



# Merry Christmas!

What a wonderful time to **reflect** on all that God has done in & through our lives this past fall. Together we **rejoice** in God's great faithfulness to carry us through our trials & bless us more than we deserve. David in the Psalms writes,

Our family is also so very thankful for ALL our ministry supporters, prayer warriors & frontline partners in the Gospel. From an attitude of gratitude I look forward and **renew** the focus & vision for 2019! I believe that God put it on my heart many years ago that I am to spend my life preaching the Gospel, making disciples, & equipping the saints. While this can take on many different forms, as an evangelist my focus is preaching Christ publicly with courage, compassion & clarity.

The "discipleship" often happens among other evangelists or new believers that respond to our preaching. And the "equipping of the saints" happens in the local church or on the frontlines sharpening & being sharpened by other ministers. Until the LORD returns or until our days are done, let us all remain focused & faithful to the vision God has given each one of us!

Until the nets are full!

**"You crown the year with Your goodness, and Your paths drip with abundance."**

**Psalm 65:11**

As the year draws to an end I can't help but be thankful to the LORD!

**greg the preacher**

Preaching Christ Publicly with Courage, Compassion & Clarity!



## Fall 2018 Outreaches

- **NC State Packapalooza**
- **Back to School Event**
- **NC Folk Festival Greensboro**
- **NC Bluegrass Festival**
- **NC State Fair**
- **Chapel Hill Halloween Night**
- **NCSU Weekly Campus College Preaching**
- **UNC Weekly Campus College Preaching**
- **Friday Nights Downtown Raleigh Evangelism**
- **Weekly Abortion Clinic Outreach & Love-Life Events**

## Events & Festivals

Local events & festivals are some of the best places to open-air preach because people are just walking around, enjoying the event and are in no rush to get anywhere. Some events can draw tens of thousands to the city for a day or weekend. By just setting up on a corner and preaching the Bible you can reach hundreds in a single day with the Gospel who otherwise might not be reached. Many will stop to listen, some will ask questions, some will ridicule, different brands of Christians will throw in their two cents and there's never a dull moment. Having experienced the blessing of God we make large events & festivals a priority outreach throughout the year. As a team, some of us will preach while others minister to people in the crowd or on the outskirts by talking one on one, praying for people, passing out tracts & Bibles, or encouraging other Christians to be bold in their witness for Christ.

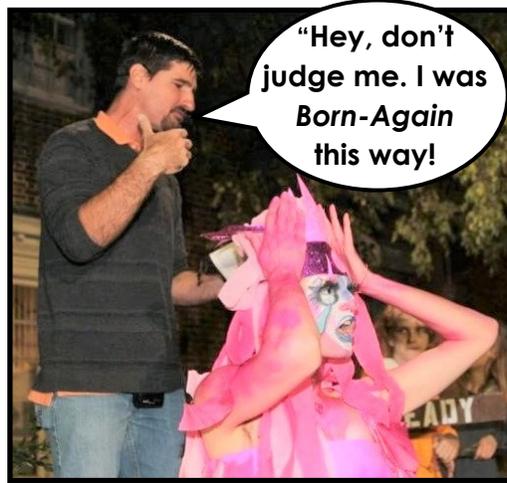
## Join us in Rejoicing!

God has been exceptionally gracious over the past few months in many areas of ministry. We have seen some of our largest crowds when preaching the Gospel publicly. God has given us favor with the police & the city has decided to allow us to use amplification when preaching. Local churches are being mobilized to stand against abortion & hundreds of Christians are joining the fight to defend unborn life! Our home church recently purchased a building that we are remodeling & we hope to be moved in by Easter. And lastly, after over 2 years it looks like we will be finalizing the adoption of our foster son within the next few months!



## Lingering Lesbian?

The young lady in the picture below listened for a long time as I preached at the Bluegrass Festival (left top pic) . Then she moved in for the kill to talk one on one as she proudly shared that she's a happy lesbian, very content & has no desire to repent & surrender to Christ. "You sure listened to a lot of preaching for someone who's not interested in God." I said. "Who in your family is praying for you?" She said her mom is a passionate Christian who prays for her every day to get right with God. LOL! Instantly I knew I was working in tandem with the prayers of her mother and the grace of God. I told her to tell her mom I said, "Hi" and then reminded her that it's pretty obvious that God (and her mother) love her more than she loves herself. He's not letting her off the hook that easy. We shook hands as I released her back to God & into the faithful prayers of her mother. She is a perfect picture of so many young homosexuals I talk with.



## Halloween Light

This past Halloween night in Chapel Hill (cover picture & above) a light began to shine in the darkness as a lost crowd gathered to hear the Gospel. I stood on a small brick wall preaching & a man dressed as a woman in bright pink & white began to dance, mimic & mock me. But what the enemy meant for evil God used for good. All night long people came to listen, engage the preaching & ask questions. While some mocked, others stuck around & my friends & I were able to reach many that night through preaching, handing out Gospel tracts & one on one conversations. A good heckler in the hands of God can turn a few listeners into a large crowd.

**"My mouth will tell of Your righteousness and Your salvation all day long, for I do not know their limits."  
Psalm 71:15**

## Good News at the Fair

The North Carolina State Fair draws around a million people every year. We created a custom Gospel tract for this event as thousands can be reached going to & from the Fair. Billy Graham once said, "Nothing surpasses a tract for sowing the seed of the Good News." I agree. We spent hours handing out tracts, preaching & reaching out to the rivers of people flowing to & from the Fair. Below is a picture of our "State Fair" Gospel Tract.



## Why Open-Air Preaching?

In the Bible Open-Air preaching is one of the most common ways God communicates His truth to the public. The Old Testament prophets, John the Baptist, Jesus & His disciples were all "Open-Air Preachers." It's not the only way to share the Gospel, but it is a biblical way. **Jesus said, "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."** -Mark 16:15 Open-air preaching is the most effective way to reach the most amount of people, in the least amount of time & in the least expensive way. Call it what you want. I call it, "The love of God on a step-ladder."



Angela, Jonny, Greg & James Stephens

## Stephens Family Update

The Stephens family continues to grow as each of us are stretched & challenged in our different areas of life. Angela is very active as a mom, wife & foster mother. She also enjoys making various natural hygiene products. In addition to our 2 year old foster boy we added his baby half sister to our family a few months ago. Everyone in our family & church loved her very much, but just recently we had to release her back to her biological family. That's the hard part about foster care. Everyone grows attached. But it looks like we're almost across the finish-line in adopting our foster son, praise God! James is 10 years old & in the 4th grade. He's a great student. He's extremely smart & shows signs of becoming a strong leader. He loves to ride his scooter, play soccer, basketball, watch movies, play games & he can solve a rubics cube in about a minute. We're also very thankful that he's growing a love for reading books. Jonathan is 6 years old & in the 1st grade. He's also a great student. He's gentle, kind & has a wide range of interests. Like his

brother he enjoys riding his scooter, playing soccer & basketball. He's become really good at drawing & he enjoys playing the keyboard. He's also developing a love for reading & just recently finished reading through his entire kid's Bible all by himself. The boys & dad love doing all kinds of things together, like building forts, bunkers or scooter ramps. We enjoy messing around with electronic things, taking toys apart & building new things. We also like making silly movies. As a family we serve in our church, Greg teaches 3-5th graders & Angela teaches K-1st graders. The boys are very helpful in setting up & cleaning up. Like any family our family has its struggles. Personality conflicts, expectations, selfishness, sin, laziness, tempers, arguments, apologies, and on and on. But the one thing we have going for us is GOD! He is the glue & the love, the wisdom & the grace that binds us together. He keeps us resolved in our love for each other, willingness to grow, change, mature & become the family He's created us to be for His glory! We're so very thankful for all our friends & family. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! With Love, *Greg, Angela, James & Jonny*

## Praising God!

- This year over 30 babies have been saved from abortion through the combined efforts of various Christians ministering on the frontlines of the abortion clinic here in Raleigh!
- Many unbelievers are being drawn to God through the public witness of Christ!

**THANK YOU** to all our supporters & to my friends who took these ministry pictures.

## Please Join Us:

All support is tax deductible & can be given to us at:

**Garner Christian Fellowship**  
**P.O. Box 744**  
**Garner, NC 27529**



\*Please make a note to "Greg Stephens/Evangelism" with support.

**You can also give electronically by going to:**

**[www.garnerchristianfellowship.org/give/](http://www.garnerchristianfellowship.org/give/)**

Click on "Evangelism Donation." Thank you!

**[www.gregthepreacher.com](http://www.gregthepreacher.com)**