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# Lifelines Outreach

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**Lifelines Outreach shares the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus  
Christ and by making disciples in the greater Nashville area.**

**April 2018**

I read a book years ago called “*52 True Stories About Successful Witnessing*” by Nellie Pickard. I still bust it out and read portions when I need some encouragement in sharing the Gospel with people.

The story on the back page is from a recent witnessing experience by an older woman named Ann who graduated from a class on witnessing taught by my good friend Monica Frost at First Baptist Church Hendersonville. Years ago, I encouraged Monica to learn “Share Jesus Without Fear.” I was trying to be her voice of reason and her thorn in the flesh. She has now passed down what she has learned to others. Passing on what we learn is a mark of a disciple of Jesus. As I read Ann’s story, I was fascinated by the older gentleman’s answers to her questions. I think there are typical of witnessing encounters that I have had, and the answers that I have received. I am happy for Ann that she was obedient in sharing her faith but at the same time sad about the older gentleman and his hostile responses. However, a seed has been sown and God’s Word will never be void of accomplishing its purpose. I pray that it will bring fruit forth in His life. Ann, by just sharing the Gospel I’m sure she felt the pleasure of Jesus. I am always thankful for Monica that she is obedient to teach others what she has learned.

Last night in one of our discipleship groups, we went door to door praying for people in the apartment community. We are always seeking opportunities to share the Gospel with people we have never met before. Also, by talking with them, we can pray for them with more knowledge and spiritual discernment. I knocked on one door, and the gentleman cracked the door, and I explained to him why we knocked, and I asked if we could pray for him and his needs. He was an older gentleman with no shirt. He said that he did not need prayer because he was not religious. These types of encounters always make me so sad. When we returned to the room in which we were meeting, we prayed a good ten minutes for his salvation. We will continue to pray for him each week until he gets saved.

I know from the encounters that I experience each week with those that do not know Jesus and Christians who say that they know Jesus but I see no discernable fruit in their lives is the thing that is missing in our nation is a conviction of sin by the Holy Spirit. John 16:18 leading to true repentance. I think most people have a very limited understanding of the holiness and the purity of God. Paul says in the Book of Acts that he preached repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus said in Mark 1:15, “repent and believe the Gospel.” Without continuing repentance there is no salvation. There is no purity. There is no power over sin.

Warm weather is going to bring hundreds of encounters with people who need Jesus. It also means a greater intensity of spiritual warfare. I know God will do a great work if we are faithful. I can’t wait! Thank you for praying and for financially supporting this ministry! Remember to pray and to read your Bible! -Richard Gay

## Ann's first time to "Share Jesus Without Fear"

I had just finished a course "*Share Jesus Without Fear*". Having been a person who from childhood had been in church, I got a blessing from seeing people come to know the LORD. I was 14 years old when I became a Christian. I wanted to share Jesus with others and did not know how to do that effectively. Then one day I got my first opportunity to use my new skills – how to share Jesus without fear. This was a 90-year-old man who I will call Bob. I asked Bob did he have any kind of spiritual belief? Bob replied, "I believe there is a supernatural being". I asked, "Who is Jesus to you?" Bob said, "Jesus was a martyr, Jesus did not die on the cross. Jesus' own people the Jews, they didn't even follow him. Then I asked, "Do you believe there is a heaven or hell?" Bob said, "I believe there is a paradise out there somewhere." So, I asked "If you died right now where would you go?" Bob said, "Well, I actually don't know." I asked, "If what you believe were not true would you like to know it?" Bob said "Well" and paused, then silence. I asked him if he would read some verses from the Bible and he said he would. I turned to Romans 3:23 and after he read it asked him what that said to him and he said we have all sinned. I went to Romans 6:23 and asked him to read that he did and said, "This says for the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord - Of course we are all going to die sometime or other." I asked him to read John 3:3 and then asked what he got from that verse and he said a man has to be born again. We went onto John 14:6 where Jesus says he is the way, the truth and the life. No man comes unto the Father but by me and Bob replied "I don't know if that is right. What about Muslims and the Koran, what about the Jews? They didn't follow him, and they were his own people. Then there were the lost scrolls. How do we know all the parts are there?" I asked, "Do you believe the Bible is true?" Bob said, "I sure don't." I turned to Romans 10:9-11 and Bob said, "This says he died for all". I turned to Rev. 3:20 and asked what does that say to you and he said "He says anyone knocks at his door he would let them in. Just like I am here knocking on a door." I said "So are you willing to open your heart and let Jesus be the Lord of your life?" Bob said, "No" and leaned back in his chair and took a big breath and said "absolutely not. I have other questions about all of this."

Well that's the story of my first seed planted. I left him sitting at the table and said well that will give you something to think about as you travel home today. I left the room and not thinking about what I had said to Bob. Then I heard an audio in my right ear and it said "Ann, job well done."

Bob left my home around 7:30 am. I had a call from him around 2 pm. Bob had stopped at a short order place for breakfast when his foot slipped off the brake and his truck bursted through the store window. He stated that no one got hurt and his truck just got a little scratch. He said the police and the store owner were very nice to him. He didn't get hurt and the people treated him well. I told him that was a blessing from God and God in the hearts of those people.

For more information about these ministry opportunities please contact Richard Gay at 838-0367 or at [lifelinesoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:lifelinesoutreach@gmail.com) by email at [lifelinesoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:lifelinesoutreach@gmail.com)