

Standing Firm: Witnessing to Mormonism with Biblical Truth

Sermon Summary: This teaching focuses on equipping believers to witness effectively to those in the Mormon faith (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints). The core message emphasizes that the Bible must be the foundation for all truth claims and that understanding Mormon beliefs is essential for meaningful evangelism. The sermon stresses asking clarifying questions rather than attacking beliefs, showing Christ-like love while firmly standing on biblical truth. The teacher highlights that Mormons use Christian terminology but with vastly different meanings, particularly regarding the nature of God, Jesus, and salvation. The emphasis is on grace through faith versus works-based salvation, and the importance of helping Mormons see that their beliefs contradict established biblical truth. The teaching encourages believers to be confident in Scripture's reliability and to lovingly engage Mormons with questions that prompt critical thinking about their faith.

Key Points:

- The Bible must be established as the final authority when witnessing to Mormons
- Always ask clarifying questions about terms like "God," "Jesus," and "salvation" because Mormons use the same words with different meanings
- Mormon beliefs about deity: God (Elohim) is a created, exalted physical man; Jesus is the first spirit child of Elohim and Mary; the Holy Ghost is a man with a spiritual body
- Mormons believe Satan is Jesus' brother who led a rebellion and was denied a physical body
- The Book of Mormon claims to correct errors in the Bible and was "translated" by Joseph Smith using a "seeing stone" in a hat
- Mormon salvation is works-based with three levels of heaven and a second chance after death
- Mormons emphasize feelings and emotions over objective truth ("pray about it and you'll feel it's true")
- The Bible warns that the heart is deceitful; we cannot rely solely on feelings
- Love-bombing is a common tactic used by Mormon missionaries to build emotional connections
- Young Mormon missionaries often genuinely believe their message and deserve to be shown Christ's love
- The Council of Nicaea did not create the Bible but affirmed what was already being used by early Christians
- Archaeological and historical evidence supports the Bible but is absent for Book of Mormon claims
- Ask simple, non-confrontational questions that cause Mormons to think critically about their beliefs

Scripture Reference:

- Galatians 1:6-9 (warning against false gospels)
- Isaiah 43:10 (God's eternal nature)
- John 1:1-3 (deity of Christ)
- Colossians 1:15-17 (Christ as creator)
- Ephesians 2:8-9 (salvation by grace through faith, not works)

- References to Jeremiah regarding the deceitfulness of the heart
- Paul's commendation of the Bereans for searching Scripture

Stories:

- The teacher's personal experience with Mormon missionaries coming to his door in Elam, where he established the Bible as the authority and asked probing questions about archaeological evidence, the apostles' authority, and contradictions in Mormon teaching
- Story of Mormon missionaries being sent in strategic pairs (young women to young men) as a manipulation tactic
- Account of Saint Nicholas allegedly punching someone at the Council of Nicaea for denying the deity of Jesus
- Illustration about George Washington not writing "yo, this fit is tight" to explain anachronisms in disputed texts like the Book of Enoch
- Example of Sarah slapping the teacher to illustrate that only the offended party (God the Father) can extend grace and forgiveness
- Personal testimony from a participant about initially attending church because someone was attractive, but ultimately finding genuine faith
- Description of Mormon missionary life: two-year commitment, no family contact, supervised internet, constant companionship, self-funded, isolated conditions