

Dear Friend of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

Diffusing the fragrance of the knowledge of God in and through the Lord Jesus Christ and His amazing salvation is our mission. We are so very thankful for the opportunities the Lord has provided to us to do just that. I hope that this newsletter can give you a brief overview of some of those opportunities. Thank you all for your continued prayer and support of our small ministry. Please continue to pray for the Lord to be magnified in all that we do.

The highlights:

University of Saskatchewan Outreach –

Thanks to the faithfulness of Kurt Manz and a few others, we have had a book and information table on the U. of S. campus in Saskatoon on a more regular basis. Ever since I have had to work five days a week in the public school in Leask to pay the bills, I have not been able to do this. As a result of a more visible presence, we have had a number of visitors to our studies.

- ***Evenings of Theology*** – Approximately twenty people have been participating in our Evening of Theology sessions. The book of Revelation has provided a great opportunity to study hermeneutics. In addition, we have found that the book of Revelation has been an excellent study for unbelievers in attendance. It is such a gospel-centered book that provides great comfort for the saint, and great warning for the rebel. Audio messages of the sessions can be found at <http://canada.idsaudio.com/>. Notes can be viewed online along with the audio messages or by going to the “reading room” at www.idscanada.org.
- ***School of Evangelism*** – We are down to our final class in our school of evangelism. Our numbers have been small (only between 8-10 people). I think the term “evangelism” can be a little scary for many – especially when you advertise that half of the time would be spent in practical application. This class took place on Saturday mornings. We began each session with a time of teaching. We wanted to focus on a God-centered approach to evangelism – focusing on both the message and the method. The teaching session was followed by practical application in its many forms – from prayer, letter writing, memorizing scripture, connecting with people on campus etc. We then gathered briefly for sharing, questions, and prayer. Our desire would be that focus on the glorious gospel of Christ would encourage Christians to make witnessing a part of their life.

One of the passages we emphasized in our teaching time was 2 Cor. 2:14-17 in which we saw that our main goal was to glorify God. We are not out to make a sale. Thus, we need to treat and relate to people as people. One of our lessons focused on asking thought-provoking questions. The very next week I had opportunity to relate to a young man who grew up as a Buddhist., and put into practice the things we were learning. At one point in our conversation, the young man stated that, as a Buddhist, he believed in hell. I asked him, “So, who do you think will go there?” This seemed to make him stop and forced him to think through the implications of what he claimed he believed. He answered that people who do bad things will go there. I then asked him if he had ever done bad things. Hesitantly, beginning to realize the implications, he acknowledged that he had. My next question, of course, was what was going to prevent him from going there. He said that he planned on doing good from now on. After a brief discussion on how that could never erase the wrong that he had already done, I had the opportunity to proclaim Jesus, the only Savior for sinners. We continue to have contact with this man, who now is describing himself as “seeking truth.” He has a copy of the gospel of John. May the Lord open his eyes that he may behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

One On One Discipleship – I have starting meeting with a few young men on Saturday mornings. I am really hoping that pouring myself into these young men will bear much fruit for the kingdom.

Online Discipleship – We have also developed a whole new section of our website for the purpose of grounding these men and other believers. On our discipleship page we have articles and audio lessons on foundational issues. The students make notes and communicate with me regarding their progress.

Open Forums – In addition to our regularly scheduled Bible studies, we invite people to consider coming to or hosting an open forum. An Open Forum is an informal gathering, usually in a home, where we meet to sort through any biblical topic the host chooses. These can be evangelistic, where someone invites a few unsaved friends, or focused on equipping believers that they might be stirred to love and good works by the amazing truth of the Scriptures. Thus far, we have held one open forum with much profit.

Fall Bible Seminar with Jon Zens – We are really looking forward to October 20-22 when we will have Jon Zens (Searching Together) and his wife Dottie here for workshops focused on the practical application of the “one another” commands in the law of Christ. You can register online for the Saturday seminar.

Bible Conference – I will be speaking at a conference in Saskatoon sponsored by Fellowship Baptist Church on Oct. 27-28. My topic will be “Jesus as King.” Be watching on our audio site for this message in the near future.

NCT Think Tank – In December of this year, IDS in Arizona is planning on hosting a New Covenant Theology “think tank” to work through various implications of NCT. I have been invited to take part in this event. The Lord has worked out the details for me to get time off work. Now I am trying to put together finances to be able to purchase plane tickets to Phoenix.

Leadership Training – We are offering an intern program in order to focus on training up faithful men who will be able to teach others, also. Details of this can now be found on our church website (www.idscanada.org/grace) in the discipleship section.

Outreach in the local public high school - We have been having a difficult time gathering students for our Bible study. This is partly due to changes in the school day schedule and a variety of lunch break times for different grades. Our last study had only two in attendance. One of the two was not a Christian and thus, it provided a good opportunity to go over the gospel with him.

Thank you so much for each and everyone of you who have considered it a joy to share with us in this endeavor, both financially and in your prayers. We are striving to be faithful. May the Lord be magnified!

Striving to advance the joy and faith of others through the teaching of the Word of God.

If you have a desire to support the teaching ministry of Murray McLellan and In-Depth Studies Canada you may do so by sending a cheque to:

In-Depth Studies Canada
Box 74
Leask, Saskatchewan, CANADA
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Make cheques payable to “IDS Canada” and designate them “for Murray.”

Note: If you live in the United States and would like a tax-deductible receipt. Please direct your gift to In-Depth Studies in Arizona and designate it for Murray in Canada.

You may make donations online by visiting our website at: www.idscanada.org

By His grace and for His glory,
Murray McLellan
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