

Ex-Mormons for  
**JESUS**

*Our faith will work by love,  
or it will not work at all.*

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**NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021**

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**FROM CHAR'S DESK**

Much to our sorrow, we will no longer have Jenell's Jots and Tittles in our newsletter as Jenell has retired! She volunteered in our first Ex-Mormons for Jesus Information & Visitors Center in Santa Fe Springs when we first opened the Center back in 1983. She came to work in our Orange Center when the other one closed. We were so happy to have her as she is so gifted in writing and added so much to our ministry.

Life is full of disappointments and changes but God is so faithful. Steve Welch has consented to take over writing articles for our newsletters! Steve is a retired school teacher and is very knowledgeable regarding the cults and often teaches on Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormonism. I am looking forward to reading his articles! It will be called Steve's Corner.

Please pray for Jenell that God will continue to use her for His glory, even while she is retired. Thank you, Jenell, for all the many years that you have unselfishly worked on the newsletters and for your friendship, which has meant so much to me. May God bless you always!

Welcome, Steve!

**~ STEVE'S CORNER ~**

Psalm 118:24 says "This is the day which the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." I pray that this note finds you and your family well as we serve and love our Lord Jesus Christ! My name is Steve Welch and I have belonged to Ex-Mormons

for Jesus for many years. I will be writing some articles for the newsletters. My wife Helen and I have been married for 27 years and we have three children: Katelin, Lindsey, and Joshua. I was a school teacher for 22 years in Fullerton. I enjoy spending time with family and friends and like to travel, read, and I am a huge Laker fan! God has put a passion on my heart for over three decades to reach out in love to Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses. It has been an exciting journey as God has opened up doors for me to preach at many churches in North and South America. Along with sharing in the US I have had the opportunity to teach in Mexico, Chile, Ecuador, and Peru. I have been a guest on KKLA and KWVE talking about these non-Christian groups. I accepted Christ at an early age and was never Mormon or Jehovah's Witness. We are told in Jude 1:3, "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." It is absolutely crucial that Biblical Christians share and defend their faith with Mormons who are generally wonderful but lost people. We are to do this with a spirit of love and boldness. Ephesians 4:15 says "But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ." I look forward to being a part of the writing team for the newsletters! For questions or comments feel free to reach us at [www.exmormonsforjesus.org](http://www.exmormonsforjesus.org) or at our email at [char@exmormonsforjesus.org](mailto:char@exmormonsforjesus.org) or you can also reach me at [defendingthefaitth.steve@gmail.com](mailto:defendingthefaitth.steve@gmail.com)

## WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?

No Biblical doctrine is more important when sharing with Mormons than the person, nature, and glory of the Lord Jesus Christ! The most important question ever asked in history was by Jesus in Matthew 16:15 when he asked his disciples, "But whom say ye that I am?" The answer and response in faith to that question will determine if someone goes eternally to heaven or to outer darkness. In Biblical Christianity Jesus is eternally God from the past, present, and future. There never was a time that Christ didn't exist. He is the creator of all things. Colossians 1:15-20 states that "Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature. For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven." If Jesus Christ created all things then he can't be one of the things created! The word firstborn in verse 15 means preeminent in the Greek, not the first one created or procreated. Christ is virgin born by the power of the Holy Ghost (Matthew 1:20-21). Jesus is the second person of the Trinity. The Bible teaches there is only one God (Isaiah chapters 43-46) yet the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit are each called God in the Bible. The Biblical Jesus died on the cross, was buried in the tomb for three days, and had a glorious bodily resurrection! We are saved by putting our hope and trust in him only, not a church or human organization. His shed blood on Calvary made it possible for sinners like us all to have a relationship with him in this life and the life to come.

The Mormon Jesus, on the other hand, is not eternally God. The LDS church teaches that God the Father, who they say has a body of flesh and bones (Doctrine and Covenants 130:22) procreated Jesus with heavenly mother in the pre-existence. That is, the LDS Jesus is the first spirit child of Elohim. The second spirit child is Satan. Thus, Mormons believe that Jesus and Satan are spirit brothers and that Christ is their elder brother. Jesus is not our brother. He is our God! Mormons believe that Jesus is just a God among countless gods in all of the universes. The LDS church teaches that their Heavenly father procreated Jesus a second time on earth with his spirit daughter, the virgin Mary. The Mormon book,

Gospel Principles, teaches that "Thus, God the Father became the literal Father of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the only person on earth to be born of a mortal mother and an immortal Father. That is why he is called the only begotten Son. He inherited divine powers from his Father. From his mother He inherited mortality and was subject to hunger, thirst, fatigue, pain, and death" (GP page 53). The Biblical Jesus, therefore, is eternally God and is the creator of all things. The LDS Jesus is not the creator of all things and was sexually procreated twice; once in heaven and once on earth. In Mormon theology you have to be married in the temple to become gods in the future. It follows that the LDS Jesus would have to be married to be a god. Mormon apostle Orson Hyde said in Journal of Discourses 2:210 that "I discover that some of the Eastern papers represent me as a great blasphemer, because I said, in my lecture on Marriage, at our last Conference, that Jesus Christ was married at Cana of Galilee, that Mary, Martha, and others were his wives, and that he begat children." The Biblical Jesus was never married but we will be married to Jesus in a spiritual sense as Christ is the bridegroom and the church is his bride. The LDS Jesus death on the cross just allowed all mankind to be resurrected to one of three Mormon heavens. Their works and following the commandments of the Mormon Church will determine what level of heaven they will reach. When witnessing to Mormons, you must define your terms when sharing with them. Ask them questions about who Jesus Christ is and use this as a launching point to share the Biblical Jesus with them. LDS claim they are Christians and have the name Jesus Christ in the name of their church. Sadly, this reminds me of the words of the Lord Jesus in Matthew 7:22-23 "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then I will profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." In closing, I urge Biblical Christians to share the real Jesus with Mormons, while questioning the teaching of the LDS doctrine on Christ compared to the truth of the Holy Bible. Who do you say that Jesus is?

## SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

We are excited to announce that our EMFJ Center will reopen Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. We will inform you when our support group meetings will resume.

**ALL GIFTS DONATED TO EMFJ ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED AS WELL AS YOUR PRAYERS FOR THIS MINISTRY.**

