

POINTING MORMONS TO CHRIST

In love, we send missionaries to distant places to reach those who do not know Christ. We have the same passion to reach the lost in our own hometown. The new Mormon temple down the street is a sad but important reminder that there are many desperately lost and blinded right here. We must be ready to point these Mormon neighbors to genuine faith in Christ. Though our Mormon neighbors have an image of wholesome living, they are desperately in need of salvation through Christ alone. Though the religion calls itself “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints”, it is not a true church and they do not know or preach the biblical Jesus.

Because our Mormon neighbors have been misled by false prophets and counterfeit scriptures, you will need to be familiar with some of the key errors of their religious systems. As you will see, Mormonism is not simply another denomination. It is an entirely different belief system that contradicts the message of the Bible in many critical ways. The resources included in this newsletter will equip you to identify some of the errors of Mormonism, and help you as you share the gospel with a Mormon missionary at your door or with a Mormon friend in your life.

MORMON HERESIES

- * God the Father was once a man on another earth who was exalted to god status.
- * There is also a Heavenly Mother
- * A good Mormon can live in such a way as to become a god himself.
- * Salvation is by works, and not by grace through faith alone in Christ alone.
- * Their version of “grace” is: “You are saved by grace after all that you can do.”
- * Instead of the Bible, Mormons follow the *Book of Mormon*, *Doctrine and Covenants*, and *The Pearl of Great Price*

MORMON TACTICS

- * A Mormon missionary will initially respond to your testimony with this: “We believe that too”. They are aware that they have different definitions for all of our biblical terms, including: Jesus, grace, salvation, and heaven. We may be using the same words but the Mormon church has very different meanings for these and other essential terms.
- * Another Mormon tactic is to get you to pray and seek a feeling to confirm the truthfulness of Mormonism. Of course, this is not how we discern truth. Our feelings are often faulty. An evil spirit could give you a feeling. Instead, we are to test all beliefs by the Bible.

SCRIPTURES TO KNOW

- * “But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.” Galatians 1:8-9
- * “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.” 1 John 4:1
- * “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:8-10
- * “Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.” 1 John 5:12-13

TRY THIS!

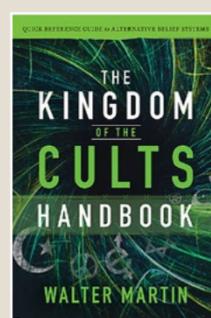
When young Mormon missionaries come to your house, pray, open your door, step outside, and say: “I’m glad you are here! I want to share some good news with you! Jesus saved me and I want to share with you how you can know him personally as well.” Then share your testimony of coming to Jesus. Emphasize that you are trusting in Jesus alone. Share Ephesians 2:8-9. Compassionately tell them that you want them to receive this gift of salvation as well. Then see where the conversation goes. Be prepared for their response: “We believe that too.” You can explain that you are aware that they believe they are saved by works in addition to their faith, and reaffirm Ephesians 2:8-9 and John 3:16. It would be wonderful if God brought them to immediate conviction and salvation in that one encounter, but more likely you are planting seeds in that conversation. Politely let them know that you are there to talk with them if they want to learn more about true grace.

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Handbook