

Seedshakers

plant. water. grow.



Are Gospel tracts effective?

Is this the question that we should be asking? No, it is not. The question we should be asking ourselves is whether or not passing out gospel tracts is pleasing to God. Are Gospel tracts glorifying to God? Yes, they are (at least tracts that portray the Gospel correctly). Wanting people to be transformed from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light for the glory of Jesus Christ is why I pass out gospel tracts. I believe that the nations will be disciplined according to God's Word and that the knowledge of the Lord will cover the earth as the water covers the sea. When someone asks me if those gospel tracts work and if they're really worth the effort to pass out, I tell them absolutely! God uses means to accomplish his purposes. And one means is the printed page. Think of a gospel tract as a reminder of the Gospel, reminding both Christians and unbelievers of the call to repentance from sin and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. When I hand out tracts, I'm giving out little reminders about the utmost importance of Jesus Christ and His glory. Christians who receive tracts will always be encouraged and edified (if not there is something wrong with them), unbelievers may be brought a step closer and even brought into the kingdom of God because God may decide to regenerate their heart upon reading a tract—causing them to delight in Jesus Christ as their Savior. Another possibility is that an unbeliever may become even more hardened of heart when they are reminded of God's sovereignty and power over all of creation.

Christian, passing out tracts is a noble thing for God's kingdom. God may never call you to become a great preacher or evangelist, but even the littlest thing such as a gospel tract can have a most profound impact on someone's life for the glory of God. Listen to what the prince of preachers Charles Spurgeon once said:

"When preaching and private talk are not available, you need to have a tract ready....Get good striking tracts, or none at all. But a touching gospel tract may be the seed of eternal life. Therefore, do not go out without your tracts."

We have a great privilege to pass out tracts for the King Jesus! Distributing Christian tracts doesn't require that you be an eloquent speaker, it doesn't depend on one's outgoing personality. Nope, just be led by the Spirit of God. Pray and believe that God will strengthen you in boldness to approach someone and hand them a Christian tract. It may just be what God uses to save them from the wrath to come. Spurgeon again, "I well remember distributing them in a town in England where tracts had never been distributed before, and going from house to house, and telling in humble language the things of the kingdom of God. I might have done nothing, if I had not been encouraged by finding myself able to do something ... [Tracts are] adapted to those persons who have but little power and little ability, but nevertheless, wish to do something for Christ. They have not the tongue of the eloquent, but they may have the hand of the diligent. They cannot stand and preach, but they can stand and distribute here and there these silent preachers ... They may buy their thousand tracts, and these they can distribute broadcast."

Yes, gospel tracts are silent preachers and can go places where you can't. This can be very beneficial. What do I mean by this? Well, let's think about it for a minute. When you hand a passerby a tract and they stick it in their pocket going about their business, where that Christian tract ends up and what God accomplishes with it, we may only know in heaven. That passerby may finally arrive at home and empty out his pockets on his coffee table in his living room. Someone else in his family may read it and their life could be changed as a result—they could become born-again. This family may be part of a cult and a simple tract could be used by God to speak to the entire family bringing them out of darkness, which you would have never gotten the opportunity to do in

person. Who knows, the family could already be Christian but with this tract they received, God used it to burden their heart for the lost. Maybe the person who received the tract just threw it into the garbage can once he got out of your sight. That's fine too, because you never know if a garbage man comes across it, or whether a homeless person rummaging through the can to find food comes in contact with the Christian tract. Peoples' lives can be changed from a simple tract that contains a mighty message.

I remember handing a tract out to a young lady at Virginia Beach one day and she began to walk away slowly as she read it. When she had finished she turned around and walked back to me and said joyfully. . . "my dad was saved through a gospel tract!" How exciting and encouraging it was to hear that.

Here is a list of reasons why gospel tracts make great tools for evangelism:

1. Gospel tracts can go to places where we cannot
2. Gospel tracts have the ability to get into a house and stay there
3. Gospel tracts can present the message when you don't have time
4. Gospel tracts are never afraid or show cowardice
5. Gospel tracts never get tired, discouraged, or give up
6. Gospel tracts are never tempted to compromise their message
7. Gospel tracts stick to what they have to say and never argue
8. Gospel tracts wait for people to get into the mood—they only speak when they are read
9. Gospel tracts work while we sleep
10. Gospel tracts are a very economical form of evangelism

For Gospel Tracts and Tips on using them visit

www.seedshakers.com