

Christian Witnesses

Christian Witnesses is about sharing the Gospel in various venues.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6 (ESV)

January 2012

By the time you have received this newsletter; we have gone door to door and set up a table in front of the La Habra Post Office. Please pray for those we have come in contact with. This month we return to Columbo and Frank who is a Mormon.

Frank: Columbo, I asked the bishop last month about praying to Jesus. The bishop said that we are to pray only to the Father. The bishop recommended a quote from the Ensign magazine of 1998 on page 58. It reads as follows: "Elder Bruce R. McConkie clearly explained what our relationship with each member of the Godhead should be, pointing out that some misguided members of the Church may "begin to pray directly to Christ because of some special friendship they feel has been developed" with him. This is wrong, said Elder McConkie. We should pray directly to the Father, and he will answer our prayers as he sees fit. Elder McConkie also pointed out that we should maintain an attitude of reverence for all the members of the Godhead. (See "Our Relationship with the Lord," in Brigham Young University 1981–82 Fireside and Devotional Speeches, Provo: Brigham Young University, 1982, pp. 97–103.)"

Columbo: Um. The reference is interesting. Who do the Nephites pray to in the following verses from 3 Nephi 19:17-18 in the Book of Mormon (BOM)?

"17 And it came to pass that when they had all knelt down upon the earth, he commanded his disciples that they should pray. 18 And behold, they began to pray; and they did pray unto Jesus, calling him their Lord and their God."

Frank: Jesus. However, in verses 15, 19 and 22 it says that Jesus is in their midst. So, this is the reason they could pray to him. The pattern of prayer is to the Father in Jesus' name as we can see from verses 6-8.

Columbo: Did Jesus ever correct the disciples for praying to him?

Frank: No.

Columbo: I find it interesting that Jesus went on to bless them as they prayed unto Him in verse 25. More importantly, the BOM has no historical evidence to show that it is God's word. Frank, have you ever seen the video "The Bible vs. the Book of Mormon"? It can be viewed online. Click [here](#) to watch the video online.

Frank: No.

Columbo: Frank, the Bible is God's word. Is it older than the LDS' scriptures?

Frank: The Bible is God's word in so far as it is correctly translated. It is older than the other LDS' scriptures.

Columbo: Malachi 3:6 says the Lord does not change. Since the Bible is God's word, all other revelation that claimed to be from God must be consistent with the Bible. In 2 Corinthians 12:8-9 and Acts 7:59, who does Paul and Stephen pray to?

Frank: Jesus.

Columbo: 1 John 1:3 says that we have fellowship with the Father and the Son. How can you have “fellowship” with someone, Frank, if you never talk to them?

Frank: You can’t!

Columbo: By the way, there is one more thing. 1 Timothy 2:5 says that Jesus is the mediator between man and God. Can someone be your mediator, Frank, if you never talk to him?

Frank: No.

Columbo: Because the Bible is the Word of God, I must obey Jesus’ words in John 5:39-40. ³⁹Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. ⁴⁰And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.” So, if I am to have life, I need to come to Jesus. I can do that through prayer.

Frank: I will look into the scriptures more.

Tract of the Month

Click [here](#) to read the tract.

If you would like to volunteer at an event, please visit the calendar section of the website and let us know.

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In Christ, *Jeff*