"CAN WE TALK..."

By Keith Greer

"And He said to them, Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." {Mark 16:15}

This passage is quite plain as to our duty to share the saving gospel of Christ with the lost. We know that we are "**God hands**" in this world, His workers to give men what they need the most-the truth! Reality compels me to say others do this with much more diligence and zeal than we. Mormons and Jehovah Witnesses are very zealous with their "door to door" salvation pitch. Granted, their message is the truth as "they believe it", but they are busy sharing it with others. Why do they seem to prosper and grow?

Let me give you three reasons why, at least by the numbers, they are growing. **THEY PROVIDE ANSWERS**. Two men knock on your door. They want to discuss Jesus Christ with you. People who are in "spiritual ignorance" have questions. These men eagerly have answers. They are ready to share their "knowledge."

Second, **THEY FULFILL YOUR NEEDS**. People want to feel others care about them. How much more care can one show, then by willingly sharing with you what God has done for them, and can do for you! You have problems, they offer solutions. They are willing to listen. Take as much time as you need. Each person is important to them.

Thirdly, **THEY IMPRESS YOU**. How are they dressed? Young men wear white shirts and ties; young ladies with dresses. Polite, sincere, concerned, and willing to spend their time in helping others. In a world where young people today are into drugs, alcohol, sex, and gangs, these young people are a refreshing change! Mormons give up two years of their lives to do "mission work" wherever the LDS Church sends them—no questions asked or no reservations. Impressive, right?

While I commend their zeal, diligence, and appearance, my commendation must stop here. The only thing that can really save the souls of men is the gospel of Christ. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek." {Romans 1:16} Also read James 1:21. All these other things are nice, but without truth, spiritually speaking, they are worthless.

Zeal is wonderful, but it must also have truth. "For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God." {Romans 10:2,3}

What about us? Should we be "**providing answers**" to those in spiritual ignorance? Do we have the right answers? Of course, we have the truth! {1 Peter 3:15; 1 Peter 1:18-20} Can we show concern and care for our fellow man? All have a soul. Do we want them to be lost? {Ezekiel 3:17-21} Are we helping them? Can we impress people? Sure we can, if we want to put our best foot forward. Why don't we do it?

Others put us to shame, and they don't even have the truth. What is being a Christian all about? Sharing! Next week we will be having a gospel meeting. Do you plan to be here each evening and be edified? Have you sought out opportunities to invite others to come and be fed by God's word? Invite your neighbors, friends or family members—give the seed a chance to bear some spiritual fruit for the cause of Christ! Men and woman are lost and dying in sin! People without truth are reaching for them. What are we doing? Ignorance may also be our problem! ***