

“We train disciplemakers...”



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Update from Kansas Communities Ministry

Making Disciples Naturally Podcast

*Moving from Friendship
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reluctant State Fair
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Mark your calendars for our
Fall Conference
October 5, 2024
Special guest speaker:
Bill Mowry, Navigator and
author of “The Way of the
Alongsider,” “Walk with Me”
and other books
and resources.

State Fair Time! September 6-15, 2024

The Kansas Communities Ministry has an awesome opportunity to share the love of Jesus with hundreds of people at the Kansas State Fair again this year. For over fourteen years, we've been blessed by being able to hand out free books and literature which all glorify the Name of Jesus. In addition, through thoughtful listening and interaction we have the privilege of encouraging and praying with and for the people with whom we interact.



Will you prayerfully consider joining us for this outreach? Free training is provided and you will be blessed yourself as you interact with other like-minded folks in the booth (in the air-conditioned Meadowlark building). We are obligated to staff our booth throughout the State Fair, typically from 9 am to 9 pm daily so that takes a large number of folks helping out. You will not be alone at the booth as we make sure there are always several people to work together.

We ask that you sign up for a minimum of 2 hours at a time, although most shifts are 4 hours in length. If you want to sign up, please [click here](#). If you need more information, please email us at office@KansasNavs.org or call 316-264-8819.

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“Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters! Let every person be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger. For human anger does not accomplish God's righteousness.”

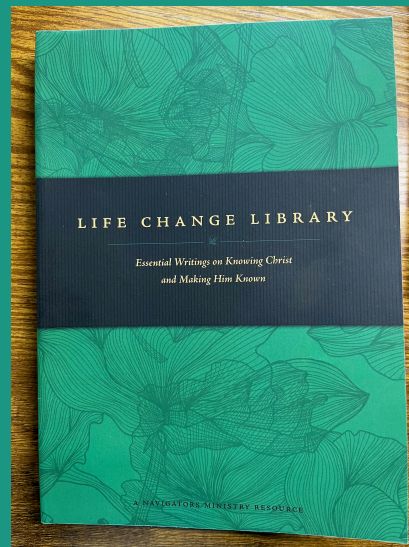
—James 1:19-20 (NET Bible)

Life Change Library- Essential Writings on Knowing Christ and Making Him Known Pub. NavPress, © 2021

This little compendium of twelve classic Navigator writings is worth its weight in gold. It is packed full of great little gems and nuggets of truth by ten different authors. These classic articles are each based on God's Word and have stood the test of time in their practical application. You'll want to read it, share it and refer back to it time and time again.

Here are a few examples:

Marks of a Disciple by Lorne Sanny: "The first mark of a disciple is that he is someone who is identified with the person of Jesus Christ — someone who will openly admit that he belongs to Christ." p. 5



How to Spend a Day in Prayer by Lorne Sanny: "Why take this time from a busy life? What is it for? For extended fellowship with God, for a renewed perspective, for catching up on intercession..." pp. 27-28

Changing Your Thought Patterns by George Sanchez: "'Be transformed by the renewing of your mind' (Romans 12:2 NASB) Every one of us must seek to answer that all-important question, 'How do I renew my mind?' ... Rivulets are like thought patterns in our minds. The longer we think along any given line, the stronger that thought pattern becomes... We can say, 'I will not allow myself to think that.'" pp. 66-67

The Need of the Hour by Dawson Trotman: "Let me tell you what I believe the need of the hour is...I believe it is an army of soldiers, dedicated to Jesus Christ, who believe not only that He is God, but that He can fulfill every promise He has ever made...It is the only way we can accomplish the thing that is on His heart — getting the gospel to every creature." p. 213

Goads and Nails

By Richard Spann

"We are all links in the process of others coming to faith in Christ. Our job is not to be the missing link."

— Jack Griffin

Jack Griffin came to Christ during the 1959 Billy Graham Crusade in Sydney, Australia. Two years later Jack began receiving help from a Navigator-trained businessman. Jack and his wife May then began the Navigator work in Australia. On a trip to Wichita in the late 1970's, he told the following story.

"After starting the Navigator work in Australia I would travel around the country, seeking to build others up in their faith and encourage them in their walk with Christ. The questions I often asked were 'When did your faith begin?', and 'When did you first start thinking seriously about Christ?' In nearly every city to which I traveled, Brisbane, Adelaide, Melbourne, etc., I would encounter a few men who told me that when they were in the military service in World War II they met a man on a certain street in Sydney who would come up to them and say the following 'Pardon me, but do you know for certain where you would spend eternity if you were to die tonight? That's all. I just want you to think about that question.' The man would then leave them and go on down the street. These service men said it caused them to begin to think seriously about spiritual issues and they later came to faith.

"I began to tell this story as I traveled later in Europe and America. Each time I did so, one or two men would say that they, also, had the same experience in Sydney which the Lord had used to bring them to faith. It was always the same location, the same words and what sounded like the same person. After hearing the identical story across the world for several years, I decided to try to find this man. After some difficulty, I found him living on the outskirts of Sydney and asked him if he was the man that asked service men these questions during World War II. He said that he was, and I then asked him, 'Did you ever hear if anyone you asked these questions came to Christ?' He said, 'No, I never did hear if anyone came to faith.'"

Jack at this point related that he then told him of his experiences with those who had come to faith as a result of the questions posed to them. He then made this statement at the conference in Wichita. "We are all links in the process of others coming to Christ. Our job is not to be the missing link."

In Christ, Richard Spann

Confessions of a (semi) reluctant State Fair worker ... by David Dennis

The Kansas Communities Ministry has hosted a booth at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson since 2010, thanks to the untiring efforts of Dick and Betty Borchard and Jim and Carrie Truax and many others. Each year I was offered the opportunity to work there, and for many years I didn't see how I could do that as I was working every day and sometimes on weekends. Besides, I didn't see the great benefit of having a "Navigator booth" at the Fair.

I am so thankful that the Borchards and Truaxs, as well as others, persevered over the years and had the vision and foresight to make this ministry a priority. It wasn't easy. The Fair requires a significant financial fee to have a booth there. In addition it is mandatory to staff the booth 12 hours for most days of the Fair. That is a huge commitment. Then arrangements have to be made to have the books shipped to the Fair, unpack them, categorize them and then organize them to be given away. It's a big job!

Typically we give away hundreds of excellent non-denominational Christian books (for adults and children) at no obligation. We staff the booth with volunteers from our ministry or friends. We are able to bless high school and college students with daily drawings for an Amazon gift card and typically have a grand prize drawing for couples for a stay at the beautiful and historic Glen Eyrie Castle in Colorado Springs.



Starting last year, Karla and I made a commitment to work at the booth. Upon reflection of that experience, it struck me that there are many benefits to working at the booth, benefits to the visitors who stop by, to the Kansas Communities Ministry and to us as individuals. Here are a few:

Benefits to those who stop by:

- ◆ They have an opportunity to share concerns, thoughts and ask for prayer. Multiple people are prayed with, and for, at the Fair. God's love and concern are shared.
- ◆ They can get high quality Christian literature that is encouraging and draws people closer to the Lord. For many, these books may be the first Christian books they have seen, especially for children. Who knows how many lives are impacted by parents reading these books to their children over and over and learning themselves about Jesus for the first time?
- ◆ Some may even come to know the Lord for the first time. Each year we have the opportunity to share our faith with folks who are open.

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“Jesus commissioned His disciples as He commissions us: ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you..’ Our identity is to be sent ones, sent into a broken world. God’s call on the life of every believer is *to live among those who don’t know Christ.*” — Doug Nuenke, former US President of The Navigators ©. (Quote from his website and blog at <https://dougenuenke.com/2021/07/02/how-to-live-as-sent-ones/>)

State Fair (continued)

- ◆ Students are shown love by registering for a free Amazon gift card. Last year 167 senior high school and college students signed up for a chance to win. One adult couple is blessed to win a two-night stay at Glen Eyrie.
- ◆ They have opportunity to hear about the work of the Kansas Navigators and are invited to attend the Fall Conference, Spring Men's Retreat and to hear about our ministry.
- ◆ High school seniors and those in college are connected to campus Navigator ministries if they desire to get involved in a Bible study. Each year, numerous young students are connected to campus ministry through this contact.

Benefits to the Kansas Communities Ministry:

- ◆ We get our "name" in front of the public, not for our glory, but for encouragement of others. It is amazing what a positive image The Navigators ® has and many people respond favorably to our presence. Many people have had contact with The Navigators ® over the years, through their college experience or through the Kansas Communities Ministry. Through these contacts, we hope to continually expand the ministry to those who are open.
- ◆ We are able to promote *Every Man a Warrior*, one-on-one discipleship, *High Quest*, the *Making Disciples Naturally* Podcast, Richard Spann's blogs, our monthly newsletter, our Fall Conference and Spring Men's Retreat and other tools that the Lord is using to help people grow.

Benefits to us as workers in the booth:

- ◆ We are blessed to represent the Lord to the public and to other booths. As we are there for 10 days, it is an opportunity to interact with other booth workers around us. A young man who was hosting a booth near us one year shared that he was a believer and was looking for a study. We told him about *Every Man a Warrior* and he took down the information to take back to his church and men's group.
- ◆ We have an opportunity to overcome our fear in speaking up about our faith. I confess that I initially secretly wondered "what will they think of me?" when I identify myself as a believer. I know that seems silly, but it was really a hurdle I had to overcome! This experience helped me overcome some of my fear about sharing my faith in public. And I was blessed for it.
- ◆ We are blessed ourselves as we share more deeply with people who stop by, talking about their concerns and being able to pray with them.
- ◆ It develops great bonding and fellowship with other Navigators and believers as we work together in this "mission" of outreach and love to others.

So, I learned there were many benefits from volunteering to work at the Kansas Navigator Booth at the State Fair. We know that not everyone can help out by being there, but we are thankful for those who can. Is it tiring? Yes. Does it take time away from other obligations or even other fun things to do? Yes. Is it a sacrifice? Yes. Is it worth it? YES! I only regret we didn't spend more time there! If you want to sign up, please [click here](#). If you need more information, please email us at office@KansasNavs.org or call 316-264-8819.

"Love is a choice. Total forgiveness is a choice. It is not a feeling-at least at first-but is rather an act of the will. It is the choice to tear up the record of wrongs we have been keeping." ~ R. T. Kendall, American teacher, writer, pastor. Quote found at https://www.azquotes.com/author/22525-R_T_Kendall