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Fwd: Mormon surprises!

1 message

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To: Van Zandbergen Cheryl <cheryl@cityviewcc.net>

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Cheryl
Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Clark Peddicord <cpeddicord@philosophia.org>
Date: October 30, 2025 at 11:06:42 AM CDT
To: cvanz529@gmail.com
Subject: Mormon surprises!
Reply-To: cpeddicord@philosophia.org

Clark and Ann... building bridges!



October 2025

Dear Friends,
I wouldn't be surprised if this email surprises you. The reality behind it has surprised me!

Visits to various doctors, recurring blood tests and other diagnostic measures... these are pretty common when there is a cancer diagnosis involved. In Boise, Idaho, that also usually means close encounters with Mormons.

What is NOT so common is the whole series of deep, personal, spiritual conversations that I have had over the past months... in particular, with Mormon physicians and health-care providers!

(Just **FYI**: Their church does NOT like the term "Mormon", so in conversations I use the term they prefer: LDS = "Latter Day Saints").

I grew up as a young person in southern Idaho, where there was about a 25-30% LDS population. Coming to Christ in high school, I became pretty familiar with Mormon doctrine, approach to the Bible, and view of Jesus ...all definitely NOT in the flow of classic Christian faith! So, **I have been truly stunned by some of the conversations about Jesus that have developed with these folk.**

"The Chosen"

The interesting thing is that all these conversations actually have their root in the film series "The Chosen". I recognize that biblical Christians differ in how they feel about the way the life of Christ is presented in the series and the creative license taken by the evangelical production company. **But I did not in any way imagine how deeply this series seems to have penetrated the consciousness of so many LDS people - at least the ones I have met.**

I have had long conversations about Jesus with several medical folk. Not, as I was used to in late high school, standard apologetic clashes about Christ but genuinely open and deep interaction about key biblical teaching on who Jesus is and what it means to know the Him.

For instance...

One morning, I went into an appointment and - after a couple of minutes - the therapist who was working on me (whom I'd spoken to before about the Faith) said: "We were talking on the weekend. What do you think is the difference between Jesus being our 'Savior' and his being our 'Redeemer'?" I almost had to pinch myself. These conversations continued during the course of my treatments with him and even a level of friendship developed.

I am not naïve and do not think this is a indication of the LDS church turning to classic biblical orthodoxy. But I have had some completely central and deep individual conversations about the Lord that I never expected could happen in this way. Ann has also had the same experience lately.

If you have "Mormon" friends or coworkers or fellow students, I want to encourage you to ask them if they have watched "The

Chosen”, what they think of it, and how it has affected their view of Jesus. (If they haven’t watched the series, you can tell them they can find a link on the website of Brigham Young University!)

**Warmly, in Christ,
Clark and Ann**



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