



FOR OUR City

“Wow!! Talk about missing the mark. Don't get me wrong this is a good idea but a CAUSE... Giving students a shirt?? What about giving hope and purpose by exposing them to the truth of Jesus Christ? Yeah, yeah this may be a path to doing that and it is essential to meet perceived needs, but... Why conceal that this is a church youth group's idea? Are you ashamed of God? Come on! Why hide the truth?”

“Here is a CAUSE: Having all youth in Salem/ Keizer exposed to the truth so they may know and grow into who they are in Christ. Having a youth group (church) with its people, programs and products to focus on the CAUSE of Jesus Christ. Not just some social justice idea. What about wholeheartedly believing in God's plan for teenagers and endeavor the cause of Jesus Christ? But NOOOOOOOO you want to give them a shirt!!! How sad.”

God is concerned about people being “right” with Him;
AND, He is concerned about the state of people’s lives.

No, this is the kind of fasting I want: Free those who are wrongly imprisoned; lighten the burden of those who work for you. Let the oppressed go free, and remove the chains that bind people. Share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them, and do not hide from relatives who need your help. Then your salvation will come like the dawn, and your wounds will quickly heal.

ISAIAH 58: 6-7

“For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me... I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!”

MATTHEW 25: 35-36, 40

So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless. Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works.

JAMES 2:17, 26

The Scriptures insist that the best test of a person's righteousness is how they treat the poor and most vulnerable in their midst.

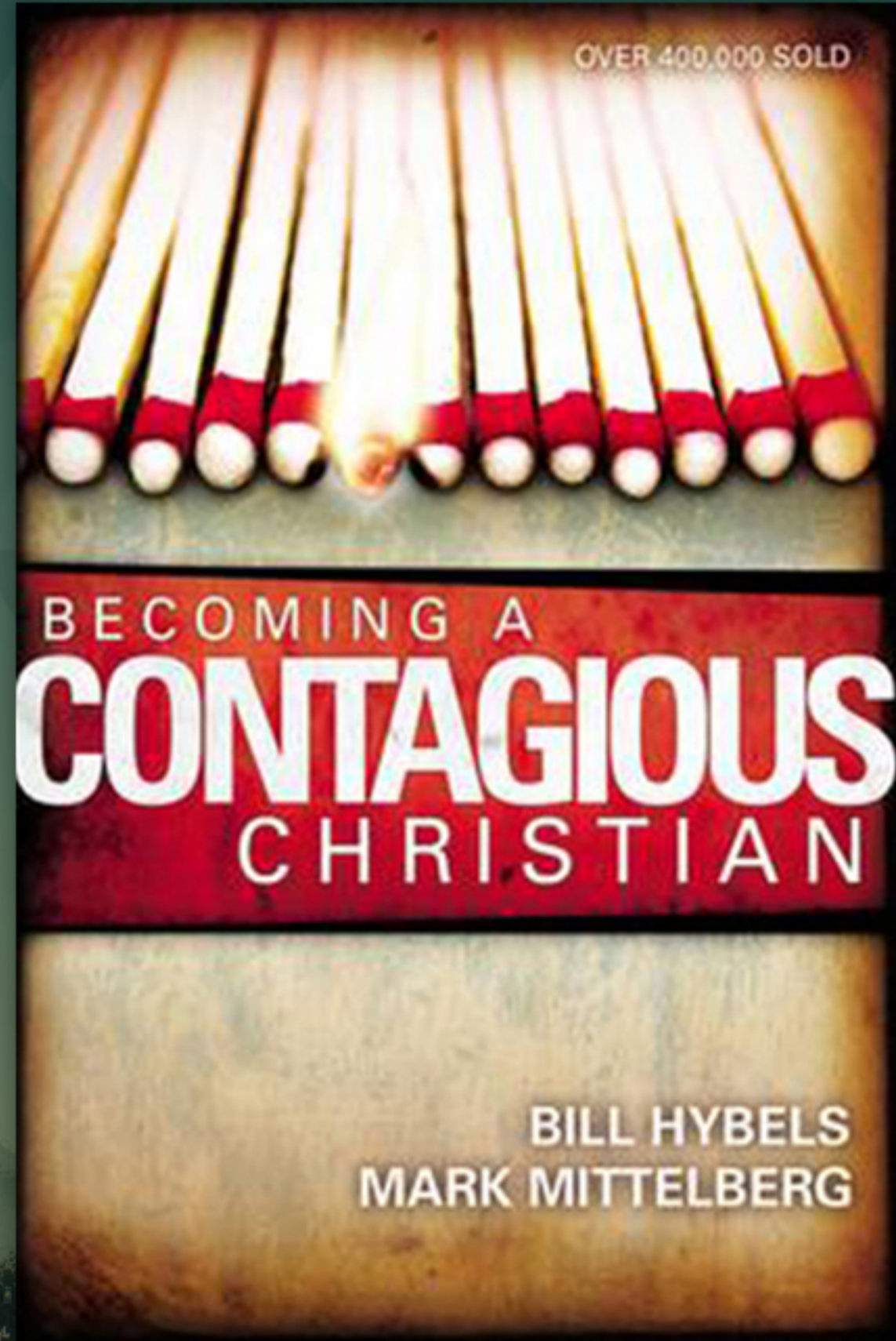
“He sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and heal the sick.”

LUKE 9:2

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the Lord’s favor has come.”

LUKE 4:18-19

Find a tangible way to show God's concern for the state of people's lives.



“Preach Christ, preach Christ, and if necessary, use words.”

- UNKNOWN

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ.

ROMANS 10:13-14, 17

Prepare yourself to articulate the Good News and pray for opportunities.

Deeds verify the meaning of words. Words clarify the meaning of deeds.

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AND, He is concerned about the state of people’s lives.

