Let me briefly mention our Children's Bible club on Townsend Street. As we are in our 38th year of doing our club in this neighborhood, and we rejoice that continues to thrive. We average between ten and twenty kids, and most are doing their take home Bible lessons. We also have interaction sometimes with former club members now grown up. I heard my name called out just two weeks ago, and I had a brief and encouraging chat with one of those former club members.

Prayer Requests

1. Pray that we can get our permits at Santa Monica and Redondo Beach renewed for the coming year.
2. Pray that our outreach team remains covid free. We rejoice that no one has gotten sick to this point.
3. Pray that we will continue to get parking at Townsend St, as that can be very difficult in that very crowded neighborhood! God has been supplying, but continues to be a weekly need.
4. Pray that our ministry sites will remain open for the duration of the covid crisis.

Thanks so much for your prayers, encouragement and participation (financial and logistical) for the ministry, and also for me personally! May God grant you a blessed Christmas and New Year!

Russ Hodder
Open Air Campaigners
PO Box 3414
La Habra CA 90632-3414
(562) 458-6275
russ.hodder@oaci.org

Christmas 2020

My Dear Friends:

Needless to say, this has been a very unusual and stressful year for us all! I want to thank you for your continued prayers, support and participation in our ministry during these difficult times.

As you remember our ministry venues were all closed down from March through May, but as the piers opened up on June 1st , and restrictions were eased, we were back in business again! Though there have been ups and downs regarding the covid virus, our work has not stopped or slowed down as our ministry locations (including our Townsend St kids ministry) remain open. In my various contacts with ministries around the world, *most* are at least partially shut down. We are not, simply because we operate in the open air, where hardly any restrictions exist except wearing masks and maintaining "social distancing" Keeping that in mind, we are using our "riddle method" more so we don't draw crowds which could be problematical. People come up and try and solve our painted riddle, and as our team members aid them, they are led into the gospel message. Many have trusted Christ with this tool. The only location denied us is Santa Monica Pier, where performance permits (we are in that category) were canceled because of covid. Pray we can get our permit's renewed for the coming year.

We are finding that there is much interest among teens for the Gospel. Not being in school many are feeling socially isolated, and looking for social interaction, they have been gathering, some times large numbers at the piers. Two weeks ago, eight of them came over to check out our riddle, and Barry Felis led them all to the Lord. I looked in amazement as they all prayed the sinner's prayer with Barry out loud! They were all given Gospels and Bible helps. Last Friday, We had the youth group from Frank Baldus's church, Calvary Chapel San Pedro joining us. It was a slow night because the bars and eateries at Seal Beach pier were closed because of covid. Just as we were about to end them evening, six teens came up to check out the riddle. The Youth pastor of the church led all six of them to the Lord!

I am also noting an increased interest for the Gospel among Muslims. At Seal Beach I got into a conversation with a Muslim family. The husband declared "we believe in Jesus as a prophet, not God" The wife chimed and said, "I'm not so sure, as I have some friends who have been talking with me". I shared further with the husband, and the wife and their little girl listened in. I finally gave them a Jesus film and told them they could watch it their heart language. "This will tell you why we believe In Jesus and who He is". When the husband looked at the list of twenty four languages listed, and saw his language, he thanked me three times for the film, and he told me they would be sure and watch it as a family.