

MISSIONS IN THE MALL

The children were delighted to be handed colourful balloons and many people were plainly grateful for the Gospel literature we were handing out. There was much interest in our Spiritual Well-Being Survey, which took shoppers through The Way of the Master and Evangelism Explosion questions to confront them with the Law of God and the reality of eternity.

Bible Distribution

On our display tables, we had a pile of New Testaments with a large sign offering a free gift of a New Testament to anyone who completed the Spiritual Well-Being Survey.

Where Do People Go When They Die?

To the question: Where do people go when they die? The vast majority said Heaven. Less than half mentioned hell and about a quarter said they did not know.

What is God Like?

To the question: What do you think God is like? Many mentioned the attributes of God as: good, righteous, kind, loving, caring, Holy and angry against sin. Many also mentioned God as Father. Others that God is Love, and God is Spirit. A few said that they did not know.

If You Could Ask God for One Thing What Would That Be?

When we asked them: "If you could ask God for one thing what would it be?" more than a quarter said salvation and forgiveness. A few mentioned: that we would be one. Others said happiness and peace, to know His will, and for health and wisdom.

Should God Punish?

Should God punish murderers and rapists? And if so how? Most responded with: Yes, they should burn in hell. Almost a quarter: No, if they repent.

What Does a Person Have To Do to Go to Heaven?

What do you think a person has to do to go to Heaven? A third said: Be Born Again/Saved. Half said that we should live righteously, be good and obey God's Commands. A few responded that we should trust in Christ who died for our sins.

Are You a Good Person?

Most responded to our question: "Do you consider yourself a good person?" with a definite "Yes!" Several added that they were "very good" people. Less than half admitted that they were not good people.

How Many of The Ten Commandments Do You Remember?

To the question: How many of The Ten Commandments can you name? A quarter could name all, half could name six or less. A few could only name some. One couldn't name any.

Have You Always Obeyed The Ten Commandments?

When we asked: Do you think you have kept The Ten Commandments? Three quarters admitted, No. A quarter believed that they had. When we probed further and asked them directly if they had ever lied, stolen, taken God's Name in vain, hated someone, or committed adultery in their heart, three quarters admitted that if God was to judge them by The Ten Commandments they would be guilty on Judgment Day.

If You Were to Die Today – Where Would You Go?

When we asked: Where would you go if you died tonight? More than half thought Heaven. Three admitted that they would go straight to hell. More than a third did not know.

Do You Believe that Hell is Real?

The overwhelming majority of those questioned believed in the reality of hell. Most were definitely interested to know if there was a way to avoid death.

Do You Believe What the Bible Teaches About Eternal Life?

Almost everyone agreed that what the Bible teaches about everlasting life is true.

Who Do You Think Jesus Is?

To the question: Who do you think Jesus is? The vast majority answered the Son of God and Saviour. A few said that he was a good person.

What is Stopping You from Surrendering to Christ?

When it came to the last question: What is stopping you from asking for forgiveness and being converted right now? the majority said: Nothing at all, and were eager to receive a New

Testament and further guidance on how they could be right with God. More than a third said that they were already converted.

Sowing Gospel Seed

Many thousands of Gospel leaflets and Scripture booklets were distributed to shoppers in the biggest shopping centre in Cape Town, Canal Walk, at Somerset Mall in Somerset West and at a shopping centre at Khayelitsha. Boxes of World Missionary Press Gospel booklets in Xhosa were distributed, along with boxes of Frontline Fellowship and Africa Christian tracts. Many thousands of balloons with Scripture messages were distributed throughout Cape Town and at other shopping centres around the country.

Evangelistic Opportunities

The literature distribution went fast and furiously, particularly in Khayelitsha, where there was much interest. Many people stopped to read the leaflets there and then in the shopping centres. Within a few hours, the team at Khayelitsha ran out of balloons and Gospel literature. Many meaningful conversations developed and the Gospel seed was sown in much fertile soil. Evangelistic discussions ensued with Muslims, people with a Mormon background, backsliders, secular humanists and some involved in the occult.

Fifteen Years of Mall Missions

This was the fifteenth year that Frontline Fellowship has participated in Africa Christian Action (ACA) outreaches on National Women's Day. Since 1995, ACA has mobilised Christian Action Groups throughout the country to use this public holiday as an opportunity for outreaches in shopping centres throughout the country. Tens of thousands of leaflets and Gospel tracts were printed and four thousand balloons with Scriptures and pro-family messages were produced for the event. Approximately one hundred volunteers took part in various outreaches around the country. The outreaches at Somerset Mall lasted eight hours and at Canal Walk for almost twelve hours. There was great interest and many positive responses to our literature tables and displays from passers-by. Some of the people that we spoke to mentioned how much they appreciated the *Christian Action* Magazine and the articles in JOY! Magazine. Many were regular listeners of the ACA *Salt and Light* radio programme on Radio Tygerberg every Tuesday night.

Balloon Evangelism

Soon the shopping centres were filled with children carrying balloons which declared: *A woman who fears the Lord shall be praised; A family that prays together stays together; The Bible is*

the Greatest Book ever written; Read the Bible every day; Say No to porn; Whom the Son sets free is free indeed and similar messages in other languages. It is very hard, even for an irate atheist adult, to take a balloon away from a child!

Being Salt and Light

After a full day of outreach, many conversations, discussions, witnessing and counselling opportunities, many of the volunteers had aching legs and swirling heads. All of us who took part in these outreaches rejoiced at the privilege of sowing Gospel seed and taking a stand in busy shopping centres, being salt and light in our communities. It was encouraging to receive many positive and enthusiastic responses from Christians who passed by.

"Wisdom calls aloud outside; she raises her voice in open squares. She cries out in chief concourses, at the openings of the gates in the city she speaks her word."

Proverbs 1:20-21

Thank You

Thank you very much to each one of you who had a part in organising, sponsoring, praying for, or conducting these outreaches. Let us continue to pray that the Lord will mercifully and graciously work in the hearts and lives of each one that has been touched through the literature distribution, witnessing, conversations and counseling, and through the simple Scriptures and pro-family messages on the balloons.

You Can Start an Action Group

Should you be interested in starting, or joining, an Action Group, or Reformation Society in your area, please contact Africa Christian Action, request a copy of the new, revised **Christian Action Starter Pack** (info@christianaction.org.za) and ask for the: **How to Start a Reformation Society in Your Area**, article.

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled by men. You are the light of the world ... in the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven." Mathew

5:13-16

Resources Available

Many of our tracts, articles, questionnaires, surveys and posters are also available for free downloading online: www.christianaction.org.za; www.livingstonefellowship.co.za and www.ReformationSA.org

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