## DECEPTIVE CONVERSIONS LEAD TO FALSE CHRISTIANITY Copyright Matthew Verschuur. Originally published in The Protector, 4/9/2006.

## The Gospel must be understood, and the response must come from a willing heart.

Paul told the Corinthians that true ministers "have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." (2 Corinthians 4:2).

Those who bribe young children with chocolate and fun activities to try and bring them to Christ are wrong. Jesus wants the little children to hear the truth, not to hear of Jesus their entertainer, who fed the crowds, healed the sick, told people to love each other, but never seemed to talk about being free from sin.

Those who think that concerts and other productions are the way to reach the youth are sadly misguided. Nowhere in the Bible does it say that the evangelists told jokes. It seems that teenagers can hear plenty of stories, but very little Gospel. Most of Christianity has gone the way of craftiness, which deliberately eliminates Bible content and instruction from their message, and replaces it with other things.

Those who support movies supposedly depicting Christ, thinking that they are going to win the world to their cause have really been won over to the world's cause. It might be considered a smart move by the world for a religious group to take away all "religion", but this is dishonesty. It is, in fact, a blasphemy to say that a person is a Christian, or a place is a true Church, and yet the Gospel of Christ is not present.

"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ." (Galatians 1:6, 7).

The Gospel is about laying down the law, and showing Christ as the way of grace. All of the things which are based on emotional blackmail, arm twisting and exterior behaviour alteration are not the things of Christ's Church. God wants people changed by their hearts being changed, and hearts are changed when the Word enters in, and a person understands the Gospel and responds to it.

"But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth *it;* which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty." (Matthew 13:23).