What do you think Dian? I think they have bad ideas. Do you believe in the Jesus you learned about at our school? I think so...yes.

The two Mormon missionaries in Pacific Lutheran High School's office didn't have a chance. Though they had practiced their arguments, cultivated an emerging relationship with our former valedictorian (by speaking to him in his native Mandarin), and had prayed to their gods before their testimony to Dian and me, they had not believed the Scriptures, "Let the man who has his dream tell his dream. Let the man who has my Word speak It faithfully." (Jeremiah 23:28)

What these missionaries failed to realize was that our Holy Spirit was working in Dian's life, targeting him for salvation, and bringing him to the Savior: a dead God-man hanging on the cross for all.

Pacific Lutheran High School's staff had prayed for Dian numerous times by name, showed him Christ's love over the course of three years as an I-20 student, taught him God's Word in Theology class, and modeled forgiveness after failures. He had been incubated, nurtured, protected and loved while he was with us – this too the work of a loving and grace-filled King. **These lost young missionaries didn't have a chance.**

Restoration of the gospel, exaltation to celestial heaven and a living prophet pronouncing God's Word would not stand up to God's truth for "the Scriptures cannot be broken." (John 10:35) Grace plus works, translating the Bible correctly and ordinances of the Gospel fell before salvation by grace alone through faith alone by Christ alone.

Dian listened to these men's beliefs, measured Christian responses to them, and respectfully remained silent during the spiritual warfare which took place between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. at 2814 Manhattan Beach Blvd. in Gardena. Then the two young men left.

Looking at him directly I asked, "What do you think Dian?" "I think they have bad ideas" he offered quietly. "Do you believe in the Jesus you learned about at our school?" "I think so...yes"

We will of course follow up with Dian, encourage him to get baptized, continue to pray for him and his family, and help him to find a Christ-centered church. We are privileged and thank God for the opportunity to teach and serve His children in the limited time we have.

The devil will continue to attempt to thwart the work of God's kingdom of grace. He will seek to catch us in sins to render us ineffective in ministry. He will have us look to the problems in our schools rather than the daily victories we have won in and through Christ. He will attempt to cause dissension among staff members and administration in order to divide and conquer. He will ask us to question ourselves saying, "Is this really worth it?" When these questions come, we are to remember Christ's words to a struggling Paul. "My grace is sufficient for you." (2 Corinthians 12:9)

The former archangel, now sworn enemy of the living God never had a chance.

Jesus,

We praise and thank you for your grace and mercy. We thank you for your undeserved love and the privilege to teach your children that "the Law came through Moses but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." (John 1:17) Help us to trust in your promises, focus on Your victory and serve Your children faithfully. To God alone be the glory. Amen.