

Call of Grace Ministries

Come unto Me. . . I will give you rest

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“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 6:23 (NKJV)

Crossover - Wednesday, June 5th

“Hi. My name is Dennis.”, I said as the man who answered the door took the Gospel tract I offered. “Those are my friends Candy and Michael.” I pointed to where they were standing (three people on a porch may keep someone from answering the door). “May I ask your name?” “I’m Ronald”, the man said. “Ronald, we’re working with Living Faith Baptist Church. They are having a BBQ this weekend and inviting the neighborhood to join them. They are also having a free dental clinic Saturday morning for anyone who might have need.”

Having established my right to be on his porch (I’m a missionary from a local church) as well as my reason for being there (the BBQ & clinic) I continued to talk with Ronald. As we talked, I began to interject questions, asking Ronald about his beliefs. Then I turned the key on our conversation: switching to matters of vital concern. “Ronald, from our conversation, I know you believe God exists and that there is a heaven and a hell. Where do you think you will end up when you die? Heaven or Hell?” Ronald said, “I’m sure I will be in heaven.” “Why are you sure?”, I asked. He responded, “Because I don’t sin anymore.”

I smiled and raised my finger. Ronald said, “Isn’t that right?” I told him, “Ronald, it’s good that you try not to sin. All of us should strive to sin less. But we still sin. Even a little white lie is still a lie. Or when you look at someone you find physically attractive that’s not you’re wife and your thoughts begin to stray toward things they shouldn’t, that’s sin too. Try as we might, we all sin, which leaves us guilty before God and destined for hell. However, let’s pretend for a moment that you could stop sinning from this point forward until you die. Ronald, you would still have sin in your past and be judged guilty.” Ronald was silent. However, his countenance changed as the Holy Spirit worked in his life.

“The Good News is that God loves you and made a way for you to be forgiven. This is why Jesus came”, I said. Ronald remained silent as I continued to talk, using Scripture to share the truths of the sinless life of Christ, and His death, burial, and resurrection. While explaining the necessity and reason for these things I continually asked him, “Does this make sense? Do you believe it?”. I continued by discussing repentance and faith. Finally, I asked Ronald, “Do you understand what we’ve talked about” “Yes”, he replied. “Do you believe it?” “Yes.” “Ronald, is there any reason you wouldn’t want to turn to God, seek forgiveness for your sins, and ask the Lord Jesus to come into your life and take charge of it: to be your Lord?”

Please pray for Ronald, your new Brother in Christ!

May and June have been busy! Last Monday I finally unpacked, as opposed to repacked, my suitcase. Below is a summary of each venue, however it does not include local ministry, which was ongoing at home.

Memphis in May (5/15-18) - This year it was a men-only event. 13 men came together to share the Gospel of our Lord in the Beale Street area. Some were new to the street, some were “old hands” I had served with before. The Gospel was shared through tracts, open-air proclamation of the word, and many one-on-one conversations. Over 7,000 tracts were distributed and we praise God for 2 souls who professed faith in the Lord Jesus!

500 Festival Outreach (Indy 500 5/23-26) – 5 of us came together to share Christ with the race crowd. Our days were spent downtown at the Memorial Service (Fri.) and the Festival 500 parade (Sat.). Friday night was rained out, so we took the opportunity for a fellowship meal. Saturday night was spent on Georgetown Road by the “Brickyard”, witnessing to the campers who came in for the race. Many conversations were had and well over 2,000 Gospel tracts were distributed.

Crossover Indianapolis (6/2-7) – Monday-Friday, Evangelist David Cobb (TN), a dear friend and mentor, and I worked with students from four of the Southern Baptist seminaries sharing the Gospel on the streets of Indianapolis. We served our Lord as missionaries, coming alongside multiple churches that had requested assistance ministering in their area, going door-to-door to invite those in the area to join our host church for worship (if they did not attend somewhere) as well as to any event(s) the church may be hosting. During this time, Gospel tracts are passed out and prayers are lifted with the people we meet for whatever need they may have. And the Gospel always shared with a call for decision at every opportunity. The results of this 5 days of obedience to the Lord’s command? 33 people came to Christ, an unknown number of Gospel tracts were distributed, and many were touched by the Lord through Gospel conversations and prayer in their presence.

On Saturday, Crossover continued albeit without the students as a team. I served with Bro. Tom Polak at the Metro Baptist Center. The Center provides food, clothing, and other necessities/aid to those in need. Myself and many others were there sharing Christ’s love and His Gospel.

Crossover is a missions event coordinated by the North American Mission board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Between the students and volunteers from 44 churches, 185 people professed Jesus as Lord in Indianapolis from June 3-12. Please be in prayer for all of them.

Hillman Ferry Outreach (6/13-16) – Cindy and I served as volunteer Chaplains at Hillman Ferry campgrounds in KY through Land Between the Lakes Area Ministries (LBLM). While we were there, we enjoyed some of the activities in the campgrounds and surrounding area. Saturday, we visited with campers in all areas of the campgrounds, inviting them to Sunday worship, passing tracts, and sharing the Gospel. Then on Sunday, we coordinated the worship service where I shared the message. Throughout our time there, we also stand ready to minister on a more personal level if the need arises. Does this sound like your cup of tea? LBLM is always looking for volunteers as they serve multiple campgrounds. If you would like to know more, contact Terry Mathis at (618) 559-3717.

Tomorrow, Cindy and I will be packing again as we prepare to take a load of clothing to New Orleans to aid in ministering to their homeless. We will head East from NOLA for a couple of days respite on the beach before we head North. On our way home we will stop in Gatlinburg: both for fellowship with friends and to share Christ with the crowd at the 4th of July parade.

I want to thank:

- **Leawood Baptist Church** for allowing us to use their facilities while in Memphis. The facilities are wonderful and available to those who may come to Memphis on mission. Brothers and Sisters, the love you share with us as we are in your house lets me know that I have a “home” when in Memphis. I am truly grateful for you.
- **Bro. Tom Polak** for providing a mission house for both the 500 Festival outreach and Crossover. As well, I wish to thank Tom for inviting me to serve our Lord at the Metro Baptist Center on Saturday. It was a blessing to serve with all who were there.
- **The professors** for allowing David and I to come alongside your students. This is truly one of my favorite opportunities to serve the Lord. I am so grateful to Him for providing it through you! I know evangelism is the focus of this mission; however, for me it is much more. It is a season of encouragement (both ways) and of fellowship, with men and women who seek to honor their Lord by answering His call. Their passion and excitement in serving the Lord is a blessing to see! Thank you, Dr. Nix, for extending the invitation to join in the Lord’s work with the students. Professors, may the Lord bless you and continue to use you in the molding of His servants of the Church!
- **The Brothers and Sisters of LBLM** for the opportunity to minister in the campgrounds. Thank you also for the camper you provide and maintain for those called to serve there. Cindy and I are extremely thankful for the blessings the Lord provides through you!
- **Everyone who donated** to our Ministry to a Ministry campaign. Thanks to you, we have more than a van load of clothing and have been able to purchase large amounts of hygiene supplies for this ministry to the homeless in New Orleans. May you know the blessing you are as you give in His Name!

Lately, we have had multiple requests from various people and ministries overseas. One such request came from Brother Francis of Going Home Africa Ministries. His request? “Please allow your ‘Jesus Loves You’ tract to be translated into the Chichewa language for free distribution in Malawi. Brother Francis and I worked to ensure the translation was the best we could make it. The tract has now been printed and is awaiting shipment to Malawi. I have included the English version below. Please join us in prayer for Holy Spirit conviction leading to the repentance and salvation of those who receive one of these Gospel “seeds”.



Jesus Loves You

I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I will continue my faithfulness to you.

Jeremiah 31:3 (ESV)

Before time began God, the Sovereign Creator of all that is or will ever be, knew that you would exist and He would love you. And when, in God's Purpose and Plan, the time came for you to exist, He created you in His image: unique among His creations.

He created you with the ability to know right from wrong, that you might choose to do right. God's desire when He created you was that you would freely choose to love Him and be in a special relationship with Him: displaying your love by being obedient to His commands. ¹ You haven't done this. You, like all of us, have chosen to sin, to disobey God's commands, severing your relationship with Him and placing yourself under His judgment. In judgment there is no hope.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. . . The wages of sin is death ²

You have sinned against the Sovereign God. You will face judgment.³ And you will be found guilty because you are. No amount of right (good) actions on your part can remove your guilt for the wrong things you have done; justice demands that the judge consider only the laws you have broken. The verdict? Guilty. The sentence? Spiritual death: complete separation from God and His blessings for eternity in Hell, a place of punishment without ceasing, with no hope of restoration. Your mind cries out against this but in your heart, you know this is true and deserved.

But God, in love, has continued His faithfulness to you. He has provided the way for you to receive mercy rather than justice, replacing hopelessness with hope. The way? Jesus Christ. Jesus, God in the form of man, came to this earth and lived as a man. Tempted, He freely chose not to sin and became the sinless sacrifice for our sins. Dying on a cross, Jesus satisfied God's justice, making forgiveness for sin available to you. Buried three days then rising from the dead, Jesus provides hope for an eternity with God in heaven.

For the wages of sin is death but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. ⁴

God's forgiveness, resulting in mercy, a new relationship with God, and hope for eternity, is available to you today. Do you believe that Jesus died for your sin, was buried, then rose from the dead? Are you willing to ask God for forgiveness for your sins?

Will you commit to turn from living your way to living as God would have you live? Will you receive Jesus, the Lord of Creation, as the Lord, the Boss, of your life? If so, tell Jesus in prayer:

Lord Jesus,

I confess that I am a sinner. I believe that you died for my sins that I might receive forgiveness. I believe that you rose from the dead to give me hope. I ask You to forgive me as I turn from living life my way to living life your way. I want you to be the Lord of my life. I ask you to come into my life and my heart, taking charge of my life. Thank you for loving me. Thank you for saving me.

Amen

With regard to the other overseas requests: some have been for media, some for online teaching. We ask for your prayers as we seek the Lord's guidance in how best to address each request.

We also request your prayers for the following:

- Be in prayer for all the saints. (Eph 6:18).
- Pray the Lord will heal our land (2 Chron 7:14).
- Pray for the peace of Israel.
- Pray for our nation's leaders at every level.
- Pray for godly leaders to rise up from the next election.
- We ask that you pray for the ongoing ministry of Call of Grace

Is there something we can pray for you? If so please let us know.

¹ John 14:15

² Romans 3:23, 6:23a (ESV)

³ Hebrews 9:27

⁴ Romans 6:23 (ESV)

Thank you for your prayers and support. We are truly grateful you are a part of this ministry to the Lord. If He calls you to go on mission with us, wherever we go, or to help support a mission or any part of our ministry, please let us know. As well, if you or your church believe we could be of service as you reach out, whether it is to your community or the ends of the earth, please contact us.

Until Jesus comes,

Dennis & Cindy

~Cindy's Bottom Line~

“God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.”

1Peter 4:10 (NLT)

Call of Grace Ministries is a 501(c)3 ministry and your contributions are tax deductible. All donations to Call of Grace are used for ministry expenses. We go as God provides and your support of this ministry is a blessing to us as we move forward in the Lord's call.