

One Nation Under God - Walk Across America

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Recently prayer walkers have begun to make the news. Ted Stone, a 72-year-old North Carolina has started his fourth walk across this nation. He is walking from Chicago, Illinois to Florida. On June 11, Don Vermilyea finished his 19,502-mile prayer walk that crossed 32 states. His walk began on February 2, 2002. On July 4 of this year, Rick and Jane McKinney will complete their Walk to Reclaim America at the Supreme Court steps in Washington, D.C. They started in Los Angeles, California on January 1.

Last November, I received an email from Rick and Jane. They offered to walk with me for a day or two, if I was walking in Ohio or Indiana. Since I did not walk last November, I offered to walk with them in Virginia. On June 23, 2006, in Harrisonburg, Virginia, I enlisted in the Walk to Reclaim America for two days.



About one minute after I met them, we encountered a homeless couple, Charles and Doris, sitting in front of a diner. Rick asked if they knew our Lord, Jesus. Charles nodded. Then Rick asked Charles knew if he was going to heaven. "I'm 45% sure," answered Charles. Then Rick and Jane prayed with the downtrodden couple. Doris wept when Jane hugged her. Prayer was not the only thing that the couple received from Rick and

Jane. They were presented with a McDonald's gift card, a Bible and some cash.

Less than five minutes later, we met three men sitting on a porch of a house. One of the men said that he was down on his luck and had not eaten in four days. He may have not eaten in four days but we knew what he had to drink, alcohol. That did not stop Jane from reaching out and placing her hand on his shoulder and praying for him. Dick made sure that they all received a Bible and a lunch from Wendy's. Before the day was over, they even shared the good news with a local police officer.

Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Matthew 25:40

The next morning, we started prayer walking at 6:30 AM along Route 11 north of the town of Lacey Spring. In the town of New Market, they again began sharing their testimony with anyone who would listen, a vacationing family from New York, a small girl and a group of Methodists, who were having a fundraiser. In New Market, we left Route 11 and turned eastward onto Route 211. Soon Jane spotted a sign, Washington – 102 miles. Their goal was growing near.



When we parted company, a gift from their volunteer van driver, Jim Lynch, was presented to me. It was a blue baseball cap with the words, One Nation Under God. In addition, Rick and Jane give me a CD of gospel songs that they recorded, and a donation for my walk. In the short time that I was with them, I saw them touch the many lives of many including my own. Many evangelists blow into town, blow up and blow out. Rick and Jane are not like them. They humbly walk into town with no fanfare and share the Word with the lost and hurting, just like Jesus did two thousand years ago.

On my way home, I attended Sunday morning service at Round Hill Church of the Brethren in Tom Brook, Virginia. Pastor Noffsinger spoke from the love chapter, I Corinthians 13. The words, *love never fails*, reminded me of Rick and Jane.

As I drove home, I quietly reflected the events of the two previous days. The town of New Market, Virginia has many historical buildings lining its streets. Most of these building had commemorative wall plaques. We all have a chuckle when read a very unusual plaque. It read; *on this site in 1897 nothing happened*. Perhaps in the future, a new plaque will replace the old.

“On this site in 2006, Dick and Jane McKinney passed by on their Walk to Reclaim America and the America is now changed forever.”

To learn more about the One Nation Under God –Walk Across America, go to our web site, www.walkacrossamerica.info.

God bless,

Jim Shaner

jims19372@yahoo.com

One Nation Under God –Walk Across America

P.O. Box 72692

Thorndale, PA 19372-0692

Total miles walked of the American Discovery Trail - 659 miles

Number of prayer walkers

- 57 prayer walkers

Number of people praying for America

- 47,184 prayer warriors