully for Christ all their life and see no results. Then, by-and-by, others come, and with almost no toil gather from the same fields abundant harvests. One pastor preaches and prays for many years, and sees but few souls brought to Christ. He dies, or goes away, and a new man comes. Almost immediately a revival begins, and many souls are brought into the kingdom. One sowed, another reaps. But who will say that the sower's work was not just as important as the reaper's? If the first pastor had not labored so faithfully and so long, could the

second have gathered such a harvest? We are sure that in heaven they will both rejoice together. There is no danger that there will be any jealousy there as to whose is the just meed of honor.

Many a mother teaches her children the story of the love of Christ, and presses upon them the acceptance of the Savior. With prayer and faith she awaits the result, hoping to see them confess Christ. But at length her eyes are closed upon earth, and her children are still unsaved. At last, however, there comes a gentle reaper, and they are gathered into the garner. So it is with many a faithful teacher or other Christian worker. We need not then concern ourselves about the reaping. Let us sow everywhere the good seed, and whether we reap the harvest, or some other hand gather it, it will make no difference; sower and reaper shall rejoice together.

Source: <http://www.thevinetoday.com/daily-reading/0318/sowing-and-reaping>



The Doc

On no other ground than the cross can the sinner be justified and reconciled to God. If the atoning work of our Lord was not vicarious, then the sacrifices, ordinances, types and symbols of the old economy are meaningless and of no value. The moral influence theory of Bushnell is all right for the saint; but the atonement is of no value to the sinner if it is not substitutional.

More than thirty years ago, in Denver, Colorado, I met an aged Congregational minister, who was a pastor in Hartford, Connecticut, during Dr. Horace Bushnell's pastorate in the same city. He told me this: "I spent an hour with Dr. Bushnell the day before he died. He then said to me, 'Doctor, I greatly fear some things I have said and written about the atonement may prove to be misleading and do irreparable harm.' He was lying upon his back with his hands clasped over his breast. He lay there with closed eyes, in silence, for some moments, his face indicating great anxiety. Directly, opening his eyes and raising his hands he said, 'O Lord Jesus, Thou knowest that I hope for mercy alone through Thy shed blood.'"

Principles of Successful Evangelism

Part 2

By L.W. Munhall

Third, Resurrection

"If Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain and your faith is also vain.... Ye are yet in your sins;" and "they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that are sleeping" (1 Corinthians 15:14-20). Jesus was "declared to be the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead" (Romans 1:4).

Therefore the apostles and disciples went everywhere preaching *"Jesus and the resurrection."* (See Acts 2:24-32; 3:15; 4:2,10,33; 5:30; 17:18, 32; 23:6; 24:15,21; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8; 1 Peter 1:3-5). *"He was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification" (Romans 4:25).*

"By the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities, and powers being made subject unto Him" (1 Peter 3:22).

"Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them" (Hebrews 7:25).

Fourth, Justification

"Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a

propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; to declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: that He might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus" (Romans 3:24,25,26).

"And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath He reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in His sight" (Colossians :21,22).

*"Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth" (Romans 8:33), or "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus; for the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death" (Romans 8:1,2). Believers are "not under the law, but under grace" (Romans 6:14) and can rejoicingly say, judicially, of course, *"As He is, so are we in this world"* (1 John 4:17).*

Fifth, Regeneration

The unchristian man is spiritually dead (Romans 5:12), and must be *"born again"*, or *"he cannot see the kingdom of God"* (John 3:3).

Richard Watson defined regeneration as *"That mighty change in man wrought by the Holy Spirit, by which the dominion which sin has over him in his natural*

state, and which he deplores and struggles against in his present state, is broken and abolished; so that with full choice of will and the energy of right affections, he serves God freely, and runs in the way of His commandments."

He who receives Jesus as Saviour and Lord, is made a *"partaker of the Divine nature"* (John 1:12,13; 2 Peter 1:4): *"He is a new creature [creation]: old things are passed away, behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).*

The Method

The following is the method: The words of the Gospel *"...are spirit, and they are life"* (John 6:63).

If the repenting sinner receives them into his heart and life to believe and obey them (James 1:21); the Holy Spirit operating through them accomplishes the new birth (James 1:18), and he will be *"born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever"* (1 Peter 1:23). Saved, *"By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; that being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life"* (Titus 3:4-7. See also John 1:12,13; Galatians 6:15; Ephesians 2:1-3; Colossians 2:13, etc.)

Sixth, Repentance

Repentance means a change of mind; and this change of mind is brought about by the Holy Spirit, through the knowledge of the sinner's condition, needs and peril, by which the sinner is convicted "...of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment" (John 16:8), and is induced to yield himself wholly, immediately and irrevocably to God. (See Matthew 9:13; Mark 6:12; Luke 13:2-5; 24:47; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30; 26:20; Romans 2:4; 2 Corinthians 7:9,10; 2 Timothy 2:25; 2 Peter 3:9).

Seventh, Conversion

Conversion means to turn about or upon. When the unsaved sinner is convinced of sin and resolves to turn from his transgressions and commit his ways unto the Lord, he has repented; and when he acts upon that resolve, and yields himself to God in absolute self surrender, he is converted. (See Psalm 19:7; 51:13; Matthew 18:3; Acts 3:19; James 5:19,20).

Eighth, Faith

Until the sinner changes his mind with regard to his relation to God, and resolves with all his heart to do it, his faith is a vain thing, he is yet in his sins; but, when he sincerely repents and turns to God, and believes the record God has given of His Son, his faith is of the heart and unto righteousness. (Romans 10:9,10. See also Hebrews 11:6; Romans 10:17; Galatians 5:22; Ephesians 2:8; Galatians 3:6-12; 2:16-20; Romans 4:13-16; 3:21-28; Acts 16:30,31; John 6:47).

Ninth, Obedience

Faith is a vital principle. "If it hath not works, is dead, being alone" (James 2:17,18).

Two things are required of the believer, immediately upon his profession of faith in Jesus as Saviour and Lord, namely, verbal confession and water baptism. "With the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:10. See also Psalm 107:2; Matthew 10:32,33; Romans 10:9; 1 John 4:15, etc.) "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (Mark 16:16).

The believer is not saved because he is baptized; but, baptized because he is saved. We are saved through faith alone, but not the faith that is alone, because "Faith without works is dead, being alone." Water baptism is a divinely ordained ordinance whereby the believer witnesses to the world that he died with Christ, and is risen together

with Him," an habitation of God through the Spirit. (See Matthew 28:19,20; Acts 2:38,41; 8:12,13,16,36,38; 9:18; 10:47,48; 16:15,33; 19:5; 22:15,16; Romans 6:3,4; Colossians 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21; 1 John 2:3; 3:22).

Tenth, Assurance

Salvation from spiritual death by the new birth, and from the guilt of sin in justification, immediately follows "repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ." "For by grace have ye been saved through faith" (Ephesians 2:8). "These things have I written unto you, that ye may know that ye have eternal life, even unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God" (1 John 5:13). It is here stated that certain things are in God's Word by which the believer is to know he has eternal life. Here are some of them: "He that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath eternal life, and cometh not into judgment, but hath passed out of death into life" (John 5:24).

"He that hath the Son hath the life."
"Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is begotten of God" (1 John 5:12,13. For confirmation see 1 John 2:3; 3:14,24; 4:20,21; etc.).

"And by Him every one that believeth is justified" (Acts 13:39) - an accomplished work. So the Bible uniformly teaches. Believing these words of assurance, one finds peace and joy. It is the business of the preacher to make this matter plain to converts, that they may be surely and safely anchored; and "...that their hearts may be comforted, they being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, that they may know the mystery of God, even Christ, in whom are all the treasures of knowledge hidden" (Colossians 2:2,3).

There are some other doctrines, of a persuading character, such as Love, Heaven, Hope, Rewards, that may be emphasized to advantage in an evangelistic campaign; but, those I have enumerated will most surely be owned of God in the salvation of souls, if proclaimed as they should be.

In going about among the churches as I do, I find three things increasingly true. First, Ministers and people in large numbers are awakening to the fact that the so-called "new theology" and up-to-date methods are utterly barren of spiritual results. Prof. A. H. Sayce once said, "Higher criticism saves no souls." Second, Because of this indisputable fact, very many are turning again to the doctrines of the historic faith, for it is seen that they are still

workable and produce results as in former times.

Third, Great numbers of ministers are seeing that their ministry is a failure unless it results in the salvation of souls. They really feel as did the late Henry Ward Beecher. While conducting an evangelistic campaign in Brooklyn Tabernacle I one day met Mr. Beecher. As he held my right hand in both of his, he said: "I hear you are having a great blessing in your meetings with Dr. Talmage. I very much wish we could have you for a campaign in Plymouth Church." He trembled as he held my hand. He then said, "But I fear my people would not stand for it." Then, after hesitating for a few minutes he added, "I would like to see an old-time Holy Ghost revival in Plymouth Church before I go hence."

He then broke down and cried as if his heart would break.... Three weeks later, to a day, his body was laid in the grave. Life and opportunity are ours. Men are dying, and the whole world lieth in the wicked one, lost in the ruin of sin. Redemption is an accomplished fact, and salvation is possible for all. We have been chosen to tell out the message of life and hope; and are assured of glorious success if faithful; if unfaithful we had better never been born.

Leander Whitcomb Munhall
(1843-1934)



L. W. Munhall was born in Zanesville, Ohio in 1843. The son of David Munhall and Abigail Rice Moore, Munhall was a Methodist evangelist. He married Mary Emily Thomas and had five children.

Munhall did a fair amount of moving: In 1850 he was still in Zanesville, but he was in Mill Creek Township, Ohio, by 1860; Indianapolis, Indiana, by 1880; and from 1910 to 1930 he was in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania until his death on January 7, 1934.

Recommended Resources



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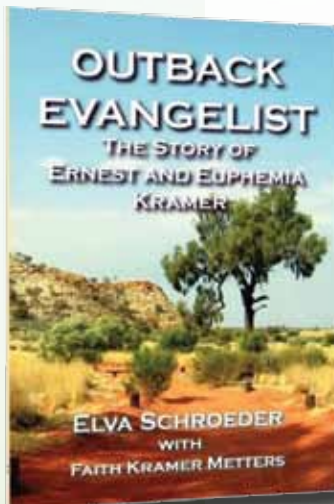
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|---|---------------------------|
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OUTBACK EVANGELIST

THE STORY OF ERNEST AND EUPHEMIA KRAMER

Ernest and Euphemia Kramer spent twenty-one years taking the Christian message and practical help to the Aborigines and settlers of Central Australia's harsh, forbidding outback. After ten years travelling the countryside in a flimsy cart drawn by horses or donkeys, they settled in Alice Springs.

For the next eleven years, Ernest spent six months of each year travelling the outback with two Aboriginal helpers, and a team of camels. Among his friends in Alice Springs were Dr John Flynn, Professors Ted Strehlow and John Cleland, Doctor Charles Duguid and Pastor Friedrich Albrecht.

In April 1977, the Kramer Memorial Church was erected in his honour in Parke Terrace, Alice Springs.

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EVANGELISM

Our Primary Task

By Ray Comfort

A lighthouse keeper gained a reputation of being a very kind man. He would give free fuel to ships that miscalculated the amount of fuel needed to reach their destination port. One night during a storm, lightning struck his lighthouse and put out the light. He immediately turned on his generator, but it soon ran out of fuel—and he had given his reserves to passing ships. During the dark night, a ship struck the rocks and many lives were lost.

At the lighthouse keeper's trial, the judge knew of his reputation as a kind man and wept as he passed sentence. He charged the lighthouse keeper with neglecting his primary responsibility: to keep the light shining.

The church can so often get caught up in legitimate acts of kindness—standing for political righteousness, feeding the hungry, etc.—but our primary task is to warn sinners of danger. We are to keep the light of the gospel shining so that sinners can avoid the jagged-edged rocks of wrath and escape being eternally damned.

Imagine seeing a group of fire fighters polishing their engine outside a burning building with people trapped at

a top floor window. Obviously, there is nothing wrong with cleaning a fire engine—but not while people are trapped in a burning building! Instead of ignoring their cries, the fire fighters should have an overwhelming sense of urgency to rescue them.

That's the spirit that should be behind the task of evangelism. Yet according to Bill Bright of Campus Crusade for Christ, "Only two percent of believers in America regularly share their faith in Christ with others." That means 98 percent of the professing Body of Christ is "lukewarm" when it comes to obeying the Great Commission.

Oswald J. Smith said, "Oh my friends, we are loaded down with countless church activities, while the real work of the Church, that of evangelizing and winning the lost, is almost entirely neglected." We have polished the engines of worship, prayer, and praise and neglected the sober task given to us by God. A fire fighter who ignores his responsibilities and allows people to perish in the flames is not a fire fighter; he is an impostor. How could we ignore our responsibility and allow the world to walk blindly into the fires of hell? If God's love dwells within us, we must warn the lost. The Bible tells

us to "*have compassion . . . save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh*" (Jude 22,23). If we don't have love and compassion, then we don't know God, we are impostors (see 1 John 4:8).

Charles Spurgeon said, "Have you no wish for others to be saved? Then you are not saved yourself. Be sure of that." Each of us should examine ourselves in light of these sobering thoughts (2 Corinthians 13:5) so that we won't be part of the great multitude who called Jesus "Lord," but refused to obey Him. It will be professing believers who will hear those fearful words, "*I never knew you: depart from me*" (Matthew 7:21–23).

A popular episode of the "Andy Griffith Show" is called "Man in a Hurry." It tells the story of a businessman who rushes through the quiet town of Mayberry. He is uptight and very hyper and finds the laid-back lifestyle of the locals to be extremely frustrating. However, in time he begins to enjoy the take-it-easy way of life. While it's a wonderful lesson on the importance of not rushing through life, the "man in a hurry" should be the Christian's hero. We are in a hurry. We should

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work while it is yet day with a sense of extreme urgency. We must preach the Word in season and out of season, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

Take to heart these words from Billy Sunday: "I believe that lack of efficient personal work is one of the failures of the Church today. The people of the Church are like squirrels in a cage. Lots of activity, but accomplishing nothing. It doesn't require a Christian life to sell oyster soup or run a bazaar or a rummage sale. Many churches report no new members on confession of faith. Why these meagre results with this tremendous expenditure of energy and money? Why are so few people coming into the Kingdom? I will tell you—there is not a definite effort put forth to persuade a definite person to receive a definite Saviour at a definite time, and that definite time is now."

May God give us a renewed sense of urgency and such love for sinners that we will be convicted by our conscience if we walk past any person without a deep concern for his salvation. May He also work in our hearts so that our prayers will be permeated with a cry for labourers, so that this world may be reached with the message of eternal salvation.

Source: School of Biblical Evangelism, Lesson 25. Used with permission.





Interruption Inconvenience divine

By Leah Knowling

Have you ever had one of those seasons, whether it be a holiday or a change, where so much happens in such a short time, that it would take months to share it all? Well, the last quarter of 2015 was one of those times for us as a family. Over the next couple of issues, we will be sharing various testimonies and lessons learned during this time.

As a family, we left Rockhampton in September to attend the Vision Minsitries conference in Alectown, NSW and then to spend the rest of the year in South Australia. Little did we know what the Lord would do during this time.

Often we look at circumstances and see them as a negative thing - an interruption, an inconvenience, a delay, even a tragedy. Whilst I do not want to belittle other

Interruptions, Inconveniences and Opportunities

people's circumstances and tragedies, if we look with different eyes, it can help us to see the bigger picture - God's purpose in that situation.

Now, sometimes, His purpose is revealed immediately, other times through hindsight. But rest assured, if we look with God's eyes, we will see God positioning us for divine opportunity and purpose, rather than merely an interruption or inconvenience. This was Jesus' example.

Hebrews 12:2 says, *"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God"*.

We are to look *"unto Jesus"* and follow His example. And what was His example in this passage? *"Who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross..."*. He didn't look at the circumstance (the cross), but looked beyond it, at what the cross would accomplish (our salvation). This should also be our attitude.

The day before we left, Tim busted his lip and broke a tooth whilst helping a friend fix our car for the trip - **an interruption**.

This required stitches and a tooth cap. However, whilst at the dentist, I was able to witness to the receptionist - **an opportunity** I would never have had otherwise.

The Vision Ministries conference was a wonderful time of sharing with the body of Christ and being refreshed (See our separate article). However, great opportunities for witnessing still abounded.

Before leaving Parkes, we needed to get some vehicle repairs. Because of a public holiday, we couldn't get it done till the Tuesday - **an inconvenience**. At the mechanics, I asked what time the bank opened, and was told 9am. It was 8.45am, so I told my family I would walk to the bank and meet them afterwards. On arriv-



ing at the bank, I found out that it didn't actually open till 9.30am - **another inconvenience**. I turned around and saw a lady sit down on a bench. I went and joined her and found out she, too, had been told the bank opened at 9am - aah, **an opportunity**.

It turned out that my husband and I had known her father. The Lord had orchestrated circumstances so I could have a half hour conversation, sharing the Gospel with a desperately lost lady. She didn't



- *God's perfect timing.* We bought some sausages and I gave them all Gospel tracts which they started reading out loud to each other. However, when I asked if they understood the message, they said they didn't. Thus ensued a wonderful time of explaining, and then re-explaining, the glorious message of the Gospel, until the light dawned, at least with some

The local Life FM radio station was the location of the next divine appointment. I went to use their comb binder because I had forgotten to bind a schoolbook - *an inconvenience.* I came out committed to doing some radio spots - *an opportunity.* In an interview, Tim shared his testimony - something he had never done in his hometown before then. He also went on to record a Christmas message that was played three times on Christmas Day.

have a Bible at that time, so I said I would send her one and she gave me her address.

But it doesn't end there. After doing my banking, I left and headed back towards my family and saw a lady and young girl get out of taxi and sit on a park bench. I went over to them and gave them a Gospel tract and was able to share the Gospel with her also. She, too, didn't have a Bible, so I said I could send her one too. *Turned out, she had the same address as the other lady.* Two separate encounters, with women who not only knew each other, but lived in the same place. Co-incidence? I think not. This most definitely had God's stamp on it.

of them. They also wanted Bibles, which I was able to get from a local Gideon's member and pass on to them.

As Christians, we know that God is in the business of reconciling and unity. Reconciling men to Himself (which He has given us the privilege and mandate to be a part of) and uniting the body of Christ. We saw both take place during this time, but none more obvious than the next major appointment which began that same day.

Tim read in the weekly newspaper that the local Lutheran Church was holding auditions the next day, for a Christmas musical they produce every couple of years.

I had done musical theatre in Rockhampton for a number of years, albeit 20 years prior, but I still sing on Worship teams and at functions. So, we prayed about it; I auditioned and got the role of the Angel Gabriel.

This one 'divine appointment' opened the door to many more - to sing in other places and share the Gospel with people I would never have met otherwise, including the editor

of the local paper who wrote the 'review', but somehow missed the point of the message. And what a wonderful opportunity to join with the body of Christ to collectively share the Gospel message at a time when people are most receptive. I also discovered that no matter where you are, if you find yourself amongst true Christian brothers and sisters, then you are amongst family. Certainly those that I had the privilege of working with on this production became like family.

My final example, of ordinary events that turn into extraordinary opportunities, happened during one lunch-time.



A lady from the local Salvation Army was organising a concert that Tim's father was to be involved in, and she had come to lunch to discuss it. Out of that conversation came an invitation for Tim and I to speak at their church service - which was a wonderful time of sharing what we do and encouraging the church in evangelism. We were also invited to distribute tracts and for me to sing at their concert. This led to a couple of great witnessing conversations with some of the other participants in the concert. Divine appointment indeed.

So, can I encourage you to look past the interruptions, the inconveniences, the delays, and the seemingly mundane things of life that we do everyday, and see the potential opportunities the Lord has for each situation. As with Queen Esther, you may be positioned in that situation for *"such a time as this"*.

"Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season...." 2 Timothy 4:2



These types of 'divine appointments' became the 'norm' over the next few months. Only a couple of days after arriving in South Australia, I had the privilege of sharing the Gospel - many times over - with nine young girls who were holding a Sausage Sizzle up the street. We were staying with Tim's family in Loxton, SA. My Father-in-law is a country/Gospel singer and regularly busks in the region. When we are in town, he usually asks me to sing a few songs. Well, we were singing right next to these girls, but I didn't get to talk to them then - *a delay*, I thought.

After doing some window shopping we came back and found they were just finishing and had plenty of time to talk



Soldiers of the Cross is a ministry begun by Tim Knowing, formerly of Loxton, and his wife Leah. Together they are involved in sharing the gospel, producing resources to equip others in evangelism and training people to share their faith. Tim and Leah are currently in the Riverland catching up with relatives and friends. We invited them to our studio where Tim was interviewed and shared his personal testimony of our coming to know Jesus and his call to ministry.

The interview will be aired on Wednesday 16th December at 9:15am. For other times keep an eye on our Facebook page.

Have you a testimony of the Lord that would bless others?

Vision Camp always refreshing



♦ Tim Knowingling

For more than 25 years, during the September school holidays, Vision Ministries has been holding their 'Old Fashioned Camp Meeting' on their property at Mamre Farm, Alectown, 20 minutes from Parkes, NSW.

My first introduction to the camp was in 2003, whilst part of a national tent evangelism ministry. For those who made up the team, the camp was a great time of refreshing where we could be imparted to by the speakers, as well as the camp fire group sessions which take place between mid-morning and lunch.

The camp draws people from not only every state in this nation (Australia), but also people from around the world. Each year you meet people attending for the first time, as well as others who have faithfully attended for over 20 years. It is always wonderful to catch up with brothers and sisters in the Lord on this once-a-year occasion and share what the Lord has been doing in and through our lives.

Each year the camp has a theme, which the camp speakers generally build upon. The camp fire group sessions are often a time of sharing, following on from the messages we may have just heard, and how that has ministered to each of us. I have found these times to be just as effective as, say, the meetings that take place in the main auditorium (the Bush Cathedral), as it allows a place for 'body ministry' - simply Christians ministering to one another. This often takes place by people sharing testimony or perhaps praying for one another. You will find people at the camp who have been a believer for fifty years or more, and someone who may have just started the walk of faith.

Within the main auditorium you will see a simple slogan above the main entrance as you are leaving, 'Go Forth'. And it is for this reason that I believe the camp has continued, and why we, at the ministry of SOTC who produce this magazine, attend and promote evangelism resources. The Church has been given a mandate (Matthew 28:19, Mark 16:15). So, when people leave camp each year, they leave having been imparted into, and encouraged to be Christ's witnesses in the towns and communities they come from.

The 'Old Fashioned Camp Meeting' will be held September 24 - 29, 2016 at Mamre Farm, Alectown. For more information, please email Bp Harry Westcott at harry.westcott@bigpond.com, or call 02 6865 3264.



OAC ministries

Outreach And Church Ministries

Good News in Good Ways

Regular readers of TEM will be very familiar with the work of Operation 513 in heading out onto the streets to share the Gospel. But, what you may not realise is that there are other ministries in Australia (and around the world) that do a very similar thing. In fact, the founder of Operation 513, Josh Williamson, now finds himself working with one of the oldest evangelistic ministries in this nation.

Josh Williamson has been active in evangelistic work for thirteen years. In that time he has established Operation 513 (and still serves with them as a board member); been a missionary to the UK; a Pastor and also preached the Gospel around the world. Now, since returning to Australia he has taken up the position of Queensland State Director and Evangelist of OAC Ministries (Australia).

History of OAC

OAC has a long and wonderful history. It started back in 1892, when Sydney Barrister, E.P. Field was converted. Mr. Field was known to be a brilliant orator and could argue well in the court. After coming to Christ he wanted to use these gifts for the advancement of the Gospel, so he decided to take to the streets of Sydney to preach in the open-air. Thus, OAC was born.

Originally, known as Open-Air Campaigners, the ministry rapidly grew and now they find themselves in 34 countries. Not much has changed since those early days. The Gospel is still being proclaimed in the open-air, in churches, in schools, in retirement homes, and basically anywhere that'll give the evangelist a hearing.



Meet Josh

Josh grew up in Australia in a Christian home, but never trusted in the Lord until he was sixteen. Since that time Josh has been passionate about reaching people with the Good News.

In 2005, God began to open up doors for Josh to begin international ministry, and since then the Lord has allowed Josh to minister in several countries. One of these ministry appointments involved packing up his family and moving from NSW to the United Kingdom. For two years, Josh and his family served there as 'by faith' missionaries. The original plan was that they would remain in the UK long-term, but God had other ideas. While living in Scotland, Josh's wife gave birth to their daughter. Sadly, this child was born with a rare bowel disease that needed surgery (which was successful). Due to ongoing care, it was decided that a return to Australia was needed. So, in June 2014, Josh and his family came home.

This was all in God's timing, because straight away he was able to start work with OAC Ministries.

Josh is married to Louise and they have two children, with a third on the way. As a family they desire to see Jesus lifted high and the Gospel spread.

The Work of the Ministry

As the state evangelist for OAC in Queensland, Josh often finds himself regularly out and about sharing the Gospel. In this line of work, there never seems to be an 'average week.' One week he may be in the outback, the next week conducting an open-air meeting in Brisbane. Then, he may be packing his bags for a trip interstate or overseas. Yet, despite all the different environments he finds himself in, the message is still the same; Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Josh's Needs

Since they are a 'by faith' ministry, Josh and OAC rely upon the Lord's provision, via the means of His people. If you would like to learn more about OAC, please visit their website: www.oac.org.au or email Josh at Josh.Williamson@oac.org.au

The biggest need for Josh and OAC is prayer. So, would you please pray for them? If you would like to stay updated with the work, then please subscribe to their free OAC Queensland newsletter.



Hitting the Target

Points for Open-Air Preaching

It is obvious from Scripture that God requires us not only to preach to sinners, but also to teach them. The servant of the Lord must be *“able to teach, patient, in meekness instructing”* those who oppose them (2 Timothy 2:24,25). For a long while I thought I was to leap among sinners, scatter the seed, then leave. But our responsibility goes further. We are to bring the sinner to a point of understanding his need before God. Psalm 25:8 says, *“Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.”* Psalm 51:13 adds, *“Then will I teach transgressors your ways; and sinners shall be converted to you.”* The Great Commission is to teach sinners: *“teach all nations ...teaching them to observe all things”* (Matthew 28:19,20). The disciples obeyed the command *“daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ”* (Acts 5:42, emphasis added).

The “good-soil” hearer is he who *“hears ...and understands”* (Matthew 13:23). Philip the evangelist saw fit to ask his potential convert, the Ethiopian, *“Do you understand what you are reading?”* Some preachers are like a loud gun that misses the target. It may sound effective, but if the bullet misses the target, the exercise is in vain. He may be the largest-lunged, chandelier-swinging, pulpit-pounding preacher this side of the Book of Acts. He may have great teaching on faith, and everyone he touches may fall over, but if the sinner leaves the meeting failing to understand his desperate need of God’s forgiveness,

then the preacher has failed. He has missed the target, which is the understanding of the sinner. This is why the Law of God must be used in preaching. It is a “school-master” to bring “the knowledge of sin.” It teaches and instructs. A sinner will come to *“know His will, and approve the things that are more excellent,”* if he is *“instructed out of the Law”* (Romans 2:18). See Acts 20:21 footnote.

Source: *The Evidence Bible.*
www.evidencebible.com



www.soldiersofthecross.com.au