SURREMDER!

In 1944, Lt. Hiroo Onoda was sent by the Japanese Army to the remote Philippino island of Lubang. His mission was to conduct guerrilla warfare during World War II. Unfortunately, he was never officially told the war had ended. So for 29 years, Onoda continued to live in the jungle, ready for when his country would again need his services and information.

By Tim Knowling

noda was 20 years old when he was called up to join the army. In the Japanese army, he was trained as an officer and was then chosen to be trained at an Imperial Army intelligence school.

On December 17, 1944, Lt. Hiroo Onoda left for the Philippines. Here, Onoda was given orders to lead the Lubang Garrison in guerrilla warfare. The Division Commander ordered him:

leaflet which claimed that the war was over but this he thought must have been part of the Allied propaganda to trick them into surrendering.

Over the ensuing years leaflet after leaflet was dropped, even Newspapers were left. Photographs and letters from relatives were dropped and some even spoke out over loudspeakers. Filled with suspicion Onoda and his friends couldn't believe that ing. It took some time for the news to sink the war had really ended. The men continued to hide, but eventually one by one,

> Onoda's friends where either killed or surrendered. In October 1972, at the age of 51 and after 27 years of hiding, Kozuka, Onoda's last comrade was killed dur-

ing a clash with a Filipino patrol.

Onoda was now on his own. Remembering the Division Commander's order, he could not kill himself, yet he no longer had a single soldier to command. Onoda continued to hide.

In 1974, a college dropout named Norio Suzuki decided to travel to the Philippines. as well as a few other countries on his way. He told his friends he wanted to search for Lt. Onoda. Where others had failed, Suzuki succeeded. He found Lt. Onoda and tried to convince him that the war was over. Onoda explained that he would only surrender if his commander ordered him to do so.

Suzuki travelled back to Japan and found Onoda's former commander, Major Taniguchi, who had become a bookseller. On March 9, 1974, Suzuki and Taniguchi met Onoda at a pre-appointed place and Major Taniguchi read the orders that stated all combat activity was to be ceased. Onoda was shocked and, at first, disbeliev-

"We really lost the war! How could they have been so sloppy?"

Gradually the realization sunk in that his 29 year war had come to an end.

For those who have been following the articles in previous issues, particularly those relating to the importance of character, I felt that there were some important spiritual truths that we could learn from

(Continued on page 7)

66 He would only surrender if his commander ordered him to do so."

"You are absolutely forbidden to die by your own hand. It may take three years, it may take five, but whatever happens, we'll come back for you. Until then, so long as you have one soldier, you are to continue to lead him. You may have to live on coconuts. If that's the case, live on coconuts! Under no circumstances are you to give up your life voluntarily."

Onoda took these words more literally and seriously than the division commander could ever have meant them. After the Allied invasion Onoda and three others retreated to the interior of the Island where for the next twenty nine years they continued to fight in skirmishes using guerrilla tactics.

Nine months after the invasion he saw a

In this Issue...

| The Commission | 2 |
|----------------------------|---|
| Evangelism Resources | 3 |
| Christ and the Two Thieves | 4 |
| Warning System Failure | 6 |
| On the Street | 8 |



HOW TO GET ON FIRE FOR GOD By Ray Comfort

> See Page 3 for a review of this excellent message

If you would like to receive a free copy of this CD,

please write to us at PO Box 5353, Central QLD M.C. 4702 or email us at contact@soldiersofthecross.com.au

elcome to Issue No. 3 of Soldiers of the cross. We are excited to be able to report to our readers where we have been over the last half of 2009 and where we are head-

Since our last issue of Soldiers of the Cross we have been rather busy with children, travelling, and continuing to grow this ministry from what started as a seed—a mustard seed you could say. In fact, our Lord said that if we had faith the size of just a little mustard seed then we could move mountains.

Indeed it has been the faith of other men and women of God who have gone before us that continues to inspire us in our endeavours for Him.

When the topic of faith or more specifically, living by faith, comes to mind there is one name that I think of; George Muller, of Bristol England. He proved the Lord faithful over many years in establishing the orphan houses that accommodated 2050 children. In his preaching and writing George Muller encouraged Christians everywhere that they too can access the same Throne room of grace that he did.

As I write I am sitting in front of a new laptop computer which the Lord provided as an answer to prayer. We have found the Lord faithful in providing for both our small and large needs.

Last issue I reported how we had been helping the Promise Faith Centre Church in Tweed Heads — a wonderful community of believers that has a missions call, with annual trips to Africa.

Last September we made the journey south to Alectown in NSW for Vision Ministries' 'Old-Fashioned Camp Meeting', which is held at Mamre Farm every year. It was twenty years ago that Harry (who is the presiding Bishop of ICCC in Australia) and Doreen Westcott started the camps on their property at Alectown. It has since grown, drawing people from all corners of

this country as well as overseas. Many people make the journey each year, simply because they enjoy the fellowship of the community of believers.

For us personally it was also a blessed time of meeting old friends as well as creating new

ones. Time was also spent with Bishop Harry and other ministries who come under the covering of the ICCC (International Communion of Charismatic Churches) where we were each able to share our ministry's vision as well as pray for one another.

After the camp was over we travelled on to South Australia to spend some time with family in Loxton in the Riverland. Whilst there we were also able to meet with church family and share about the 'Soldiers of the Cross' and where we believed the Lord was directing us.

We also attended a cousin's wedding in Adelaide, and this gave us the opportunity to visit a lovely Christian community in the southern suburbs.

We made the journey back north in mid-November and returned to Tweed Heads for a couple of weeks before that we have received from 'The Way of travelling to Rockhampton for the Christmas Holiday season.

Tim & Leah with Samuel & Rebekah

We know that this is a wonderful grace the Master' which will help in reaching more people with the Gospel.

The * Gommissia | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985 | 1985

I can report that since our last issue our website is under construction which will

also have an online store attached to it.

We have always felt that one of the key roles of SOTC is to be able to provide resources to Churches and individuals that would better equip and encourage them in the work of evangelism. An exciting side to this is that SOTC has been granted permission by 'Living Waters', (the resources arm of 'The Way of

the Master') to reproduce any of their audio messages in CD format. This is a huge blessing, as the

freight costs from the USA can be quite expensive. You will notice a catalogue in this issue with some of the message titles that we are currently offer-

ing. We have been able to produce these to quite a good standard of quality, as

well as make them availa-

ble at a reasonable price.

By Tim Knowling For those who have been following our

newsletter since Issue 1, you probably would have noticed the improvements that we have been making in each succes-



sive issue. Our ultimate vision is to come to a place where this publication will develop more into a magazine, rather than remain in a newsletter format.

We believe it is important to not only keep people informed about what we are doing but to also publish articles that will encourage, as well as challenge us all to fulfil the 'Great Commission'.

Until next issue....

EVANGEISM FRAIMING

ver the years, we have seen, heard of, and used many different 'methods' of presenting the Gospel. In today's churches, some don't even mention sin, righteousness or impending judgement. Unless we see ourselves as having sinned and offended God, then we won't see our need for a Saviour. Evangelism, as seen in the Scriptures, testifies to this.

At Soldiers of the Cross we have found the teaching from 'The Way Of The Master', rather than being a new method, is a return to Biblical evangelism. This 'method' (for want of a better word) was used by Jesus, the Apostles, the early church and many other great evangelists, such as John Wesley, George Whitfield, Jonathon Edwards, Charles Spurgeon and DL Moody.

However, for most people, sharing our faith does not come naturally. That is why Jesus appointed Evangelists as an 'office' of the church to equip believ-

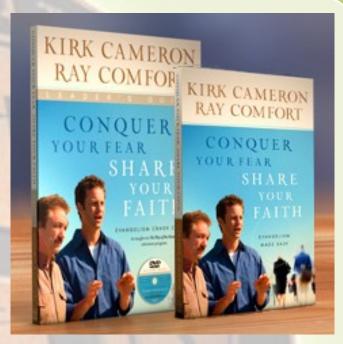
66 Evangelism is like swimming.

you will never swim."

If you don't dive in and do it,

the Master' training courses.

In 'Conquer your Fear, Share your Faith', WOTM co-hosts, Kirk Cameron and Ray Comfort offer this simple and flexible curriculum for churches and small groups who want to obey the Bible's command to tell others about Jesus.



Kirk and Ray guide participants step-by-step through their straightforward method of evangelism, made popular through their award-winning TV show. Those who complete the course will have every tool they need to overcome their fear and talk about their

faith with friends, neighbours, coworkers and even strangers!

Four com-

ers for the work of the ministry. (Eph 4:11-12). It is with this mind, that we at SOTC commend to you, 'The Way of

plete lessons can be presented in a one-day crash course or offered in four weekly class sessions.

A Leader's Guide, which includes a DVD featuring teaching segments from Kirk and Ray, pairs seamlessly with 'Conquer Your Fear, Share Your Faith' Student Guide. These are available at www.wayofthemaster.com

However, for those churches wishing to run a course, we at Soldiers of the Cross, can facilitate these courses and are available to come to your church, to set up and run the course, as well as to motivate participants by taking them on evangelism 'fishing trips'.

If you have a desire to reach the lost in your community or for further information, please email us at contact@soldiersofthecross.com.au

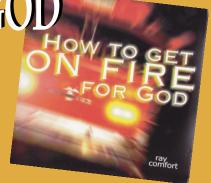
HOW TO GET ON FIRE FOR GOD

Do you get a dry mouth and knocking knees at just the thought of sharing your faith? You are not alone. The Apostle Paul also had that common disease, but he found a cure that worked for him, and it can work for you.

This teaching is not only equipping and practical, but it's also funny at times, and laughter is medicine for the soul. The

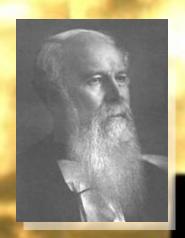
message will bring out simple but profound principles that have lifechanging consequences...and what's more, you can put them into practice and immediately reap the benefits.

See the front page for how you can receive your FREE COPY.



Shirtst and the two theires

By J.C. Ryle



"And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in Paradise." Luke 23:39-43

ou know these verses, I suppose. It would be strange indeed if you did not. Few passages in the New Testament are more familiar to men's ears. And it is right and good that these verses should be well known. They have comforted many troubled minds. They have brought peace to many uneasy consciences. They have been a healing balm to many wounded hearts. They have been a medicine to many sin-sick souls. They have smoothed down not a few dying pillows. Wherever the Gospel of Christ is preached, they will always be honoured, loved, and had in remembrance.

The state of the heart

Reader, I wish to speak to you about these verses. Listen to me while I try to unfold the leading lessons which they are meant to teach. I cannot see the state of your heart before God, but I can see truths in this passage which no man can ever know too well.

First of all, you are meant to learn from these verses, *Christ's power and willingness to save sinners*. This is the main doctrine to be gathered from the history of the penitent thief. It teaches you that which ought to be

music in the ears of all who hear it, it teaches you that Jesus Christ is mighty to save.

I ask you if any man's case could look more hopeless and desperate, than that of this penitent thief once did?

He was a wicked man, a malefactor, a thief, if not a murderer. We know this, for such only were crucified. He was suffering a just punishment for breaking the law.

And he was a dying man. He hung there, nailed to a cross, from which he was never to come down alive. He had no longer power to stir hand or foot. His hours were numbered. The grave was ready for him. There was but a step between him and death.

If ever there was a soul hovering on the brink of hell, it was the soul of this thief. If ever there was a case that seemed lost, gone, and past recovery, it was his. If ever there was a child of Adam whom the devil made sure of as his own, it was this man.

He humbled himself

But see now what happened. He turned to our blessed Lord in prayer. He prayed Jesus to "remember him when He came into His kingdom." He asked that his soul might be cared for, his sins pardoned, and himself thought of in another world. Truly this was a wonderful change.

And then mark what kind of answer he received. Some would have said he was too wicked a man to be saved. But it was not so. Some would have fancied it was too late: the door was shut, and there was no room for mercy. But it proved not too late at all. The Lord Jesus returned him an immediate answer, spoke kindly to him, assured him he would be with Him that day in Paradise: pardoned him completely, cleansed him thoroughly from his sins, received him graciously, justified him freely, raised him from the gates of hell, gave him a title to glory. Of all the multitude of saved souls, none ever received so glorious an assurance of his own salvation, as did this penitent thief. Go over the whole list, from Genesis to Revelation, and you will find none who had such words spoken to them as these: "To-day shalt thou be with Me in Paradise."

Christ is willing to save

Reader, the Lord Jesus never gave so complete a proof of His power and will to save, as He did upon this occasion. In the day when He seemed

66 The keys of death and hell are in His hand. When He opens none can shut."

66 I cannot see the state of your heart before God, but I can see truths in this passage which no man can ever know too well"

most weak, He showed that He was a strong deliverer. In the hour when His body was racked with pain, He showed that he could feel tenderly for others. At the time when He Himself was dying, He conferred on a sinner eternal life.

Now, have I not a right to say, Christ is able to save to the uttermost all them that come unto God by Him? Behold the proof of it. If ever a sinner was too far gone to be saved, it was this thief. Yet he was plucked as a brand from the fire.

Have I not a right to say, Christ will receive any poor sinner who comes to Him with the prayer of faith, and cast out none? Behold the proof of it. If ever there was one that seemed too bad to be received, this was the man. Yet the door of mercy was wide open even for him.

Have I not a right to say, by grace ye may be saved through faith, not of works: fear not, only believe? Behold the proof of it. This thief was never baptized. He belonged to no visible Church. He never received the Lord's Supper. He never did any work for Christ. He never gave money to Christ's cause. But he had faith, and so he was saved.

Have I not a right to say, the youngest faith will save a man's soul, if it only be true? Behold the proof of it. This man's faith was only one day old, but it led him to Christ, and preserved him from hell.

None to hopeless

Why then should any man or woman despair with such a passage as this in the Bible? Jesus is a physician who can cure hopeless cases. He can quicken dead souls, and call the things which be not as though they were.

Never should any man or woman despair! Jesus is still the same now

that He was eighteen hundred years ago. The keys of death and hell are in His hand. When He opens none can shut

What though your sins be more in number than the hairs of your head? What though your evil habits have grown with your growth, and strengthened with your strength? What though you have hitherto hated good, and loved evil, all the days of your life? These things are sad indeed; but there is hope, even for you. Christ can heal you. Christ can raise you from your low estate. Heaven is not shut against you. Christ is able to admit you, if you will humbly commit your soul into His hands.

Make sure you are forgiven

Reader, are your sins forgiven? If not, I set before you this day a full and free salvation. I invite you to follow the steps of the penitent thief: come to Christ, and live. I tell you that Jesus is very pitiful, and of tender mercy. I tell you He can do everything that your soul requires. Though your sins be as scarlet, He will make them white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. Why should you not be saved as well as another? Come unto Christ, and live.

Reader, are you a true believer? If you are, you ought to glory in Christ. Glory not in your own faith, your own feelings, your own knowledge, your own prayers, your own amendment, your own diligence. Glory in nothing but Christ. Alas, the best of us knows but little of that merciful and mighty Saviour! We do not exalt Him and glory in Him enough. Let us pray that we may see more of the fullness there is in Him.

Warning others

Reader, do you ever try to do good to others? If you do, remember to tell them about Christ. Tell the young,

tell the poor, tell the aged, tell the ignorant, tell the sick, tell the dying, tell them all about Christ. Tell them of His power, and tell them of His love. Tell them of His doings, and tell them of His feelings. Tell it to them over and over again. Never be tired of speaking of Christ. Say to them, broadly and fully, freely and unconditionally, unreservedly and undoubtingly, "Come unto Christ as the penitent thief did: come unto Christ, and you shall be saved."

Editors note: Man's response to Christ will be like either one of the two thieves. We will either bow our heads before Him and acknowledge our own unworthiness in coming to him, or we will reject Him. Man must be shown that God sets the terms and we meet them.

This article reminds us again the truth of Gods word that "He opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble". (1 Peter 5:5)

John Charles Ryle (1816-1900) began his service to the Lord as a minister of the gospel in parish churches within the Church of England, for almost forty years. He then became Bishop of Liverpool in 1880, and came to international prominence as preacher, Bible expositor, and author.

Today he is best known for his plain and lively writings on practical and spiritual themes, in a style deliberately used to reach ordinary people. His great aim in all his ministry was to encourage strong and serious Christian living. His tracts and books sold in the millions in the late 1800s, and many have been republished in modern times.

Ryle's successor as Bishop of Liverpool commented, "The words of such a man acquire new force as we read them. Ryle lived near God, and God lived through him." Towards the end of the 18th Century, a lighthouse was proposed to be built there to warn ships of the impending danger and light the way to

es in the weather, of approaching cyclones, hurricanes, twisters, floods and tsunamis, to name a few. There are fire lookout towers in National Parks to look for fires. There are Life-Savers on beaches looking for rips in the tide. We have smoke detectors in our homes. Even our cars, trains, boats and planes all have devices inbuilt to detect of system failures.

Once danger is detected, then there are alarms, sirens, flashing lights (such as the lighthouse) and other warning systems to warn us of the danger.

Now, all these warning systems are great and prevent a lot of tragedy,

mercy and grace of God, then we are like the lighthouse that has turned its light off and are as good as useless for the Gospel's sake.

Friends, let us not forget that darkness is only the absence of light. Let us determine not to be Warning System Failures and let our light shine to a lost and dying world before it is too late.

WARNING SYSTEM FAILURE By Leah Knowling

safer waters. However, despite the fact that each year, approximately 60 ships were lost through the reef, the government of the day refused. That is until 1799, when the warship, HMS York, struck the reef and sunk. All 480 men on board drowned.

The government changed their mind, and twelve years later 'Bell Rock Lighthouse' was completed in 1811. For years it shone its light to warn ships of impending danger.

However, in 1915, tragedy struck again. During WWI and WWII, the lighthouse was ordered to only shine the light if an 'Allied' ship was passing. On this particular occasion, the HMS Argyll radioed that it would be passing that night. Unfortunately, the message was never received and the light never shone. And tragically that ship also struck disaster.

While no lives were lost at this time, it proves the point that unless a light-house is working, it is useless.

But its not just lighthouses. In nearly every area of life, warning systems have been developed to detect and alert of impending danger.

There are devices that detect chang-

when they work. But when they fail, then disasters occur and many lives can be lost.

So what does this have to do with the church and evangelism? EVERY-THING!!

We know the impending danger of hell to all those who have broken God's law (which is everyone), and who do not trust in Jesus Christ to save them.

Romans 3:20 says that 'through the law comes the knowledge of sin'. So the law of God is the early warning detection system.

As we measure ourselves against the law's perfect standard, it detects in each of us the disease of sin and reveals the justice and holiness of Almighty God to condemn sinners to eternal death and hell.

We, the church, are the Warning System that, by using the law 'to bring the knowledge of sin', detects the 'system failure' in a lost sinner, and then alerts and alarms them of the consequences of their rejecting the 'cure' of the Gospel.

If we don't warn people of the impending danger if they refuse the



harles Spurgeon, the "Prince of preachers" once stated, "When preaching and private talk are not available, you need to have a tract ready... Get good striking tracts, or none at all. But a touching gospel tract may be seed of eternal life. Therefore do not go out without your tracts".

A Christian book relates the true story of diver who saw a piece of paper clutched in the shell of an oyster. The man grabbed it, found that it was a gospel tract and said, "I can't hold out any longer. His mercy is so great that He has caused His Word to follow me even to the bottom of the ocean." God used a tract to save the man.

Why should a Christian use tracts? Simply because God uses them. He used a tract to save the great missionary Hudson Taylor, as well as innumerable others. That fact alone should be enough incentive for a Christian to always use tracts to reach the lost, but there are even more reasons why we should use

them. Here are a few:

- Tracts can provide an opening for us to share our faith.
- They can do the witnessing for us.
- They speak to the individuals when they are ready.
- They can find their way into people's homes when we can't.
- They don't get into arguments; they just state their case.

Never underestimate the power of a Gospel tract. After George Whitfield read one called 'The Life of God in the Soul of a Man', he said, "God showed me I must be born again or be damned". He went on to pray, "Lord, if I am not a Christian, or if I am not a real one, for Jesus Christ's sake show me what Christianity is, that I may not be damned at last." Then his journal tells us that from that moment "...did I know that I must become a new creature."

So, if you have never given out tracts, why not begin today?

This article and others can be found in 'The Evidence Bible' compiled by Ray Comfort and Kirk Cameron. To obtain a copy of 'The Evidence Bible' or to purchase tracts that effectively present the Gospel, please go to the WOTM website



SURREMDER!

(Continued from page 1)

this story.

As in previous articles we have been examining what makes a good soldier in the natural realm and then relating that to what it means to be a soldier for

Here was a person who was dedicated to his mission. Once given an order by his commanding officer, he saw it as his

of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier". (KJV)

Friends don't you think that the Lord is looking for people who are equally committed to His cause and will not give up no matter what circumstances might be suggesting.

Just as Onoda had been given orders by

his commander, we too, have been given orders by our commander. He stated these orders in Mark 16:15-16, "and He said to them, Go into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every

someone who just preaches the gospel"

An evangelist is not

duty to obey that order no matter what circumstances surrounded him.

Some would say it was fanatical. It is no strange thing to relate the Christian life to that of a soldier. In fact the Apostle Paul made the same distinction.

In 2 Timothy 2:3-4 he said, "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier

For a long time this work has been seen as the duty of the evangelist or the pastor. I have even heard people say, "I don't believe that this is my gifting", thinking that this excuses them from sharing their faith.

Eph 4:11-12 says, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets, and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and

teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." (KJV)

Notice that an evangelist is not someone who just preaches the Gospel, but is also someone who trains 'the saints', (that's you and me), to preach the gospel too.

Dr. Bill Bright, founder of 'Campus Crusade for Christ' said, "We cannot pick and choose which commandments of our Lord we will follow. Jesus Christ's last command to the Christian community was, 'You are to go into the world and preach the Good News to everyone, everywhere' (Mark 16:15,TLB). This command, which the church calls the great Commission, was not intended merely for the eleven remaining disciples, or just for the apostles or for those in present times who may have the gift of evangelism. This command is the duty of every man and woman who confesses Christ as Lord."

These words by Bill Bright are very challenging. For many of us, me included, it may make us feel uncomfortable. But that is just the point, we like our comfort STREET EVANGELISM. These words always seem to conjure up visions of fiery preachers telling passers-by they are going to hell. But are these pictures the reality? Is Street Evangelism Biblical? Are there examples of Jesus or the disciples talking to strangers on the streets?

n John Chapter 4, we see Jesus sitting by a well, when a Samaritan woman came to draw water. While she was a stranger and a Samaritan, (whom Jews did not associate with). Jesus not only talked with her, but shared with her the Gospel and revealed Himself to her as the Messiah.

While we were at Vision Ministries' camp in 2009 we met and teamed up with David Richardson (All Ways Ministries) and John Hartley (John Hartley International Ministries) to undertake some evangelising on the streets of Parkes, NSW together.

The photos below show myself and David speaking to a couple of the people we met on the street.

The lady that I spoke to

(below)

Once again, we went out to a neighbouring town called Berri, and 'hit the streets' with another local lady. Many people received 'wake-up calls', especially amongst the Aboriginal people in the area.

The local 'Car Show' also proved to be a good opportunity to witness to some young people, who were very hardhearted for ones so young. However, Jesus said "No man can come to me, except the Father draws him." (John 6:44). We share His message and leave the results to Him.

> Finally, back in Rockhampton, we had an awesome time sharing the Gospel in a

> > park.

About

a dozen

or so

were gathered

in a park

for a Birth-

day party.

With their

children



ber that day." Acts 2:41.

We see Philip speaking to the Ethiopian Eunuch in Acts 8:26-40 as a divine appointment. And in Acts 17:17, we read that Paul preached the Gospel not only in the Synagogues, but "in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there."

So, we can see that preaching the Gospel to strangers in the 'streets', is entirely Biblical. And the 'streets' can be anywhere, whether the main thoroughfare, your neighbourhood, a park, or wherever you find that the Lord has opened a door for you to share the Gospel with those around you, whether to one or to many.

With this in mind by way of introduction, I would like to share our adventures 'On the Street' over the past few months.

showed signs of conviction, as for the first time, she saw her position before Almighty God and heard and understood the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It was a precious time.

Whilst in Loxton, SA, the Lord provided us with a number of opportunities to share the Gospel.

A public concert, organised by the local Uniting Church, was one such opportunity, where Tim and I were asked to play and sing a song. I got to share the Gospel as part of the song's 'introduction'. Hey, every opportunity is a good opportunity for the Gospel!

parents permission, I showed them an optical illusion and IQ test and then shared the Gospel with them, before giving each child a tract to take home. Praise God for His divine opportunities!

If you have read this and think you could never do it yourself, then I ask you to consider these people's eternal destiny if they die in their sin — they will end up in Hell. Then, next time you are talking to someone, by the power of the Holy Spirit, take a deep breath, open your mouth and speak.

TRAINING Who do you know who isn't sayed? Where will they go if they die without Christ? Discover The Way of the Master. Your life will never be the same.

Soldiers of the Cross Inc., founded by Tim and Leah Knowling, is dedicated to 'seeing the 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, and as 'soldiers of the Cross', for us all to be about the Father's business in both evangelising the lost and discipling the saved.

Pastors Tim and Leah Knowling are affiliated with the International Communion of Charismatic Churches (Aust) Inc.

All articles are written by Tim and Leah, unless otherwise stated. Scripture references taken from the KJV, NKJV, NIV or AMP Bibles.

For more information on this ministry, please contact us.

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