

Trucking Ministry Information

What Makes This Mission Field Unique?

Trucking is a 24/7/365 operation. The Bible says that we should not forsake the assembling of ourselves together. For the Christian over-the-road driver there is a major problem keeping this verse. Schedules make church attendance difficult. If their schedule did permit them to attend, attendance is often restricted because most churches are located in areas not easily accessed by eighteen wheelers. In the cases where a church could be accessed, the parking lots are not designed for access by large trucks.

While many drivers have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, most do not. In other cases the driver may have grown up in church but he/she is currently running from God. They will most likely never hear the message in a church because of the problems listed above.

Furthermore, with drivers facing weeks away from home they experience unique pressures. These drivers, both Christian and non-Christian are under much stress from federal regulations, shipping schedules, delays at shippers/receivers, traffic/weather delays, loneliness, and fatigue. This stress makes them more susceptible to giving in to temptations, like prostitutes and drugs.

In reality, truckers are a subculture of American society. Most people have no clue of what drivers go through. Many drivers want to be loners, which makes reaching them even more difficult. Many have been hurt by church people in the past and want nothing to do with God or the Gospel. This increases the importance of having someone available at a truck stop to begin to break through that tough shell.

Industry Statistics and People Potential

- Trucking accounts for 87.5% of the freight bills in the United States (2000)
- 43 billion gallons of fuel or 1.2 billion barrels of fuel consumed each year (2000)
- The trucking industry employs 9.9 million people (drivers, terminal staff, truck stop personnel, shipping/receiving) (2000)
- Over 5 million drivers (2005)

Ministry Statistics

- Truckstop Ministries Inc. (TMI), who I am affiliated with, has 68 chapels in 27 of the lower 48 states.
- TMI is the second largest chapel ministry in the country
- TMI and Truckers' Christian Chapel Ministries, the largest chapel ministry, account for 70% of the chapel ministries nationwide.
- In 2005 over 30,000 drivers attended TMI chapel services with over 2,000 reported salvations.
- In 2005 TMI provided 60,000+ newsletters, 12,000+ teaching tapes and CD's, 12,500+ Bibles in English and Spanish, 12,500+ tracts, and 240,000+ flyers to drivers across the nation

Local Statistics

- Approximately 800 trucks per day come through the Petro in Milan, NM
- If even half are team operations, that equals 1,200 drivers per day, 8,400 per week, or 438,000 per year.

Current Events

The biggest issue facing drivers today are the hours of service regulations. These seem to be a major source of frustration for drivers. This coupled with shippers and receivers who could care less about a driver's schedule increase frustration and lead to illegal logging and fatigued drivers. Drivers are forced to run long hours, sometimes exceeding the legal limit. OOIDA (Owner Operators Independent Drivers' Association) strongly encourages its members to run compliant to highlight the need for greater regulation of the shippers and receivers to cut wait times for loading/unloading.

4 Lanes 4 Jesus Ministries, Inc.
Vision Statement

We will *evangelize* professional drivers and truck stop personnel through one-on-one encounters, crusades, and local chapel services thus helping to fulfill the Great Commission.

We will *equip* local believers to serve as chaplains and assist in them in planting local chapels in areas where chapels are needed.

We will *edify* believers in the trucking industry through a preaching and teaching ministry, local support groups and by providing ministry materials and resources.

4 Lanes 4 Jesus Ministries, Inc.
Mission Statement

4 Lanes 4 Jesus Ministries ministers to the trucking industry and their families through:

- Conducting local chapel services
- Entering into one-on-one contacts at truck stops
- Developing support group for local truck driving families
- Providing pastoral services to drivers and truck stop personnel
- Maintaining a ministry-based website
- Providing ministry materials and resources
- Training chaplains and planting chapels where needed
- Providing chapel services for drivers in emergency/catastrophe situations

4 Lanes 4 Jesus Ministries, Inc.
Purpose Statement

Reaching America's Professional Drivers With The Good News Of Jesus Christ!



The Chapel at the Petro in Milan, NM.



Chapel Service in Milan.