him to dig up on a hillside in New York. Another man said he heard God speaking to him in the Arabian desert. Still other religious teachings have come from people who claim that angelic spirit-guides are giving new revelations from God. The teachings present a different slant on who Christ is and what He taught and did. One modern devotional claims to record the words of Jesus.. Direct conversations.

These phoney claims have been distributed all over the world. Worse yet, people actually believe them and are trying to reach God by following the directions in the holy books (wicked books really). They don't realise that what they do is based on false information.

The apostle Paul knew this would happen. That's why he included a warning in his letter to a New Testament church. He wrote, "Some people are . . . trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned!" (Galatians 1:7-8). That strong language tells us that this is a serious issue. The biblical gospel isn't just one of many possible options we can take. It's the only truth that will connect us to God and satisfy our spiritual hunger.

What stuff have you been reading these days? Is it legit? And what about your family and friends? Have they fallen for a not-so-innocent satanic prank that is leading them away from Christ? They may need a word from you to expose the scam. It's not merely an innocent prank, but a damning lie.

REFLECTION

- What dangerous religious groups are seeking converts in your world?
- Do I know the truth well enough to recognise spiritual error? How can I promote the truth about Christ

An altered gospel is no gospel at all.



Word of Faith false teachers



Phoney Info

It was a practical joke; a scam. Somebody went to great lengths to create a menu for a nonexistent fast food restaurant and then slipped copies of the advertising under the doors of uni students' rooms. People started ringing the number on the menu--which was wasted time because the information was false.

This prank had a number of victims--False info of another kind has been floating around since the fall. No, I'm not talking about false advertising but so-called holy books that promise to get us in touch with God and better satisfy our spiritual hunger. There's one book, for example, that some guy claimed came from some golden plates an angel told

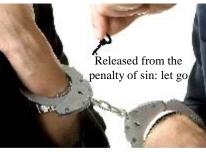




OUR CHURCH I'M SAVED, NOW WHAT?



Acts 2:41-47 contains numerous descriptions of the first church that are requirements for us:

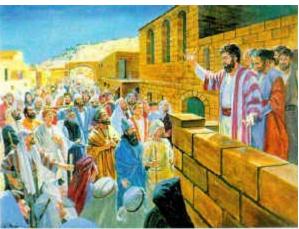


2.

membership, verses 40-41, 36-38

(Matthew 8:23-25) "Now when He got into a boat, His disciples followed Him. [24] And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with the waves. But He was asleep. [25] Then His disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!""

membership, verses 38, 41



(Romans 10:9) "that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

3. Biblical ____

_, verses 41-42

(Ephesians 2:19-20) "Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, {20} having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone," (Hebrews 2:3-4) "how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him,

[4] God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?"

