

HAPPY FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

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Keeping the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus Christ

Bible group stirs controversy

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A Christian group called Truth on the Web Ministries came to the Murray State campus last week with big signs and loud preaching. It caught the attention of some Murray State students and staff.

The group set up their event on the Free Speech zone by the Curris Center, where they interacted with everyone, answering questions and explaining their beliefs.

To be able to use Murray State's Free Speech zone, a group has to fill a request form, describing the type of event and other information, and then be approved.

Truth on the Web is an independent Church of God group from Woodstock, Illinois. It is not affiliated with any official church. Instead, members meet in each other's houses for Bible study and worship. They state that their mission is to spread what's written in the Bible and warn about the consequences of living a sinful life.

"To share a witness and a warning so that some would hear and be pricked in the heart and turn from sin to Christ in their lives" was the goal of this event, said Kenneth Hoeck, member of the Church of God group.

Ron Sessions, a minister from the Church of God at Woodstock was the main speaker at the event. Apart from preaching, he and a few others also discussed the teachings with all interested.

The youngest group members, around nine to 16 years old, held up signs that caught attention of passerby. Some signs stated "Jesus forgives sin." Others gave examples of what sin is and the consequences of disobeying the Bible.

Some of the signs provoked discussions between preachers and the audience. One of them quoted the Bible, Matthew, Chapter 7, where according to the group, God states that sinners and disobedient people will burn in a lake of fire unless they turn to God. On the other side, the sign listed many different sins quoted from the Bible. Among those listed "sins" were homosexuality and feminism. Those caused a lot of people to stop and try to understand.

Daniel Jessee, freshman at Murray State asked if as a guy, if he falls in love with another guy, he is going to burn in hell.

Sessions said being homosexual is setting the heart to something that is not proper. Committing that sin is disobeying God, he said.

Explanations like this one upset a lot of people, leading them to believe that the group

is being hypocritical and judgmental.

"We are not here today to condemn you," Sessions said to the crowd. "We are not here today to judge you."

Danielle Williams, freshman at Murray State, stopped by the Church of God group because feminism was listed on that sign, and tried to understand why that is a sin. As it came from the Bible, Sessions explains, it can be interpreted as people that hold themselves above God, as if they have authority.

Sessions admits that this was a "poor choice of words," out of context from the Bible, and does not really belong on the sign.

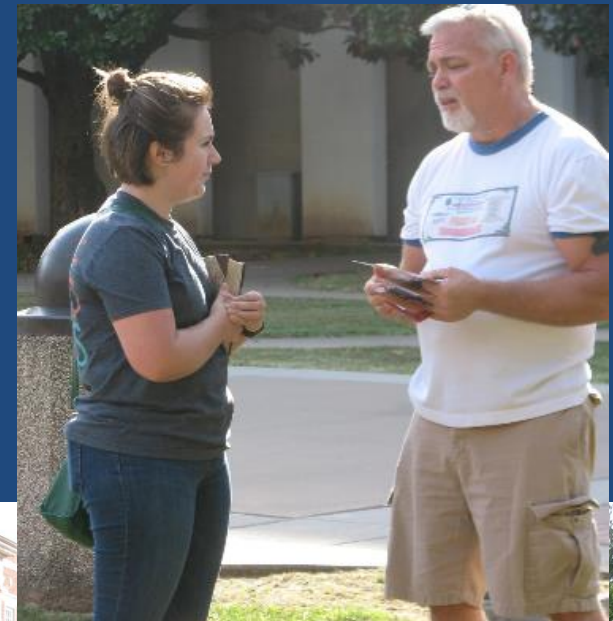
"We didn't make the signs, we just got them from the organization," Sessions said. He added that the signs are mainly used to catch people's attention, and get people to talk to the members.

Not everyone limited themselves to simple verbal protest. One student decided to spray a bottle of Febreze on the event, as a "peaceful protest," he said. Despite many controversial conversations, the event seemed to happen as expected for the Truth on the Web group.

"They're happy with what they're doing and that's great, but there's just no need to be so mean to people," Williams said about the Church of God members.



Kenneth Hoeck, one of the younger members of the church, held the provocative signs as her family members stood beside and explained their views.



Go Ye Into All The World...

Mark 16:15–16

And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel** to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

2 Timothy 4:2

Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Ev-angel-ize [-ist] [-ism]

Greek εὖ-άγγελος

εὖ (well/good) and ἀγγέλλειν (to announce).

Ev (well/good) and angelos (messenger)

“bring good news”

Go Ye Into All The World...

What to Preach?

The Gospel

Go Ye Into All The World...

What is The Gospel?

The Creator of this world and everything else will return to reclaim and recover what is His, setting up a paradise to be inhabited by God and mankind. Anything that causes pain, despair and death will not exist in this paradise, it will be destroyed by fire. [Rev 21:1-8]

The problem; all who are guilty of sin will be destroyed at this time – they will not enter into this paradise. And, in case this doesn't sink in, ALL men and women have sinned, all have disobeyed God and deserve to be destroyed. [Rev 20:11-15, Rom 3:23]

Go Ye Into All The World...

What is The Gospel?

However, God has provided a means of escape. He sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to die for our sins. He was killed, buried and rose the third day. God has given all power to Him in Heaven and Earth, and by Him will God judge the world. [Acts 17:31]

It is by repentance and trust in Christ Jesus, The Son of God, and by no other, that men can be saved from the destruction that comes. [John 14:6, Acts 2:38, 4:12]

Go Ye Into All The World...



Go Ye Into All The World...

Luke 24:45–48

Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that **repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name** among **all nations**, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, **Repent**, and be baptized every one of you in the name of **Jesus Christ for the remission of sins**, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 3:19

Repent ye therefore, and **be converted**, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

Go Ye Into All The World...

Acts 17:30–32

And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth **all men every where** to **repent**: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by **that man** whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead. And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this matter.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Acts 20:20–21

And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you **publicly**, and from **house to house**, Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, **repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Go Ye Into All The World...

Acts 26:20

But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should **repent and turn to God**, and do works meet for repentance.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Hebrews 6:1

Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the **foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,**

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that **all should come to repentance.**

Go Ye Into All The World...

Who should Preach?

The Christian

Go Ye Into All The World...

2 Corinthians 5:18–20

And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath **given to us** the **ministry of reconciliation**; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then **we are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Matthew 10:27

What I tell **you** in darkness, that speak **ye** in light: and what **ye** hear in the ear, that preach **ye** upon the housetops.

Matthew 10:32-33

Whosoever therefore shall **confess me before men**, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall **deny me before men**, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Women Evangelizing

1 Corinthians 14:34

Let your **women keep silence** in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law.

1 Timothy 2:12

But **I suffer not a woman to teach**, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Women Evangelizing

Acts 18:1–2

After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth; And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife **Priscilla**; (because that Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Women Evangelizing

Acts 18:24–26

And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when **Aquila and Priscilla** had heard, they took him unto them, and **expounded** unto him the way of God more perfectly.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Women Evangelizing

John 4:7-24 [Summary]

Jesus meets 'The Woman at The Well' and instructs her of her sin and who he is:

John 4:25–26...28a

The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things. Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee **am he** ... **The woman** then left her waterpot, and **went her way** into the city...

Go Ye Into All The World...

Women Evangelizing

John 4:31-38 [Summary]

Jesus then teaches the disciples about what?

... Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work ... I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and **look on the fields**; for they are white **already to harvest** ... that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together ... One soweth, and another reapeth. I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and **ye are entered into their labours.**

Go Ye Into All The World...

Women Evangelizing

John 4:28–29

The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, **and saith to the men**,
Come, see a man, which told me all things that
ever I did: **is not this the Christ?**

Go Ye Into All The World...

Women Evangelizing

John 4:39–42

And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the **saying of the woman**, which testified, He told me all that ever I did. So when the Samaritans were come unto him, they besought him that he would tarry with them: and he abode there two days. And **many more believed** because of his own word; And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: **for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.**

Go Ye Into All The World...

“The Christian call to evangelism is not simply a call to persuade people to make decisions, but rather to proclaim to them the good news of salvation in Christ, to call them to repentance, and to give God the glory for regeneration and conversion. We do not fail in our evangelism if we faithfully tell the gospel to someone who is not subsequently converted; we fail only if we do not faithfully tell the gospel at all.”

Mark Dever

Go Ye Into All The World...

How to Preach?
With Words

Go Ye Into All The World...

Romans 10:13–15

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not **heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?** And how shall they preach, **except they be sent?** as it is written, **How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!**

Go Ye Into All The World...

Preach the Gospel
at all times and
when necessary,
use words

-st francis of assisi

Go Ye Into All The World...

1 Peter 2:11–12

Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may **by your good works, which they shall behold**, glorify God in the day of visitation.

Go Ye Into All The World...

1 Peter 3:15-16

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be **ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh** you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: **Having a good conscience**; that, whereas they **speak evil of you**, as of evildoers, **they may be ashamed** that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.

Go Ye Into All The World...

- **The Gospel is communicated through words. There is no Scriptural basis for any other way to preach the Gospel.**
- **Now, the method in which this 'conversation' can be started, that is another issue.**

Go Ye Into All The World...

1 Kings 18:17–19

And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim. Now therefore **send, and gather to me all Israel** unto **mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal** four hundred and fifty, **and the prophets of the groves** four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Acts 17:1–2

Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a **synagogue** of the Jews: And Paul, **as his manner was, went in unto them**, and three sabbath days **reasoned with them out of the scriptures**,

Go Ye Into All The World...

JESUS' most famous sermons were delivered outdoors. For example, the sermon on the mount (Matthew 5,6,7). In Luke 6:17 he preached to a "great multitude" in "the plain" (outdoors). The "Olivet discourse" (Matthew 24) was delivered on the Mount of Olives (outdoors). In Matthew 13 His well known parables were preached to "great multitudes" by "the sea side". The Gospels spend much time pointing out CHRIST'S dealings with multitudes

Go Ye Into All The World...

Other outdoor/multitude examples

Jesus

Matt 4:25; Matt 5:1; Matt 8:1; Matt 12:15;
Matt 13:2,34; Matt 14:14; Matt 15:10,30-35,39;
Matt 17:14; Matt 19:2; Matt 21:8,11.

Disciples

Acts 2:38, Acts 3:19, Acts 17:30-32,
Acts 20:20-21

Go Ye Into All The World...

- Purposely striking up a conversation with a friend, family member, coworker or stranger when opportunity presents itself.
- Placing or Passing Out Bibles, Tracts, Booklets, etc.
- Posting and discussing on Social media, etc.

Go Ye Into All The World...

**Some common
retorts to
preaching**

Go Ye Into All The World...

God said don't judge!

Matthew 7:1–2

Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

Go Ye Into All The World...

God said don't judge?

Matthew 7:3–5

And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is **in thine own eye**? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

Go Ye Into All The World...

God said don't judge?

Proverbs 27:5 **Open rebuke** is better than secret love.

Proverbs 31:9 Open thy mouth, **judge righteously**, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.

Matthew 18:15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, **go and tell him his fault** between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

Go Ye Into All The World...

God said don't judge?

John 7:24 Judge not according to the appearance, but **judge righteous judgment.**

1 Corinthians 2:15 But **he that is spiritual judgeth all things**, yet he himself is judged of no man.

Psalms 7:11 God judgeth the righteous, and **God is angry with the wicked every day.**

Go Ye Into All The World...

Let he who is without sin cast the first stone

John 8:7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is **without sin** among you, let him **first cast a stone** at her.

John 8:11 She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: **go, and sin no more.**

John 5:14 Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: **sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.**

Go Ye Into All The World...

Some may challenge your holiness by asking things such as do you eat shrimp? Do you stone your children? Do you wear mixed fabrics?

These questions are rabbit trails and typically should not be pursued in open air format or one-on-one situations. **Sin is the issue**

It is not about you, it is about the Word of God which is true regardless of you.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Commonly you will find people who want to argue the point of a specific sin, such as homosexuality, or fornication, or abortion.

They put these forth as things that they are either born with or they think are rights that cannot be taken away.

None of these are the issue – **SIN is the issue** – all men have sinned – all must repent.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Ephesians 6:10–12

Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord**, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, **but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.**

Go Ye Into All The World...



Go Ye Into All The World...

Getting ready for a specific time

- Pray, Pray, Pray....
- Study, study, study...
- Don't expect to 'win' anything...
- Think about it often – run 'scenarios' thru your head

Remember it is God that does the work, not you.

We are to obey and trust God for the fruit.

Go Ye Into All The World...

Some final pointers

- Be firm in your beliefs
- It is ok not to know all the answers...
- Don't be defensive
- Don't get taken down rabbit trails
- Beware of 'Christians' who want to help or take your side
- Always remember that everyone needs Christ – that is what we are preaching – Him and Him crucified.

Go Ye Into All The World...

1 Corinthians 3:9–11

For **we are labourers together with God**: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building.

According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. **For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.**

Go Ye Into All The World...

ENJOY THE REST OF
DAY 5

ENJOY THE REST OF
DAY 5

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DAY 5

ENJOY THE REST OF
DAY 5

