

Three Angels Deaf Ministries Report

Volume 13 Issue 5

October 2010

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Reaching the Deaf

Sharing

the Three

Angels'

Messages

with the

Deaf.

Newest Signs of God's Love Taped

Shooting for the fourth DVD in the Signs of God's Love series was during the first week in October. This one will be focused on the Sabbath.

The project is now being edited. We have hopes to be completed within a few weeks. We are excited about this newest project.

This DVD will have a unique look. Esther takes a tour of western South Dakota and looks for lessons about the Sabbath. She spends a little time in the prairie grass, at Mount Rushmore, and climbs the tallest peak in South Dakota. The setting is beautiful as this was during the peak autumn colors, with the gorgeous yellow aspen leaves.

We plan to include this

DVD in the packets we give away at Deaf Expos next year. They will also be used as an evangelistic tool in other ways. They will be made available for purchase, as well.

You may remember that Esther had the H1N1 flu during the taping of the Signs of God's Love last year. This time, she had a bad toothache just before leaving for South Dakota. She went to see a dentist the day before leaving. The dentist filled the tooth, warning her that she may need nerve treatment. He worried that her tooth would now hurt much worse. Just in case, he prescribed pain medication which would make her very drowsy. Esther arrived

home in extreme pain and wondered how she could possibly hold her head up for the DVD shoot. She prayed that God would take away the pain so that she could do this important work. On the way, she still had some pain. But, praise God, the pain went away right on time. Esther visited the dentist when she returned home. He was stunned that she had no pain, admitting that he worried about her the entire two weeks. God is so good.

The presentation about the Sabbath is a very delicate matter. The work is not finished. As we edit, please pray that this program will be attractive, clear, and effective.



Speaker's Dialogue: Thoughts on Health Care Reform

People often say, "I have to . . ." People are as guilty as politicians. Politicians often make promises. But after they are voted in, they break their promises. When people ask why, they say, "I have to..."

Another example, a poor, hungry man steals something to eat to survive. If we ask him why he did this, he would say, "I have to because I was starving. I have no money. No one helped me."

I call this Situational Ethics, meaning that there is no true rule for anything. More and more people are saying this today. People do whatever fits them. They say, "If it is okay for you then it is okay for me." Or, "If it is right to you, then it is right for you. I respect your view while I have my view."

I must say that I am not totally against saying "We have to . . ." as long as it does not or will not conflict with the moral law of God—The Ten Commandments which is still binding today as when Jesus lived on Earth.

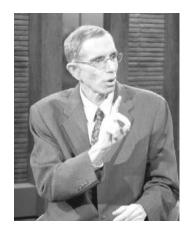
We have seen the struggle in Congress for the health care overhaul. President Obama promised that he would fight for universal health coverage for everyone in the United States. He won after a long, hard fight, but with a heavy price on his popularity. Tea Party protests across the country showed that people have fear of big government which could change the way of our country behaves. Many people do not like the idea of the federal government controlling everything but at the same time, "they have to..." accept it in order to control medical costs and to reduce the number of people losing their needed medical coverage. This healthcare reform may be unconstitutional as some legal experts claim. Attorney generals of several states have now sued the federal government. So now this is a very sticky situation.

Our Constitution protects the right to carry guns. Because of rising crime, more and more people are pushing for gun control and eventually a law to prohibit having any guns. As things get worse, more people will agree to have a ban on guns—"We have to accept the unpopular law against having a gun in order to stop the crime of killing each other."

I understand both sides of the argument. However, this same "We have to..." attitude can lead to what we Adventists know as the National Sunday Law. That law will truly conflict with the basic rights of the citizens of the United States—the first amendment of the Constitution—"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." My unbelieving and believing

friends reject the idea of having the Sunday law. They often say that it would be impossible to happen because of our Constitution and different beliefs other than Christianity in this country. Well, God's word never fails.

Unfortunately, some Adventists have started to doubt our church's



teachings. They do not believe in some of our doctrines because they can not see how our teachings fit in our society. One issue is the Sabbath. Another is the prediction by Ellen G. White about a National Sunday Law in a free country. However, the National Sunday law will test many of us. If we have the wrong concept of the Cross and believe that the Sabbath commandment was nailed to it, canceling the need to keep it holy, then we could easily accept the National Sunday Law.

Why do I say this? An Adventist member told me emphatically that he had to work on the Sabbath because of his job. He claimed that he would be in trouble with the employer if he refused to work on the Sabbath. This person was saying, "I have to work in order to save my job." Is his reason in agreement with the Bible and the Ten Commandments? This person needs the courage of Daniel, our role model for the last days.

Now, you know why prophet John wrote, "He also forced everyone, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead, so that no-one could buy or sell unless he had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of his name" (Revelation 13:16, 17, with emphasis). The mark on "his right hand" means the person does not agree with the government law, but he "has to" accept it in order to buy and sell for survival. In other word, he was forced to accept the "mark" even though he does not believe it. Now, this applies not only to unbelievers, but also to believers like Adventists. To be an Adventist does not guarantee salvation.

So, "I have to" is not always a good reason for our actions. Most of the time it is for a wrong reason. Also, often it is against the Bible and God. We must guard against the subtle teachings and thinking in the

Continued on next page

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Special Weekend in Massachusetts

Deaf Everywhere Are Family (DEAF) had a packed weekend on September 24-26. DEAF members came from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island to attend a series and DeafNation Expo. On Friday evening, everyone met at the Northboro SDA Church for a nourishing supper to satisfy empty stomachs after the trips. Then, they had a meeting with a sermon by David Trexler. On Sabbath, 3ADM had a booth at the DeafNation Expo in Worcester, MA. Some of the DEAF members, especially the young adults, came to help. There were many Deaf visitors at the expo and they were receptive and friendly. All 300 bags were taken. After the expo they all went to Jessica McGowan's country home for fellowship and a delicious dinner. The next morning, Francisca Trexler shared a message with the DEAF members at the same church. A busy and blessed weekend.

Interestingly, Christopher Emery (photo of his recent baptism is on the next page) first met Adventists at the 3ADM booth at the DeafNation Expo in Worchester in 2007. Jessica was collecting addresses of those who might be interested in special events that their small Deaf group would have. Christopher happily gave his address. Then in early 2008, Jessica sent out flyers to her address list, telling about a special weekend at DEAF with David Trexler as speaker. Christopher misunderstood the flyer and thought DEAF was a Catholic event. He and his girlfriend rode a bus

Director's Dialogue, Cont.

Continued from previous page.

world today. We Adventists can be easily swayed by the media of dangerous, false teachings than ever before. Let us reach out to God as if we are drowning in a quicksand of human thought, human lust, and human basic needs that can turn us away from following God's commands. Let us be as strong as Daniel today even if there is no persecution, but it is coming sooner than we think!

"At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved" (Matthew 24:10-13).

More than ever before we need God's help to keep our eyes open for signs of spiritual danger in our lives.

David M. Trexler Speaker/Director

from their homes in Rhode Island to Massachusetts. Needless to say, he was stunned to learn he was at an Adventist church. Being good sports, they stayed for the weekend and was blessed. In fact, they asked Jessica, who was taking them back to their homes, if she would be willing to take a detour and follow David Trexler to another speaking engagement at a small Deaf gathering not far from their home in Rhode Island. This small gathering in Rhode Island was led by John and Winnie Tunnison (see Winnie's picture on the next page). DEAF members continued reaching out to Christopher, loving him as a true friend. We are so thrilled to have him as a part of the family.

This is a reminder that our presence at Deaf expos, giving away materials and meeting people, is very important.



Above: Francisca Trexler, Jason Kimbrough, & Amanda, baby Amy, & Kevin Colgan working at Worcester, MA Deaf-Nation Expo. Below: DEAF members.



Sharing Christ at Expos

The Deaf Tennessean Expo was held in Memphis, TN on September 18. Kathy McCain, Wanda Watson, and Winford Taylor volunteered to help with the booth. The expo was expected to be small, so only 150 packets were sent to them. Wanda did not feel that was enough, so she took an extra 40 packets left over from another expo.

Kathy McCain gives this report: "[The expo] started very slllooooooooooow! Wow! BUT, then more and more people came. Most were Black who are interested in our booth. Most white people were not interested in our booth. That was soo interesting! Several people told me they have never heard of Seventh-Day Adventists. One lady from Tupelo, MS asked me, "Is the SDA church only in the USA?" I answered her, "NO, the SDA is everywhere, all in the world now! Even in Africa, Germany, Russia, and more...more." She said, "WOW, really!" She took the packet. She said she will read the tracts and watch the DVD.

"One lady who was sitting at a booth across the aisle came to us and told us that she looked at our banner and wondered about it. She decided to come to our booth. She was very curious what our church is. I told her we are Seventh-Day Adventists. She was surprised! She told me a story. She met and discussed with the Jehovah's Witnesses about their beliefs. She disagreed with them. Then she met a Deaf man who is SDA and explained to her what SDA believes. She even said, "he was so fantastic and I agreed with his explanation of what SDA believes because it agrees with Bible." She lives in Chattanooga, TN, so I told her about Pastor Jeff Jordan and the church there. She said, "Oh, I never heard of him!" I gave her their website. She was excited and of course she took the packet. She stayed and chatted with us for a while."

Wanda added, "One man from Arkansas knows Winford and I well. He told me that he really enjoyed the Signs of God's Love DVD and safely put it by his DVD player. He was happy to take the packet because of the DVD inside. When he found out that the DVD was a third one in a series, he told me that he wanted all of them. I had one at home and sent it to him as soon as I returned home."

Wanda continues, "Kathy knew most of the people because she used to live in Memphis. That really helped us give away the packets."

Only a little over 500 people at this small expo. Kathy said, "Amazingly, we gave away 190 packets! Can you believe it? I was surprised myself!



Sharing Jesus in Memphis, TN (photo by Winford Taylor)





Helpers at the DeafNation Expo in Pleasanton, CA booth on October 9. **Almost 400 bags were given away.** Pastor Alfred Griffith (middle photo) had many good talks with Deaf people.

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DEAF Camp Meeting in New York

On August 25 to 29 DEAF Camp Meeting was held at Camp Cherokee along the banks of the well-known, beautiful Lake Saranac in New York. Twenty-one Deaf campers came to hear the timely message *Keep the Advent Hope Alive!* by Elder Paul Kelly, the featured speaker. A few non-Adventist Deaf people were invited by their Adventist friends. They really enjoyed it! They have showed great interest in knowing more about the Bible through the lively discussions. During free time, campers enjoyed a variety of activities—horseback riding, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, boating, hiking, and swimming.

The highlight of the camp meeting was to see two precious deaf-blind souls be baptized on Sabbath afternoon. Winfrey Tunison from Rhode Island (top photo) and Christopher Emery (middle photo) from Massachusetts were baptized in the watery grave of the beautiful lake.

During the same weekend, the Single's Ministry had their event in a different area of the camp. We ate together in the cafeteria and met during activities. On Sabbath evening, Elder David Trexler was invited by the Single's Ministries to give a presentation on Three Angels Deaf Ministries. A PowerPoint presentation and the Reaching the Deaf DVD were used, both having a strong impact on the hearing. We thank them for the opportunity to share.

The success of the DEAF camp meeting was credited to Jessica McGown, the director of DEAF

ministry in the New England area. In the past DEAF camp meeting had only a few campers, but this year was the best with 21 campers! The Lord had blessed.

DEAF camp meeting will come back to the same lovely location next year, so make your plans to come and be refreshed in a "primitive" area where you can gain much spiritual blessing through the Christian fellowship, God's Word, and nature in the Adirondacks.

by Pastor David M. Trexler







God Blesses the Flowers

I would like to give these funds to 3ADM. I have to share with you how I got the funds.

We had some beautiful pansy flowers in a flower pot in our flower garden. We had petunias all around it. Earlier in the summer the pansies were blooming in their 4 beautiful colors. The petunias were kind of small bushes at this time. A deer came along twice and had its dessert from that pansy pot, just snipping the flowers off. I decided to give the flower pot to the Lord and give \$ for each pansy that I [could] pick off meaning that it had succeded to bloom without the deer eating it again. Well, we had beautiful pansy flowers after that up to the count of 115 flowers. They were beautiful and the Lord looked after the flowers for a long time. Then we had a hard frost and the petunia plants around the pot were pulled up. Most of them were huge plants by this time. Well, after they were pulled up the pansy blossoms were again vulnerable and again the deer found the flowers and ate them. They are recovering again but not very well as the frost did something to the plants.or the deer eating the blossom did something cause they are not doing well. I just think it was so wonderful for the Lord to cover the pansy blossoms for the length of time it took to raise \$___ in Canadian funds for my little mission project.

A. Blake, Alberta, Canada



Donations

In Memory of ...

Arthur Grifith by Alyce Griffith Sylvia House by Carl and Elaine Ferguson

In Honor of ...

Marvin Budd by Luis Leonor Francisca Trexler by Mike and Beth Dobson

Reaching the Deaf DVD

We have created a new DVD called *Reaching the Deaf*, a positive Deaf Awareness tool to educate hearing people. This DVD tells those who can hear what it's like to be Deaf and the barriers that Deaf people face in church. Deaf people themselves share thoughts and testimonies in their own words. They



also give glimpses into what a true Deaf ministry looks like and what any hearing person can do to make a difference.

The DVD has both a short and a long program. The short program is perfect for sharing in church because it is only about 8 minutes long. The long one is about 19 minutes long and gives a little more detail for those who are more interested.

We plan to soon place the informative DVD clip onto the 3ADM website for wider use. So be checking our website so you can share it with others.

These DVDs were given away at the General Conference and thus far, we have heard many positive responses. These DVDs went all around the world and it is our hope that somehow this DVD will help the Deaf ministry be strengthened and move forward both here in North America and in other countries. If you have a copy of this DVD, it will do no good if it sits on your TV with your other DVDs. Share it with hearing people and/or your churches to help educate others about Deaf ministry. If you would like a copy please contact us.

We appreciate the North American Division for assisting us with the costs of this production.

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Three Angels Deaf Ministries (3ADM) was originally incorporated in the State of Nebraska and was recognized by the federal government as a nonprofit religious organization on April 6, 1998. After moving to a new headquarters, 3ADM was subsequently recognized as a tax-exempt nonprofit organization by the State of Arizona on May 9, 2001. 3ADM has been granted the right to issue tax-deductible receipts for donations made to Three Angels' Deaf Ministries.

Three Angels Deaf Ministries

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