



Arise & Shine Evangelistic Association

Working to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ since 1985

Wood Family
News



September
2019

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto Salvation to every one that believes (Romans 1:16).

Back in Cape Town: It's good to be back out preaching the **Gospel** anywhere and everywhere we can find people to listen and it's not hard to find people here. The other day we headed to a nearby area with the PA on the top of the car. Sometimes we just drive through the crowded areas and preach from the car. The road we normally use to enter the township was blocked by local "taxi" (minibus vehicles used for public transportation). Taxi association are very territorial and "taxi-wars" are common. They are also often the source of vigilante justice in an area. We found out that a young girl died after being hit by a stray bullet while playing and the search was on for the shooter. We turned around to head to another road that would lead us into the area from the back. There we saw a gathering of policemen due to a different situation. Violence and death is all too common in these areas. The government has brought in the army to help. We are bringing in the **Good News of JESUS CHRIST...heeeeyyyyy!!!**

Looking back...34 years ago **GOD** spoke and said to go to the mission field — go and be missionaries, commissioned by our **LORD JESUS CHRIST** to go and talk about **HIM** everywhere we went with boldness and without shame. It's been an eventful life! The other day I was thinking back on some of our experiences and remembered...

The Jew I met in China: It was our very first year as missionaries, and we were in China, staying in a backpackers hostel (commonly called "a dump"). I walked into a room where many were sitting around talking. I was commissioned to go and talk about **JESUS** everywhere I went, so that is what I did. "Excuse me, would anyone here like to hear about **CHRIST?**" Most of them were Europeans and by their responses you would have thought I had a hand-grenade in my hand and had pulled the pin. Everyone of them declared war on me at that second, but when all the yelling and shouting calmed down, I determined that I would not let them get away with saying the things about **JESUS** they were saying. I began to tell them that **JESUS** is the answer to every problem. The shouting started up again so I began to preach louder over their vile comments. At this point, an older gentleman walked in like something you would see in a cowboy movie right before a saloon brawl breaks out. He wore a long, black, trench coat that went down to his knees. He also had on a nice black hat with a small brim around it, and he was smoking a cigar. I was still preaching when he approached and said, "Excuse me." I stopped and all eyes began watching him. He took another puff from his cigar, taking his time before he began to speak, "I know something about God, I am a Jew." He continued to speak about the God of Israel, puffing on the cigar and after every puff he would stop and look at it. When he finished talking, he approached me, stared at me, took a puff of his cigar, and stared some more. Then he spoke, "If you will give me 30 minutes, I can change your life, lets walk for a while and just talk."



Good to be back on the streets of Cape Town talking about JESUS and wearing my newest wardrobe addition — sparkling gold shoes that I found on sale for \$19.99...heeeeyyyy!!!



I followed him out into the cold weather. He began by telling me that he had never seen one man take on so many hostile people at one time and he was very impressed. As we walked and talked, he handed me his business card which indicated he owned five corporations. I asked him with a smirk on my face, "If you own five corporations, what are you doing staying in this dump?" He looked at me, took another puff of his cigar, and replied, "Dirk, you should know the answer to that, I am a Jew!" After an hour of talking, he said, "Dirk, listen for 30 seconds now to something you will never forget and that will change your life forever." He lifted the cigar, stared down at it, took a puff, calmly and dynamically blew out the smoke and said, "I heard you when you started, and I listened and decided you were amazing and I would back you up, but...your mistake was (puff from cigar)...you did not introduce yourself." With a very serious face he said, "From now on, introduce yourself, then ask people where they are from and after about two minutes," he paused in that same style, lifted his cigar, and stared at it. Then he put the cigar in his left hand, made a fist with his right hand, bent his legs down and started shaking that fist back and forth shouting, "THEN GIVE THEM DIIRRRKKK!!!" I have lost that business card and never saw him again, but he is forever planted in my memory. I have taken his advice, but now after the first two minutes, my goal is to **GIVE THEM JESUS...heeeeyyyy!!!**

International House of Pancakes: We were travelling in the States from March through July and one morning while there, Abigail asked me to take her to IHOP for breakfast. It was a great meal and I noticed how everyone was really enjoying their pancakes and enjoying conversation with those at their tables. We finished and paid the bill, but I decided that I wanted to bring **JESUS** into the atmosphere and the minds of the people. We got up to leave and I thought that was the best time to do it, so I stopped, turned around, and spoke loudly enough for everyone to hear. "Good morning my fellow Americans, may **GOD** bless you and cause **HIS** face to shine upon you, and meet every need you have in the **Name of JESUS!**" I heard a few "Amens," and then I was surprised when almost everyone in the place began clapping. They not only love pancakes, they love **JESUS...heeeeyyyy!!!**

The Mexican Restaurant: After finishing a great meal, we got up to leave and I noticed there were a lot of young men sitting at a bar. I decided I needed to minister to these people and had an idea I knew what would work. I walked up and sat on one of the stools and said, "Excuse me, my name is Dirk Wood and I am a Gospel preacher," (guess I have taken that Jew's advice). I pulled out a \$20 bill and said, "I will give this \$20 to anyone who can tell me how I do what I am about to do." I was planning to show one of my magic tricks. I'm not a magician but use tricks to expose deception. A young man at the bar said, "I will, I really need that \$20 bad." I told him it was his if he could reveal how I did what I was about to do. I asked, "Do you think I can eat this restaurant napkin and then bring up a restaurant straw?" Everyone around began to watch and listen. I did the trick that involves hiding a small paper coil in a napkin, stuffing it in my mouth and then pulling out what looks like a straw that goes on for about 20 yards. Everyone was amazed and I took several minutes to share the **Good News of JESUS CHRIST**. Did he get the \$20? Yes, he did, and then proceeded to ask if I had another trick so he could win another \$20! We got up to leave when a waitress came up and said, "I just want to thank you for that because it was really an encouragement to me." That's why the **GOSPEL** is called **GOOD NEWS...heeeeyyyy!!!**



We've just walked through a very difficult time with the tragic and unexpected death of a close friend to the church and to me personally. We held a memorial service in our building this week and there were approximately 150 people attending and they all got to hear about the **Good News of JESUS CHRIST... heeeeyyyy!!**

With love and appreciation,

Dirk and Elizabeth Wood

Degree Awarded:	BS in Nursing (BSN)	Degree Date:	Aug 09, 2019
Institutional Honors:	Magna Cum Laude		

Abigail has finished college! Hallelujah and thank YOU JESUS!



Tax-Deductible Contributions may be designated: Dirk Wood or ASEA (for Projects)
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