

December 30, 2021

My dear Friends,

It's a little late to wish you a Merry Christmas (I hope you had a great one) but in spite of this Covid age, I can pray that your New Year will be a blessing to you.

For me, this year has been both a blessing, but also filled with challenges that have caused me to (metaphorically) to be on my knees. My artificial knees won't allow me physically do that any more, but you get the point.

Let's look at the blessings first.

Even in these Covid plagued times, we are able to present the Gospel in the open air with no real restrictions.

Though it is more difficult to attract a crowd using our standard preaching methods, the use of a painted riddle (with a large team) can give us up to a 100 good conversations in a given evening. People love solving riddles, and these riddles lead right to the Gospel.

As I have mentioned before, about 50% of the people we talk to now have no religious background, but they prove open to hearing about (to them) a new thing: that the creator of the universe is interested in their individual welfare!

At our last time at Huntington Beach Pier, Eli was attracted to our puzzle and solved it, but as I presented the Gospel to him, he told me he was a Hasidic Jew, and considered Jesus a false prophet. When I asked him about his lack of Hasidic dress, he told me, "Well, that just does not work in California". I think I planted some seeds that I pray that he will think about. He is in contrast to another Jew (Adam, at the same location) with whom I've previously had 2 conversations. He is proving open to the Gospel. Pray that God will provide a 3rd conversation that will bring him to Christ.

And now we come to the challenges that need your prayer:

I saw my ophthalmologist at the VA yesterday. They are ready to do my cataract surgery but my macular degeneration may complicate things. Pray that the retina specialist will give me a final go ahead on January 4th. Pray that my night vision problem will be helped so I can drive at night. As I enter my 52nd year of ministry with OAC, my body sometimes does not want to co-operate with my desire to do ministry, Pray that God will give me wisdom in facing the future.

Pray for wisdom regarding our long running kids Bible club on Townsend Street as attendance seems to be fading. Covid, and the holidays could be contributing factors.

Thank you for your part in Ministry!

Russ Hodder

Local address: Open Air Campaigners, PO Box 3414, La Habra CA 90632-3414, phone: 562-458-6275 russ.hodder@oaci.org

Contributions: Open Air Campaigners , PO Box D, Nazareth PA 18064 or oacusa@oaci.org