

# Making a Dent

By Marla Dent

33 years ago, I was an ignorant, saved kid looking for some way to get in contact with God. I had had an "experience" with God, and wanted to recapture that joy.

Traveling through Spain, I barely missed getting tangled in with a charismatic group whose leader was carrying a cross across Europe. (He landed in jail that night!) In Israel, thoroughly disenchanted with the holy land and its bogus religious sites, I met Rina Jaquith, an elderly American lady who knew about dispensations and was a terrific evangelist. From her, I finally found how to make contact with God – through His Word! From that time on, my ambitions changed. I saw that people's souls are what count, and that only God gives real joy. I went home to Canada spouting Bible verses and confronting anything that looked religious!

Rina and I worked together off and on through the next 10 years and through about 10 countries. Then about 22 years ago, I went to New York to meet her on one of her rare trips to USA. While there I met Jerry, who is from South Carolina, and was working in New York City. We both had our RVs in the same park in New Jersey. That summer Jerry started to study the Bible with Rina and I, and a year or so later, we were a married couple in a truck



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Northwest Grace Conferences  
2523 Comstock Court  
Missoula, Montana 59808

## OREGON COAST CONFERENCE 2005



*Richard and Ron*



*Kelly, Selene, Pam and Steve*



*Ernie and Louise*



*Diana, Janet and Nicole*



*Irish and Ellie*



*Noratha and Keith*

### Conference Contacts

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**IN THE NEXT ISSUE** When There is no Pastor

and RV. Since then we have lived in California, Nevada, Idaho, Washington and Arizona.

While in Idaho, we heard about the Montana conference and decided to go. I had bounced through a few "grace" churches previously that were dead as door nails, so we didn't expect much. But that began our journey from being dispensationalists to being full-blown grace believers. We dropped some superstitions, a lot of guilt, and admitted some ignorance, in exchange for that wonderful understanding of the difference between law and grace. Later Grace School of the Bible helped me immensely, and we got our gospel message cleared up. Now I like to ask people their opinion about what a person needs to do to go to heaven. Then I know what they are trusting, and whether they see Jesus as their Savior, or just as their helper to save themselves.

Jerry and I are snowbirds now. In the summers we are near Omak, Washington. In the winter we are in Apache Junction, Arizona. Before Arizona, I always tried to get a ladies home Bible study going in our neighborhood, but we had never been part of a real local assembly of grace believers. So we chose Apache Junction because it is close enough to conveniently get to the "church" in Tempe, led by Rick Jordan Jr. Last year our little group moved into the upper half of a commercial building where we study the Bible at least twice a week. On Saturdays we rent a space in the large flea market in Mesa to give out tracts and talk to people about the Bible. I still love home Bible studies, and hope to get one going in our neighborhood in Apache Junction this year.

In the summer, we'll see you at the NW conferences. What an asset they are, both for learning the Word of God and for fellowship with other saints. At the last conference, do you remember how clearly Richard Jordan explained predestination? A **corporate agency**, not individuals, are predestined. This group of people are predestined **to serve** God's purpose, not to be saved or lost. We get into that group by **choosing** to believe that Christ's death was enough to pay for our sin.

We can really be a source of inspiration for each other too at our conferences. For example, every time I talk with Deb Walker, she tells me about some new way she is getting God's Word out to people around her. Last year it was email Bible classes.

What a great idea. Now I am doing an email class on Romans that goes to 17 addresses in 3 countries. The classes are posted on the internet at [zile.org/romans.html](http://zile.org/romans.html), thanks to Jim Zile. A great example of II Cor 1:4 happened at the last Montana conference. Jerry's mother recently had a stroke, and my parents are very elderly, so Pauline and Shirley shared with me their experiences with elderly relatives. It's great to be part of the body of Christ and to experience Eph 4:16 happening.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at the next conference which will be in Seattle, or maybe even sooner at the California conference in February.

"Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." Eph 6:23

### ***A Shared Passion for God's Word***

*by Trish McNelley*

*Jim Ziles, a friend of my husbands from way back, had met a couple grace believers at work, who knew right division. One of them had met Marla at a fair where she was giving out tracts. Jim decided to get a Bible study group together. The only grace believers I had ever met that knew anything about right division were my husband, the man that taught him, Spud, Jim Ziles, and the neighbors we had shared the gospel message with. We had heard Richard Jordan on a tape, but never met him. The idea of other people that knew about right division was foreign to me. I had never met any and didn't really believe they existed in real life!*

*After several tries, Jim finally announced that he had 3 couples that were coming out for a Bible Study. My house was the first choice as my husband's condition was declining and he wanted to be included in the studies. Spud had died of cancer a few months before.*

*Marla and Jerry were one of the couples. Marla and her bubbly personality started talking to me about the Bible. Immediately we bonded. I had never met any one that liked to talk about the Bible more than I did! I could see her passion for God's Word flowing out of every thought and expression as she told me about her 30 year career of studying and sharing God's Word.*

*Marla and Jerry have become dear friends and opened their home to me for Bible study and horse riding. Even sharing an adventure to Europe where we met several of Marla's friends that she shared her early ministry with 30 years ago. One of them has a grace Church that is teaching right division in Holland where they welcomed us with open arms.*

*Marla is a strong solid influence in my life. She is a fun loving person so full of life and love For God's Word.*



## **Saints and Sound Doctrine Under One Roof**

By Paul Webster



What makes the Oregon Coast Grace Conference so special? Is it the fellowship? The chance to see old friends again? The opportunity to make new friends? Or is it a vacation on the beautiful Oregon coast, with its lovely beaches, dramatic coastline, and quaint seaside towns? Even though one of these may be a reason to come, once you attend a conference you know that there is so

much more! You will come away with something profitable not only for this life but for the life which is to come!

For Grace believers here in the Pacific Northwest, our assemblies are usually small groups, meeting in homes. In fact, there is something very Pauline in this way of meeting in small, local home assemblies. For some believers, they may be the only Grace people in their community that they know of, resorting to studying God's Word through an on-line ministry or through a book or tape study. Beautiful buildings, high tech sound systems, PowerPoint displays, choir, ushers, or any other accoutrements (extra, non-essential) that appear in many church buildings today are not enticing if it means sacrificing sound doctrine. We know that once the Bible is taught rightly divided and understood the way God has intended, recognizing the unique purpose and ministry of

the Apostle Paul to the body of Christ, then the place of our meeting is immaterial.

So when an event like the Oregon Coast Grace Conference comes around, we are excited because it brings all of these wonderful things together – the fellowship, the location, and sound doctrine – all under the same roof!

This year's Oregon Coast Conference speakers were Pastors Richard Jordan and John Versteegen, and featured 8 sessions over 2 1/2 days. Some of the topics covered included:

- Why use Paul as the Standard?
- The Clarity of the Gospel,
- The Commissions,
- Which Baptism?
- Are you Chosen?
- Does it really matter which Bible you use?
- Will you rely on Experience or The Word?

We had up to 75 people in attendance including many new faces, and some new to the Grace message. Each session began with the singing of hymns led by Dave Webb and accompanied by Janet Bushby on the piano. There were also some special vocal numbers and a very entertaining audience participation bell choir led by a "famous" conductor!

So if you have never attended one of the Northwest Grace Conferences, or if it has been a few years since you had last been to one, you are highly encouraged to attend the upcoming conferences in 2006!

Plan now to attend the ...  
**2006 Seattle Bible Conference**  
**May 26-28, 2006**

To register, contact: Jennifer Gibson at 206.719.7047 or [jensays@msn.com](mailto:jensays@msn.com).  
 Also, check us out at [www.nwgraceconferences.com](http://www.nwgraceconferences.com)