

Tacoma Chapter



P.O. Box 5334 / 2034 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., #1  
Tacoma, WA 98415  
(253) 627-6537

## Newsletter

August-September 2004

**Monthly Meeting** – Come and join us each month on the third Monday at the home of Ron & Mindy Gretty, 5512 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Ct. E in Tacoma. *Here are directions:* You will need to get on Waller Road. From the Puyallup tribal center near I-5 take Pioneer Way southeast then turn south on Waller Road. From I-5 in central Tacoma take 72<sup>nd</sup> Street east, then turn north on Waller Road. Go to 57<sup>th</sup> Street and turn east. Travel a few blocks and turn left (north) on 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Go to the end of the street and take the driveway straight ahead.

Next meetings: September 20<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m. and October 18<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.

## Adversity In Manti, UT Makes Our Mission More Interesting

*By Mark Champneys*

As I reported in the last issue, our mission trip to Manti, Utah was awesome. We had a number of Mormons make professions of faith as they received salvation. Many others heard the gospel of grace and were left with tracts. But being a Christian missionary on the streets of Manti is not always the most comfortable thing to do. Fortunately, because of the approach that we use at Saints Alive (focussing on the forgiveness of sins rather than on proving Mormons wrong) the people we train tend to have fewer confrontations than most.

However, it is important for us to remember that every Mormon is different, and God uses a wide variety of approaches to reach a wide variety of people with the gospel. In Manti we join with many other Christian missionaries from other parts of the country and other ministries. Some use more confrontational methods, and are able to win Mormons to Christ that I could never reach. So I support anyone with the boldness to share their faith, so long as they are seeking the Lord and the counsel of scripture as they witness.

One ex-Mormon lady named Trish who is now a Manti missionary commented, "I was

a hard-core Mormon. I wouldn't listen to anyone who talked to me about Mormonism until one day a Christian got in my face and said, 'you are worshipping a false god and you are going to fry like bacon!' I was so angry, but I couldn't ignore him. I set out to prove him wrong, and ended up becoming a Christian." Now Trish is a strong defender of Rob Silvulka who witnesses to Mormons in Manti, and also at Temple Square all year around using a confrontational approach to begin witnessing conversations. Despite his aggressive style, Rob has a deep love for Mormon people, and is very able to calmly and lovingly witness to these "hard-core" Mormons once he has their attention.

In Manti, Rob and his associates carry large signs saying, "mormoninfo.org". He sometimes walks along the fence at the Manti temple calling out to the Mormons seated inside for the pageant that they are worshipping a false god. (Of course, this is prior to the pageant, not during it. Everything Rob does is completely lawful, and he never disrupts the LDS pageant.) Occasionally an angry Mormon will come out to talk to him, and thus begins another witnessing conversation. Admittedly, most Mormons will not respond to such tactics, but there are certain ones who will not respond to any other tactic. These are those special people that Rob is able to reach with the gospel.

The risk is that there are some unbalanced Mormons that are pushed over the edge by their own anger. This past June, Rob was the target of two different assaults by Mormons. In one case, I happened to be present when a couple of angry Mormons assaulted two of Rob's associates, shoving them to the ground in an attempt to destroy their camera. They suffered minor injuries, but it could have easily been worse. The police came and detained these LDS men, but did not make any immediate arrests.

In a second incident, a Mormon named Ray Keller got in a vehicle and attempted to run over Rob Silvulka and Marshall Almarode on the street because he was angry at their witnessing. Because such an intentional act is so dangerous, charges were pressed against this man. However, we have recently learned that the Utah prosecutor is unwilling to bring the case to trial against the Mormon unless he also charges Rob and Marshall with "disorderly conduct." Apparently free speech in Utah is called disorderly conduct by Mormon prosecutors. Obviously the prosecutor would rather let a violent man off, despite committing vehicular assault, simply because he is LDS. If you would like to protest this action, we urge you to contact the prosecutor:

**Marvin D. Bagley**  
Piute County Attorney  
180 N. 100 E. - Suite F  
Richfield, Utah 84701  
(435) 896-9090  
Fax: (435) 896-9089

[bagleylaw@scinternet.net](mailto:bagleylaw@scinternet.net)

We want to be forgiving in this matter, yet the safety of Christians in Manti in the future is at risk if nothing is done. So we feel the issue must be pressed.

## Saints Alive Ministry Faces Uphill Road

This ministry has some remarkable results amid a difficult mission field. We are an all-volunteer group on a shoe-string budget, but we serve the King of kings and Lord of lords, and He does great things! At this point we are looking to see what He will do next as we face financial and other needs.

Recently we were informed that our long-time rental of office space on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Tacoma (at a very reasonable cost) will be coming to an end. It seems that our landlord has sold the property, the building likely to be torn down. So we will need to move very soon. Our office houses a substantial library of books and other resource materials on Mormonism and other cults. So we will be needing some kind of facility to house that library. If you know of storage or office space in the Tacoma area that someone would like to donate or offer to us at a low rent, please contact Rich at 253-627-6537.

## Prayer Requests

Prayer is the single most important thing we can do to bring our loved ones out of the cults and to the real Jesus. We would like to give you the names of some for whom prayer has been requested in recent months.

Please pray for James, Matt, Anthony, Brianna, Skylar, and Michel, none of whom are saved. Also for a reader's daughter, Kristina, and son, John, along with his wife Veronica, that their eyes may be opened. We have also received prayer requests regarding Christian missionaries to the countries of Nepal and Bihar north of India. In Nepal, a missionary named Besh has been kidnapped by Maoist extremists. Another missionary is now searching for him. This strikes close to home, since Mark's son Josh (a Manti veteran) was a missionary in Nepal just a year ago. In Bihar, three missionaries, including a pastor have been abducted as well. Please pray for these missionaries and also regarding the political instability that exists in that desperately poor region of the world.