



BILLBOARD EVANGELISM

A Christian Aid Ministries Program

UPDATE

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Three signs on the road to Gaza

—by Curt Wagoner, Billboard Evangelism phone team member

“And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him” (Acts 8:30-31).

Signs along the roadway are not a recent phenomenon. The Bible describes an account of a man traveling along a desert road going “down from Jerusalem unto Gaza.” This man was a man of position, and he was returning to his distant homeland of Ethiopia. While his chariot bounced along the desolate highway, he occupied himself in reading a portion of the scroll of Isaiah, no doubt given him while he had been in Jerusalem. Along that lonely road, **God sent signs to capture the traveler’s attention.**

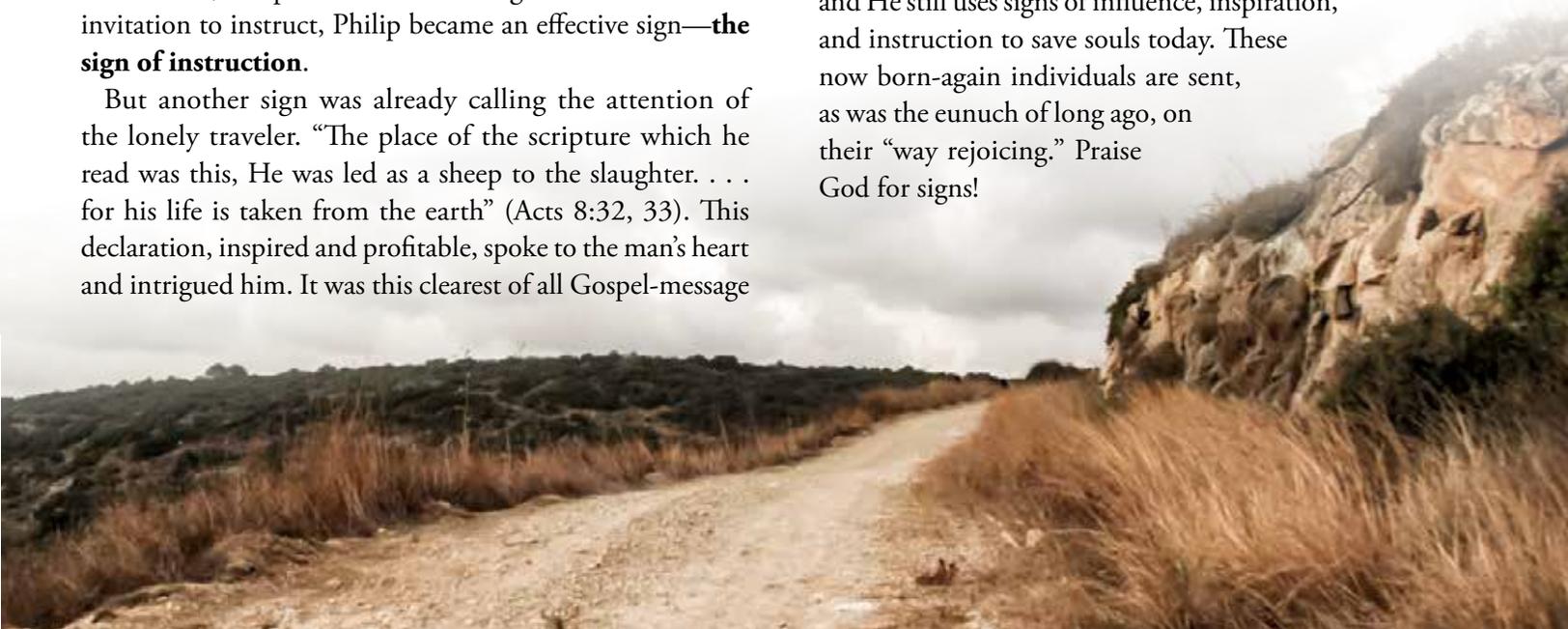
Philip the evangelist had experienced a fruitful ministry in the fields of Samaria. God, however, plucked him out of Samaria and sent him to the desert. As Philip drew near the chariot, he observed the eunuch reading and inquired if he understood the prophet’s words. The Ethiopian replied, “How can I, except some man should guide me?” With this invitation to instruct, Philip became an effective sign—**the sign of instruction.**

But another sign was already calling the attention of the lonely traveler. “The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter. . . . for his life is taken from the earth” (Acts 8:32, 33). This declaration, inspired and profitable, spoke to the man’s heart and intrigued him. It was this clearest of all Gospel-message

expressions available in his day, which pricked the man’s heart and prompted his inquiry: “Of whom speaketh the prophet this?” Understand, dear reader, that the forever-settled-in-heaven Word was already tapping like a hammer, shining like a lamp, and burning like fire in this man’s conscience before Philip ever approached the chariot. That eternal Word was **the sign of inspiration.**

But there was a third sign for the traveler on the road to Gaza, seen yet earlier in time. Someone in Jerusalem had taken enough interest in him to provide this writing of Isaiah. Perhaps that unknown individual had actually spoken with him, and perhaps he had not. Regardless of whether or not they had spoken, certainly an influence impacted the so-journer for all eternity. Before the sign of inspiration or the sign of instruction would effectively convict him, this man was first called by **the sign of influence.**

We travel in a desert land. Signs proliferate around us. Sometimes they are observed, and other times not. Yet God continues to tap, to shine, to burn in human hearts, and He still uses signs of influence, inspiration, and instruction to save souls today. These now born-again individuals are sent, as was the eunuch of long ago, on their “way rejoicing.” Praise God for signs!



Abigail's journey of rejection

Abigail's* journey of rejection started twenty-eight years ago when she was a two-week-old baby, and her mother decided to drop off little Abigail at her grandparents. Abigail has thought about this rejection many times throughout her life.

During her childhood, she was able to be in and out of her parents' home, but was hurt again when they went through a divorce. Later Abigail's mother brought a boyfriend home, who at one point tried to abuse Abigail.

One bright spot in Abigail's life was her grandparents, whom she lived with for much of her growing up years. They were believers and did their best to give Abigail a stable home life. They took her to church regularly and taught her about God and the Bible. She made a number of friends in her youth group, including her best friend Susan.

As time went along, Susan met and married a young man. Abigail also started spending time with a young man named Justin. Eventually Justin asked Abigail to marry him, and she said yes. It seemed that Abigail was finally finding a place of acceptance and belonging after feeling rejected for so many years.

However, three months before Abigail's wedding, she received some devastating news. Her husband-to-be, Justin, had been cheating on her with her best friend Susan. Not only that, but Justin and Susan were making plans to get married after getting a divorce for Susan.

Abigail felt an overwhelming sense of loss and rejection that was even greater than the rejection from her own mother abandoning her so many years earlier. To make the situation even more painful, Abigail found out that Justin had been spreading false accusations about her, so that even the others in her youth group were turning against her.

As time went on, Abigail plunged deeper and deeper into despair until she began seriously considering suicide. Fearing death, she continued to cover up her pain by entering into a life of immorality. She eventually met another young man named George. They moved in with each other and had a child together. However, George turned out to be abusive, and soon Abigail was back to the dark feelings of pain and rejection.

Even though Abigail was living a sinful life, she still remembered many of the values she had received from her Christian grandparents. She wanted to raise her daughter as a Christian, but George wasn't interested in that. Eventually she decided that she needed to end her relationship with George for the good of herself and her daughter.

Abigail still couldn't stay away from her life of immorality after breaking up with George. She was continually plagued with feelings of guilt, wondering what would happen to her if she were to die.

On September 11, 2020, after passing a billboard in

* Names in this publication have been changed to protect identities.

continued on next page . . .



West Fargo, North Dakota

Pennsylvania that said *Jesus, your only way to God*, Abigail called. She poured out her heart and shared the struggles she has faced and the rejection she has felt. She told of the many ways that God has been working miracles in her life and showing mercy to her in spite of her unfaithfulness to Him. She questioned whether she is on her way to heaven, even though she knew she was living a life of sin.

Our team member explained to Abigail what Jesus said about the kingdom of God and that true salvation comes from a relationship with Jesus Christ. This relationship begins when we repent from our sins, and then grows as we yield our life to Jesus and walk in obedience to His commands.

Abigail was especially touched by the word “yield.” Although she had “believed” in Jesus as a child, she could

not honestly say that she had yielded her life to Him, at least not for any length of time. She was beginning to see the difference between just having a head knowledge of Jesus and surrendering her life to Him.

Our team member told Abigail about the free literature we offer, including a book called *The Kingdom that Turned the World Upside Down*, which describes the kingdom teachings of Jesus in more detail. She agreed to receive a literature packet with this book and a few other items to encourage her to surrender to Jesus and live for Him. One of the last things she said on the phone call was that she wants to think about these things and consider them more.

Let’s pray that Abigail would enter into a genuine relationship with Christ and that it would give her the victory and fulfillment she longs for.

Answered prayer in Port Trevorton, Pennsylvania

In our last issue we shared an article titled “Stripping away hell’s power through prayer.” Here is a testimony that shows the power of prayer.

Placing Gospel billboards where they are most effective is our goal. In July 2019, a caller informed a phone team member of a vacant sign in the parking lot of an adult bookstore in Port Trevorton, Pennsylvania. After learning of its availability, a contract was immediately obtained and the message *Lust destroys; Jesus saves* was posted. Though the owner rented out the billboard, the message was diametrically opposed to his business.

A few weeks later this team member was in the area for revival meetings and saw the owner outside his store. Breathing a prayer, he pulled in and spoke to him about his soul. The owner told him that he was not interested in getting a Bible or hearing about Jesus.

The next message chosen for this location was *Where are you going? Heaven or hell*. Christians were praying that these messages would make a difference for those who went in or considered this vile and degrading business. We do not know how many people had second thoughts before entering this establishment, nor how many had remorse after coming out and facing the Gospel sign again.

This summer a “For sale” sign showed up in front of the store. It was still in operation, but the owner obviously wanted out. The Gospel sign was again in conflict with his sign.



Kearny, New Jersey

Now the Gospel sign read *Shackled by lust? Jesus sets free*.

In July 2020, one of our team members gave a billboard presentation at a Mennonite church in the area. A heartfelt plea was given for some businessmen to buy the bookstore and turn it into something good. Prayers were lifted to God regarding this possibility. Recently those prayers have been answered! A Mennonite businessman bought the property, and will be turning it into an outdoor furnace and mini storage shed lot. The Gospel billboard stands boldly as a survivor against the lies and darkness Satan promotes. PRAISE GOD!

This answer to prayer to strip away hell’s power should continue to make us bold witnesses. “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation . . .” (Romans 1:16)

Billboard Evangelism conference line presentation December 16, 2020

Would you like to hear firsthand experiences of our phone team as they answer calls from CAM's Gospel billboards? Billboard Evangelism is giving a conference call presentation on December 16, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. EST.

- » To access this live presentation, call **712.432.3990** (conference ID 22620).
- » To listen to the recorded presentation at your convenience, call **712.432.8730** (conference ID 22620). The sharing ID will be 121620.

COVID quotes & questions



"Is this the end time? Is this sent by God?"

"This is a trying time for me."

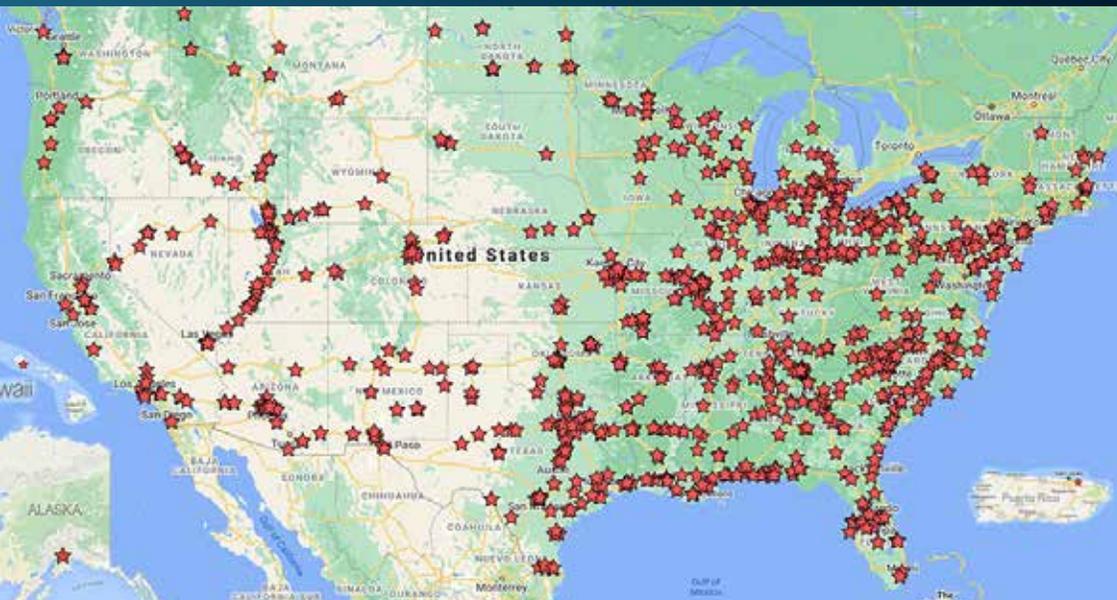
"I'm anxious with everything going on in the world today."

"The most scariest thing is the confusion on the planet."

"Is COVID-19 God's way of getting our attention?"

1,479 BILLBOARDS spreading the Gospel in the USA

Includes bus/mall posters in four states that ban billboards.



An average of
282
calls per day

Some of these callers choose to speak with a phone team member, while others press a number to listen to a short sermon.



26.5 million
estimated viewers
per day



1,479
Gospel messages scattered
across all 50 states and
one U.S. territory

BILLBOARD EVANGELISM PURPOSE STATEMENT

"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins . . ." Acts 26:18

Colorado residents may obtain copies of registration and financial documents from the office of the Secretary of State, 303-894-2860, www.sos.state.co.us/ re: Reg. No. 20113021578. Florida residents: A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, 1-800-435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. REGISTRATION NUMBER CH35002. Georgia residents: A full and fair description of Christian Aid Ministries and its financial statements are available upon request at P.O. Box 360, Berlin, OH 44610. Illinois residents: Contracts and reports regarding Christian Aid Ministries are on file with the Illinois Attorney General. Maryland residents: For the cost of postage and copying, documents and information filed under the Maryland charitable organizations laws can be obtained from the Secretary of State, Charitable Division, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401, 800-825-4510. Michigan residents: The registration number of Christian Aid Ministries in the state of Michigan is CS 46826. New Jersey residents: Information filed with the Attorney General concerning this charitable solicitation may be obtained from the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey by calling 1-973-504-6215. Registration with the Attorney General does not imply endorsement. New York residents: A copy of the most recent annual report is available from the State of New York Department of Law,

Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, New York, 10271. North Carolina residents: Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 1-919-733-4510. The license is not an endorsement by the State. Pennsylvania residents: The official registration and financial information of Christian Aid Ministries may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Virginia residents: A copy of the financial statement is available from the Division of Consumer Affairs, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services, 1100 Bank Street, Richmond, VA 23219 or call 1-804-786-1343. Washington residents: Thank you for supporting Christian Aid Ministries. For additional information regarding the organization's activities or financial information, Christian Aid Ministries is registered with the Washington State Charities Program as required by law and information may be obtained by calling 800-332-4483 or 360-725-0378. West Virginia residents: West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capital, Charleston, WV 25305. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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