## **GREAT COMMISSION FAMILIES** - Fall 2019

## With Families at Heart and a Heart for the World

"This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent." - John 17:3 nasb

Dear Friends in Christ,

These are busy days! We hope you enjoy this ministry update!

Since we launched our own local family ministry 13 years ago after 23 wonderful years with Campus Crusade for Christ (as I like to say), I have accumulated well <u>over 200 Bible verses</u> that I share with various ministry groups. Whether it's words etched in stone on a monument, or from quoting our Founding Fathers & others "<u>in their own words</u>," I repeatedly find myself saying, "And that reminds me of another Bible verse!"

## **Even Teens Can Enjoy History!**

In fact, here's what a group of high school students (with their parents and teachers photo right) said about our trips to DC and Gettysburg: "Bernie greeted each of us in turn. He was funny, even hilarious, and really knows how to tell a tale. He was full of fascinating facts, and he always shared about God and the Bible!"

And whether it's family groups, church groups, or especially with international groups, as an "*American History Missionary*" by far my favorite <u>set of Bible verses</u> to share is what I call my "evangelistic close." Usually shared at the end of our time together, I start by saying something like this . . .

## Bernie's DC "Evangelistic Close"

There's a saying in Washington, DC. A little saying that's true all over the world. "**It's not what you know, but who you know**." Well, now you know me, so if you ever come back to the DC area, I hope I will be able to help you in some way. (That makes it personal in a friendly way, but I then transition to make it spiritual.)

That "who you know" saying is actually an eternal truth. The Bible says, "...it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes <u>judgment</u>." (Heb. 9:27) When you or I stand before the judgment seat of God someday, it won't matter what we know, but who we know. The Bible says, "...if anyone sins, we have an <u>Advocate</u> with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." (I John 2:1b) Advocate is another word for lawyer. In many ways, Washington, DC is city of lawyers. (Insert your favorite lawyer joke here. I.e. What do you call 5,000 lawyers at the bottom of the Potomac River? Answer: A good start! Or... There are two kinds of lawyers. Those who know the law, and those who know the judge. Hmm.)

Ultimately, only one lawyer will do us any good: Jesus! "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears My words and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life. He does not come into <u>judgment</u>, but has passed from death to life." (John 5:24)

As you've heard me quote many Founding Fathers about God and woven in my own personal story, I invite you to consider the claims of Christ for yourself. Then someday you can stand before God and say, "I know Jesus!"

We hope you enjoy our enclosed latest ministry info card. If we can serve you or your church or group, please give us a call! Meanwhile, *THANK YOU* for helping make our unique ministry possible. We appreciate you!

In Christ,

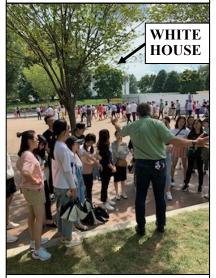
Bernie for the Bealls

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Beginning our spiritually focused visit to the Gettysburg Battlefield at the John Burns Statue. See Job 38:21!



Sharing with international guests at Lafayette Square near the <u>White</u> ↑ <u>House</u> and in the <u>Capitol Rotunda</u>.↓



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