# Stones Cry Out Door to Door Hosting Guidelines

Over the years, Christians from all over the world have come to Dearborn to evangelize the Muslims that live here. Many of them have gone door to door with us to gain first hand experience. God has blessed us greatly by allowing us to enjoy fellowship with Christians from a variety of church backgrounds and cultures. We count it an honor to host them and we pray that God continues to bless us in this way.

With so many church backgrounds, many who come here have different views about how Christians should evangelize. Some Stones Cry Out views about evangelism are different than the views of some of these Christians. While we disagree with some of their views, we strive to preserve our common bond in Christ with the Christians that come here.

We hope that if you have different views about evangelism, you will understand that our convictions about evangelism are very important to us. We believe that it is important to evangelize according to the pattern provided in the New Testament record. While we don't think it is our responsibility to demand all Christians come in line with our views on evangelism, we do believe it is our duty to follow the New Testament pattern ourselves as we evangelize so that the gospel is not emptied of its power or distorted when we evangelize. As a result of this conviction, we have developed some guidelines that we seek to follow whenever we evangelize. We ask that all Christians who wish to evangelize with us familiarize themselves with these guidelines so they know what to expect if they decide to evangelize with us. Some links are provided that lead to articles that support these guidelines.

#### 1. Please do not lead people in a "sinner's prayer."

There is no biblical warrant for the practice of having an unbeliever pray a sinner's prayer in order to receive Christ. Because this unbiblical practice is so wide spread, there are now millions of people in the United States who falsely think they are Christians when in reality, they are not. Why we don't lead people to pray a "sinner's prayer."

2. Please to not debate the gospel and use extrabiblical arguments in an attempt to convince people to believe the gospel. The gospel is to be proclaimed, not debated. We understand that it is easy to get sucked into arguments in hope to help people realize they are believing something false. For example, when Muslims say that the Bible is corrupt, the Christian wants to provide evidence to show that such a notion is completely false. But our job in evangelism is not to debate with people as a means to convince them to become Christians. Our job is to proclaim the gospel. Most discussions characterized by debate do not accomplish our mission to proclaim the gospel. They detract from it causing not only a waste of time, but they tend to diminish the cross in the eyes of those observing such a discussion. The gospel is God's only message of salvation and He has given us the authority to proclaim it as such. Why we don't debate or use extrabiblical arguments.

### 3. If a Stones Cry Out associate abruptly decides to end a conversation, please follow his lead.

God is the One who prepares hearts to hear and understand the gospel. There are millions of unbelievers who are either skeptics or mockers. When a person seems intent on criticizing the gospel message rather than learning it, we must follow the New Testament command and pattern and terminate conversations with such people as a gentle rebuke in hope that God will soften his heart to hear it properly at some point in the future. Why we sometimes end a conversation abruptly.

### 4. Follow the direction of the Stones Cry Out leader if you are with one

To maintain order and reduce the possibility of confusion, please follow the direction of the Stones Cry Out leader if you are with one. Consider your role to be that of observer rather than evangelist for that outing. If you want to do more than observe, ask permission to do so and only do so in accordance with the guidelines discussed provided here.

### 5. We preach a gospel of repentance. (Jesus must be embraced as LORD.)

Though this is listed last, this point is the most critical of all. Jesus said that unless a man is willing to die for Him, he cannot be His disciple. Any so called gospel which denies this truth is a false gospel. It is mandatory for those wanting to evangelize with us that they believe this truth. If this is not your deep-felt conviction, please do not ask to evangelize with us.

If you do not think you can abide by these guidelines, perhaps you should not be teamed up with a Stones Cry Out leader. If you would like additional information about Stones Cry Out Ministry views on evangelism, see the book, "<u>How to</u> <u>Evangelize</u>" available on Amazon.com.

## Other basic do's and don'ts

Do'sDon'tsShow respect to the residentsTry to avoid criticizing Islam, Qur'an or MuslimsListen to the residentsWomen, try to avoid talking with Muslim men.Try to learn their namesDon't dress immodestlyDon't engage with Muslim children without the parent's consent.