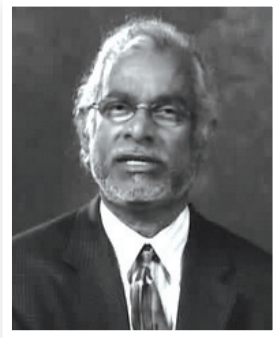


## Why use tracts?



*Dr. K. P.  
Yohannan*

Some people question how effective tracts are in evangelism. Don't be fooled by such talk. The following is an extract from Dr K.P. Yohannan's book on evangelism.<sup>1</sup> He is the founder and Director on one of the world's largest and most fruitful mission organizations, Gospel for Asia. He writes:

“Just before China was taken over by the communists, one communist officer made a revealing statement to a missionary, John Meadows:

‘You missionaries have been in China for over a hundred years, but you have not won China to your cause. You lament the fact that there are

uncounted millions who have never heard the name of your God. Nor do they know anything of your Christianity. But we communists have been in China less

than 10 years, and there is not a Chinese who does not know...has not heard the name of Stalin... or something of communism... We have filled China with our doctrine. Now let me tell you why you have failed and we have succeeded,’ he continued. ‘You have tried to win the attention of masses by building churches, missions, mission hospitals, schools and what not. But we communists have printed our message and spread our literature all over China. Someday we will drive you missionaries out of our country, and we will do it by the means of the printed page.’”

## What Can I Do With Tracts?

1. Leave in phone booths.
2. Put in greeting cards.
3. Give to attendant at fast food drive through.
4. Put on car windows in parking lots.
5. Leave on sitting areas of shopping malls.
6. Pass out door to door.
7. Stick up on bulletin boards.
8. Put in pockets of used clothing given away.
9. Display in church foyer, on tables at the exits
10. Pass out at parades, festivals, and special events.
11. Leave in city parks on benches, etc.
12. Leave at funeral homes.
13. Hand out at stadium entrances, etc.
14. Mail out to names in a telephone book.
15. Leave in Laundromats.
16. Give to attendants at garages, etc.
17. Leave in motel rooms (in the drawers, telephone book, etc.)
18. Leave in glove compartment of car you test drive.



<sup>1</sup> Yohannan, K.P. 'Revolution in World Missions'. GFA Publishing, 2008, 115



19. Give to students at Sunday School.
20. Include in bills paid by mail.
21. Slip in pump handles at self-serve gas stations.
22. Hand to store employees, check-out clerks.
23. Leave in returned library books.
24. Put in magazines in waiting rooms.
25. Send to relatives/ friends.
26. Put in correspondence to prisoners, etc.
27. Leave in bank where deposit slips are.
28. Leave in restrooms at restaurants, etc.
29. Leave with tip in restaurants.
30. Give to hospital and nursing home patients.
31. Leave on tables at flea markets.
32. Hand out at picnic areas, beaches.
33. Leave on seats on bus, cab, airplane, etc.
34. Leave in lockers at the gym.
35. Pass out on busy street corners.
36. Put in mouth of vending machines.
37. Pass out at schools after dismissal.
38. Leave in cafeteria at work, school.
39. Leave for newspaper boy, postie etc.
40. Put in each box or bag of merchandise sold.
41. Put in airport lounges, bus terminals, etc.
42. Send to relatives/ friends.



### *The Advantages of Tracts?*

1. Tracts can get inside homes and stay there. You can't.
2. Tracts never lose their temper or become involved in arguments.
3. Tracts never flinch or show cowardice.
4. Tracts can stick to the point without compromising.
5. Tracts never get discouraged.
6. Tracts are willing to travel anywhere.
7. Tracts can work 24 hours per day.
8. Tracts are not expensive.
9. Tracts can be read many times over.
10. Tracts contain portions of Scripture, which God will use and bless (Isaiah 55:10-11).



***Most importantly, ask God to use you. Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit for each tract placed, and then pray for the Lord of the harvest to bless it.***

### ***Some Guidelines for Tract Distribution***

#### ***Use Tracts:***

***Prayerfully:*** Pray that God will speak to the recipient.

***Pleasantly:*** A smile costs so little yet goes so far.

***Plentifully:*** “Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.” (2 Corinthians 9:6). Tracts cost so little that you can afford to give them freely.

***Persistently:*** “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” (Galatians 6:9; Ecclesiastes 11:6).

***Prospectively:*** Tracts open the door to witness. Use them as a tool to witness, but never as an excuse for not witnessing.

***Proudly:*** You are offering the greatest of gifts. You are an ambassador of the King of kings (Isaiah 52:7; 2 Corinthians 5:20).

***Personally:*** Everyone can distribute tracts. People who will not come to church will read a tract in privacy. Put your address and phone number on each tract for follow-up.

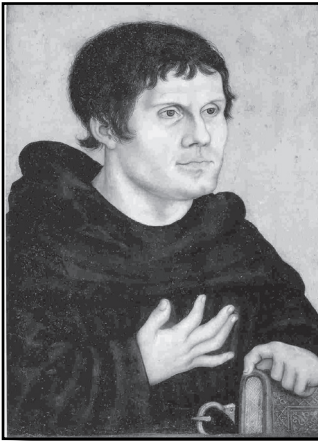
The object of distributing tracts is to get people to think, and thereby realise their need of salvation and the way of salvation, and then persuade them to receive Jesus who alone can save and keep and satisfy. As people read they think, and as they think they believe, and as they believe they act. “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” The tract distributor not only receives a blessing in sowing the “precious seed,” for God has promised that “he that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.” He or she has the promise that God’s Word will not return to Him void, and that his “labor is not in vain in the Lord.” He or she may be tempted at times to become discouraged and stop, but as he remembers the admonition: “In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand; for thou knowest not which shall prosper, whether this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good,” he faithfully continues in this ministry, “not weary in well doing.” There are many opportunities for reaching men and women, which can be seized by the use of tracts. We are constantly passing perishing souls, like ships in the night. Many are in distress. Let us proclaim the message: Jesus Saves!

*The way to learn how to use Gospel tracts in Christian service is to use them. We learn by experience, which is the best teacher. If you are not in the habit of engaging in such ministry, begin today. If you have distributed tracts but have grown somewhat neglectful, renew your efforts now and keep at it faithfully.*



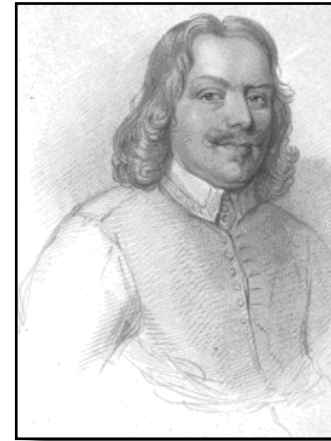
*Why distribute tracts? (1) Many are perishing for lack of knowledge. (2) The time is short. (3) The laborers are few. (4) God uses the things that are sometimes despised, even small Gospel leaflets, to bring to naught the things that are highly esteemed by the world. (5) Religious cults are busy distributing their pernicious literature, whereby minds are darkened, hearts are defiled, and faith is destroyed; therefore Christians should do all they can to combat the error of the day and make known the saving truth of God's Word.*

*Tract distribution is something that every Christian can engage in, and not only be blessed themselves, but be a blessing to perishing men and women. Will you begin to sow the "precious seed" by means of sound, attractive Gospel literature, and keep at it until Jesus comes, or you depart to be with Him? Great will be your reward for such faithful, prayerful service.*



*Martin Luther*

*Martin Luther wrote a pamphlet on Galatians which, falling into Bunyan's hands, converted him; and several hundred translations of Pilgrim's Progress have been issued.*



*John Bunyan*

*A young Frenchman who had been wounded at the siege of Saint Quentin was languishing on a pallet in the hospital when a tract that lay on the coverlet caught his eye. He read it and was converted by it. The monument of that man may be seen before the Church of the Consistory in Paris, standing with a Bible in his hand- Admiral Coligny, the leader of the Reformation in France.*



*Admiral Coligny*