

# *Strategies with Latter-day Saints*

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Slides to be posted on website!



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## Welcome to STS Ministries!

### Our Mission

Share the Son Ministries (STS) is an evangelical Christian organization with a three-fold mission:

- **Share** the biblical teachings of God, Jesus and the Gospel in a Christ-like manner (e.g. [Romans 10:13-15](#); [Mark 16:15-16](#));
- **Defend** the biblical teachings of God, Jesus and the Gospel in a Christ-like manner (e.g. [1 Peter 3:15](#); [Acts 18:27-28](#));
- **Equip** others to do the same (e.g. [2 Timothy 3:16-17](#); [Ephesians 4:11-13](#)).



Based in beautiful Idaho Falls, **STS Ministries has a passion for all of the wonderful people who refer to themselves as Latter-day Saints** (LDS). This is because southeast Idaho is predominantly LDS with some cities, such as Rexburg (home of BYU-Idaho), being well over ninety-percent LDS by population. To be sure, STS is strategically located so that evangelical Christians and Latter-day Saints might share with and learn from one another.

### Our Challenge

Consider the following statistics for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for 2013:

- 15,372 million members world-wide:



## *Strategies with LDS (Step 3 of 3)*

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- Identify 3 critical considerations.
- Layout a typical sharing scenario.
- Integrate practical strategies.
- Correct common mistakes Christians make.
- Step 3 is **Go to the Gospel!**

# 3 CRITICAL CONSIDERATIONS

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1. Prep the Soil & Lower the Guard.
  - a. Seeing Christ vs. hearing you
  - b. Seeing vs. agreeing (validate to demonstrate)
  - c. Invest 95 to get 5 (validate to educate)
  - d. Common ground & compliments
  - e. Respect the ranks
2. The window rules! “Go to the Gospel!”
3. Rate of return vs. one and done.

# Go to the Gospel!

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## Key Strategic Points:

1. Many biblical Christians and LDS think we pretty much believe the same things. Any differences don't matter. **This misperception MUST be corrected!** ("Contrast brings clarity" & my personal salvage mission)
2. Many biblical Christian simply don't know how to demonstrate the dramatic differences between the LDS & biblical gospels. **This inability MUST be corrected!** (Conceptual before theoretical)
3. Most LDS have major objections to the biblical gospel of grace. **These MUST be met with reason!**

# *Go to the Gospel!*

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3 Essential Illustrations & 3 Critical Questions:

1. The Ladder Illustration & Comparison
2. The Electrician Illustration & Comparison
3. The Kingdoms Illustration & Comparison
4. Same? True? Choose?

The Savior does not save anybody from his individual sins **only on condition of his repentance**. So the effect of Adam's transgression was to place all of us in the pit with him. Then the Savior comes along, **not subject to that pit**, and lowers the ladder. He comes down into the pit and **makes it possible for us** to use the ladder to escape.

Joseph Fielding Smith, 10<sup>th</sup> LDS Prophet & President  
*Doctrines of Salvation*, 1954, 1:123).



## ***The Ladder Illustration***

1. Are these gospels the same?
2. If one is true, what must the other be?
3. If either could be true, which would you choose?



We light our buildings with electric power. **Suppose we have prepared all things by which light is obtained, except in one point.**

We have the proper connections with the source of power, the wiring is perfect, the switches are all in place, **but we fail** to place a light globe in the socket. Or perhaps there is a disconnected switch. **Result? We get no light.** In other words **all of the laws** pertaining to the obtaining of electric light must be observed. So in the celestial kingdom, we must be **worthy in every point**, or we fail to receive the blessing. The kingdom of God must exist in absolute unity. **Every law must be obeyed**, and no member of the Church can have a place there unless he is in full accord.



Joseph Fielding Smith, 10<sup>th</sup> LDS Prophet & President  
*Answers to Gospel Questions*, 1979, 3:27).

## ***The Electrician Illustration***

1. Are these gospels the same?
2. If one is true, what must the other be?
3. If either could be true, which would you choose?



# The Father & Son

Celestial

New  
Jerusalem

Terrestrial

Telestial

## ***The Kingdoms Illustration***

1. Are these gospels the same?
2. If one is true, what must the other be?
3. If either could be true, which would you choose?

# *Go to the Gospel!*

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3 Major Mormon Objections:

1. It's not fair!
2. It promotes sin!
3. We won't appreciate it!

# *Go to the Gospel!*

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## Mormon Objection #1

1. It's not fair!
2. Validate to demonstrate.
3. Validate to educate ("What about the Atonement?"; **Mt. 20:1-15**; the Father's requirements fully met).
4. Can you see?      What do you think?

# *Go to the Gospel!*

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## Mormon Objection #2

1. It promotes sin!
2. Validate to demonstrate.
3. Validate to educate (note false dilemma: **money & bills** and ? salvation – see **Ro. 6:1-2**; give personal testimony).
4. Can you see?      What do you think?

# *Go to the Gospel!*

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## Mormon Objection #3

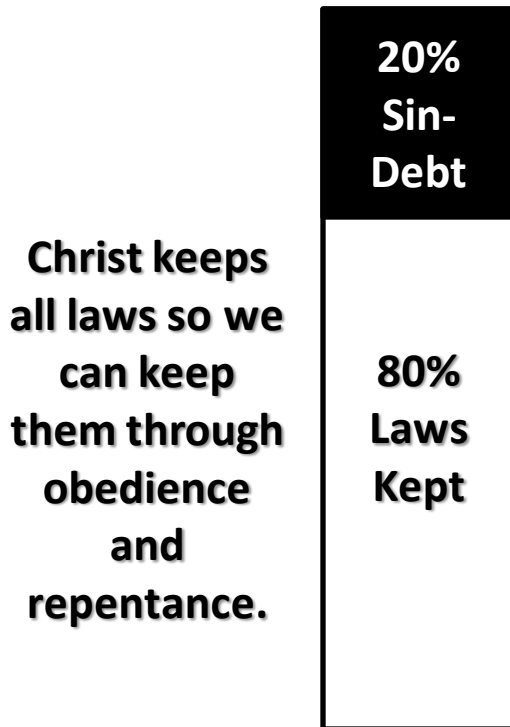
1. We won't appreciate it!
2. Validate to demonstrate.
3. Validate to educate (note false premise & **the Ferrari; Lk. 7:41-43** & sin debt).
4. **The fireman rescue.**
5. Can you see?      What do you think?

# ***Luke 7:41-43***

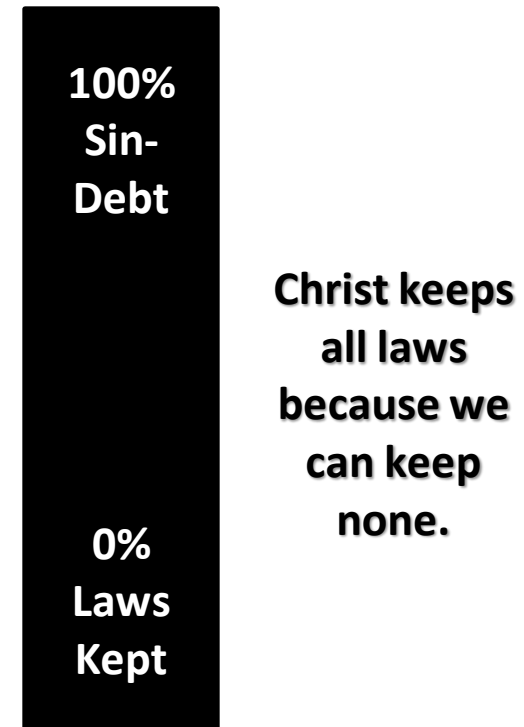
Q1: Who Has the Greater Sin-Debt Forgiven?

Q2: Who Will Love “Appreciate” Christ More?

## **Mormon**



## **Biblical Christian**



(click here)



Evenings in Athens



possible through the incredible medium of the Internet. It is our hope and prayer that the STS website will prove to be a goldmine not only of valuable resources and information, but of God's eternal truths.

## Our Founder

Share the Son Ministries was founded in 1999 by Mike Ghiglia (Gil-yə). Mike received Jesus Christ as his personal LORD and Savior in 1987 and continued working as a traumatic brain injury rehab therapist in Bakersfield, California until his "call" to the mission field. Ron Vietti, Senior Pastor of [Valley Bible Fellowship](#), ordained Mike's commission.



Being that Mike is an avid fly fisherman, and being that Idaho is renowned for its fly fishing, it was just a matter of time before he took the trip of his life. Ironically, it was Mike who was hooked while fishing Idaho's famed Henry's Fork of the Snake River in June of 1998.



It took a while to reel him in, but the LORD finally landed Mike back in Idaho Falls in February of 1999. Mike spent the next three years developing STS Ministries and working as a part-time clinician to make ends meet. In August of 2002 he made the transition to full-time ministry. Mike's family and STS Ministries are currently located in