



Delivered from the Streets of Long Beach to minister in the Streets of the Antelope Valley

It's 2 am in downtown Lancaster— not much good happens there around that time, unless you happen to run into William. He gets off late at his evening job at a local restaurant. Will, as I have come to know him, is someone who uses the experiences and challenges that he has faced over his life to speak hope into the lives of those he often meets on the streets of Lancaster.

Will and I met when I was coaching a youth soccer team last summer. I think we noticed there was something different about each other. Since then, we have been meeting weekly to encourage each other in this exciting, and often challenging, journey we have found ourselves on.

“I appreciate Chris’ patience and willingness to share Biblical wisdom into my life. We meet consistently almost every week and it keeps me steady in my walk with our Savior. Sometimes I’ll be struggling with something and Chris is there to pick me up - we have each other’s back.”

William also works as a part time teen counselor where he is given the chance to share important truths about the consequences of our choices. He often runs into these at-risk youths around town and is blessed to hear the impact he is making on them.

“Without the grace of Jesus in my life, I don’t think I would be alive now, making a positive impact on people.”

If you find Will and I at Crazy Ottos eating breakfast or tossing a football around at Lane Park, feel free to join us.

“I really value our time together. As Chris has invested his time into me, the only thing he hopes of me is that I continue to do the same with others.”

“It was in prison where I realized that I was tired of where I was going, what I was doing, and who I had become.”

“I started attending a Bible study in prison where God began to change my life. I also began reading the Bible consistently and began reaching out to fellow inmates.”

At Quest Ministries we provide one-on-one training and group seminars for individual Believers, Bible Study Groups, Churches and Christian Organizations



Quest Ministries Antelope Valley

Dave has been in full time vocational ministry for 30 years. For 12 of those years he was the Adult Education Director at a local church focusing his attention on church renewal, leadership training and discipleship. Since then he has presided over multiple church plants, and as Founder and Director of Quest Ministries David has emphasized equipping believers in relational evangelism, one-on-one discipleship and apologetics. He conducts regular outreach discussion groups called Open Forums. Since the beginning of Quest, literally thousands of believers have been challenged to give their attention to reaching their friends and family with the gospel of Jesus Christ, through nurturing redemptive relationships.

Lifestyle Evangelism | One-on-one Discipleship | Apologetic Training | Servant Leadership

Ministry Update

Praise & Prayer Requests

Praise God for using so many of you to comfort me and the kids.
Praise God for providing Chris Perry to partner with me in the ministry.
Praise God for giving me so many opportunities to share the gospel.
Pray for continued boldness & clarity as we regularly share Christ.
Pray for me as I attempt to write on the topic of “The Priesthood of Believers”
Pray fervently that our gracious God will provide financially for the ministry.

Financial Update

No Doubt...God has flooded our lives with blessing.
Thank you for allowing Him to work in you to partnership with us.

February Contributions: \$5,595

As many of you know our operating budget is \$8,800 per month. Though we are, again, a bit short on the financial side, Christopher and I and the guys on the board are excited about our future opportunities and plans. We know that anything eternally significant doesn’t occur apart from entering into the spiritual battle for the hearts of both believers and those who don’t know their Savior yet. Please join us in praying to our gracious God that He will make a way so that we can continue to make disciples and share the Good News that changes lives forever.

Car Donations As long as your car, van or truck is presently registered and running, we’ll pick it up for free, fix it up and then give you a tax deductible receipt for the selling price.



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Equipping believers for a lifestyle of ministry

Making Friends

I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. *Luke 16:9*

Quest Ministries
Antelope Valley



April/May 2011

Greetings from Quest Ministries!

Our quarterly newsletter is designed to let you know what God is doing in and through us.

Coming Full Circle...

An interview with Dodd Talbot

“It’s just so amazing to me that it has been almost 13 years for me to get to this point. I’ll never forget the day that you and I first met. Sitting out on the block wall between your house and my dad’s house, you helped me to realize that some of the Christian people in my life, that I was listening to at the time, just wanted me to view the Bible from their point of view. They were legalistic and wanted me to be legalistic too.”



Question: “So what caused you to turn to God in the first place?” Life was going pretty good for me—I was married, had a one year old son [Max] and a successful business. I would have told you that I could pretty much handle anything on my own. Then one Sunday in January I was out in the desert jumping one last sand dune. ► [continued on next page](#)

The Resurrection - fact or fable

Throughout history, skeptics have sought to disprove Christianity by attacking the historicity or plausibility of the resurrection. Remarkably, many of these well-known skeptics came to faith in Christ as a result of their study. ► [continued](#)



Coming Full Circle

I missed and landed square on my head, breaking my neck. In the days that followed, lying in the hospital paralyzed, I quickly realized that I'm just as human as anyone else and just as powerless to make myself healthy again. The fact is that I would've given anything to be able to walk, to be with my family, or to do ordinary things that I use to do.

was told what I needed to do. They told me that I had to do this or that in order to be saved. Then just before I met you I got involved in the LA Church of Christ and they did just about the same thing. It wasn't about grace; it was about legalism. They wanted me to be baptized in their church, join the church and break up with my girlfriend. It was all about doing stuff instead of my relationship with God. I remember you telling me about grace and how important it was: that salvation is about God forgiving us and accepting us even though we aren't good people.

When we were selling those Nova [raffle] tickets and sharing Christ down on the Boulevard, I saw this so clearly. Since then I've really had a heart to share this message with other people. They need to know about grace, that it is out there and that it is available for anyone. Sharing the gospel alongside you, Dave, helped me to be reminded that it is all about God's grace and not about us being good. I want people to know about the joy of the Christian life and to get away from all the legalistic stuff that makes religion ugly.

Question: So what is your plan of action Dodd? Well, you know, I've committed to some time with you. Since I'm heading off to Montana in June I really want to find ways to share this gift and these ideas with people in a way that they will understand. So [on Tuesdays] we are meeting and I'm already getting equipped to share the gospel more effectively. That's important to me especially now.

Question: You mentioned that it has taken 13 years to get to this point. What are you referring to? As a kid I grew up in the Catholic Church where I pretty much



"I really want to find ways to share this gift and these ideas with people in a way that they will understand."

Ministry Highlights

At Quest our heart for discipleship and evangelism stems from our core belief that Jesus empowered each individual Believer to action. It is our hope to equip and inspire the Body of Christ to build into their everyday lives a willingness to invest and impact people for the glory of God.

Looking Back

I must admit that grieving for these past three months has caught me off guard. After Linda's death, I was told a number of things and I even did a little reading—just to be a little more prepared. But there was a set of feelings running in the background that distracted me from being able to focus. If it wasn't for many of you and my good friend and fellow staff guy [Christopher] I might have significantly faltered. So thank you all for praying for me and encouraging me. For making up for my short falls and helping to make discipleship and evangelism a priority in our lives.

Looking Forward Upcoming Events

We're still looking forward to conducting a 3 week outreach video series on "Heaven" in our neighborhood. This week our Wednesday Berean Bible Study started a new series on the book of Philippians. Early next month I hope to begin working on a book project about "The Priesthood of Every Believer." I'm also continuing to meet one-on-one with nine guys, planning the startup of our Associate Member program and conducting an apologetic training workshop in May.



If you would like to receive our weekly *Making Friends* email just let us know.

Veritas college/career bible study

The college ministry is continuing to grow both spiritually and numerically. We just completed our series on "Money Management" (published booklet available for free upon request). Also a number of the young adults have established a "Lord's Treasury" in their local banks. These are accounts where they can withdraw money out to invest directly in the lives of people.

This past Friday night we had an Open Forum for our unsaved friends focusing on Rob Bell's new book where he proposes that God may provide a second chance after death. Check out our website to learn more. Thanks for praying for Veritas!

bible study | focused forum | open forum | outreach



He is not here. He has Risen.

General Lew Wallace came to faith in Christ as a result of his background research for a book. The resurrection convinced him of the truth of Christianity; he later wrote his book "Ben Hur".

C.S. Lewis records his reluctant trek from atheism to Christianity in his autobiography, *Surprised by Joy*. The evidence, he said, including the resurrection brought him "kicking and screaming" into the kingdom.

In his personal testimony Josh McDowell says, "I truly believed that Christianity was a farce...I wanted to explain away the historical reliability of the Bible and to make a joke of the resurrection. But after my investigation...I placed my trust in Christ as Savior and Lord."

No event is more crucial to the authenticity of Christianity than the resurrection of Jesus. We're confident that belief in the resurrection is not a leap into the dark, but a step into the light. The Bible's definition of faith found in Hebrews 11:1 states that true Biblical faith must be founded on evidence. Look at the evidence that has changed the minds of so many.



Accepted History - The events surrounding Christ's death are accepted as historical fact by almost all scholars. It has been verified that Jesus was crucified, that His disciples reported his appearances after His death, and that their lives were subsequently transformed.

The Empty Tomb - There is a lack of evidence for an alternative explanation of what happened to the body of Christ. The Romans, who wanted to keep the peace, would not have stolen the body. If the Jews had taken the body, they would have presented it quickly to refute the claims of the disciples. And if the disciples had taken the body and the resurrection was a lie, it's very doubtful that they would have been willing to die as martyrs.

Biblical Testimony - The New Testament contains 17 eye witness accounts of Jesus' appearances after His resurrection. This is important because there is more support for the authenticity of the New Testament documents than for any other document of ancient history. Are you convinced?

If you are a believer, then share why with someone you care about.