

GOSPEL TRICK SHOT MINISTRIES, INC. NEWSLETTER



May 2025

NEW JERSEY, USA

WICKENBURG, ARIZONA

SUPER BILLIARDS EXPO, PA

BERNIE'S BILLIARDS NJ

45th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

GTS AND YOUR WILL

GTS SHOT OF THE MONTH

CALENDAR



1 NEW JERSEY, USA



Domestic Outreach: GTS RACK team member Phil Ball did a birthday GTS show on March 30th for Emily Braunlin which included friends and family members. Emily's dad Tim Braunlin is the son of the founder of the Hawthorne Gospel Church which helped Gospel Trick Shot get started 27 years ago.



2 WICKENBURG, ARIZONA

Domestic Outreach: On April 1st Steve Lillis did a final GTS show at Wickenburg Ranch for the newly formed billiard club. Club attendance went from 1 to 6 to 16 to 21. Steve and sister Janet Curl helped with the start of the billiard club and the expansion of 5 home Bible studies in the community.



3 SUPER BILLIARDS EXPO, PA

Domestic Outreach: The 31st annual Hopkins Super Billiards Expo was held at the Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, PA on April 10-13. Over 100 vendors and thousands of pool players gathered to compete and buy and sell billiard products. Two GTS RACK team members Steve Lillis and Brian Pauley were on hand in the McDermott Booth. In addition to teaching the game of Blackball on the new United Blackball Pool Table by McDermott, Steve did 10 mini-Gospel Trick Shot shows, about 15 minutes each, teaching the Gospel Trick Shots and sharing the love of Jesus.



4 BERNIE'S BILLIARDS, NJ

Domestic Outreach: GTS friend and partner Bernie Criscenzo with his wife Pam have officially launched “Bernie’s Billiards” as an extension was put on their home. There are billiard tables and arcade machines. It is a place where people gather to have fun and fellowship. It also serves as a place where Gospel Trick Shot friends and partners can meet, plan, and encouraged each other in the Lord.



5 45th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Domestic Outreach: GTS Founder Steve Lillis and former professional pool player and wife Camille celebrated 45 years of marriage on April 26th. Their journey of pool and faith with all the challenges is well documented in the publication of two Gospel Trick Shot books listed on the GTS website. A third book called “God Stories” is due to be released this year!



5 CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

International Outreach: GTS President Wayne Parker visited Cape Town South Africa for the SA National 9-ball and Straight Pool Championships from April 4-6. Wayne was the MC at a local pool league awards ceremony, where he was invited to do a GTS show. Many were touched by his personal testimony as he shared the gospel of Jesus Christ and how the finished work of the cross of Calvary had set him free from a life of sin and bondage. Some of the local patrons were invited to join Wayne at Acts Christian church that Sunday, where he was the guest speaker for the day and preached at their two morning services.



7

GTS AND YOUR WILL

GTS and Your Will - With GTS expanding into China and with a younger leadership team in place, please consider including GTS in your will. It is as simple as listing the official name Gospel Trick Shot Ministries, Inc. and address with the EIN number and the amount or asset in the bequest section of your will. An amendment or codicil can be added and if needed we have our own Estate Planning Attorney Lorraine Thoms who can help.

Please contact Steve Lillis at billiards12@hotmail.com or 973-572-7287 for more details.



8 GTS SHOT OF THE MONTH



Luke 22:32

...and when you have returned back to Me, strengthen your brethren.

“Your Comeback is already planned by the Lord!”

Gospel Trick Shot #63 – Come Back to the One

History of the Trick Shot: This shot performed by Wayne Parker is done on a Chinese 9-foot pool table which has snooker type pockets, using a nap cloth which is made up of very fine bristles, brushed in one direction from the head of the table toward the foot cushion. Wayne Parker and a GTS South African team of five and GTS RACK team member Jason Lynch will be in China playing on these tables in the months of April and May, 2025. This shot was inspired by the Easter/Passover season of 2025. It is an appeal for all who are far from the Lord, to come back to the One who loves you, gave His life for you, and rose again on the third day. This shot can also be done on an American type of pool table.

GTS Name and Why: The name of the shot is “Come back to the One” and has a play on words for referring to the One (1-ball), which is positioned at the point of the rack. Peter in the Bible is represented by the 6-ball, as it was Peter who denied the Lord three times which is represented by the red 3-ball hanging over the side pocket. Jesus predicted that Peter would deny Him three times and that Satan would sift him as wheat. Jesus continued to say that He had prayed for Peter’s faith not to fail, and said that when Peter had returned to Jesus, that he would need to strengthen his brethren. Even though Peter was to experience a major setback, Jesus had already planned his comeback! The 6-ball starts by moving away from the 1-ball but then later returns to follow the 1-ball into the corner pocket the same way Peter did.

Scripture Reference: Luke 22:31-32 (NIV) “Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”

Cue Ball Placement: Cue ball placed about 1 diamond from the corner pocket as diagrammed and about a chalk width from the cushion.

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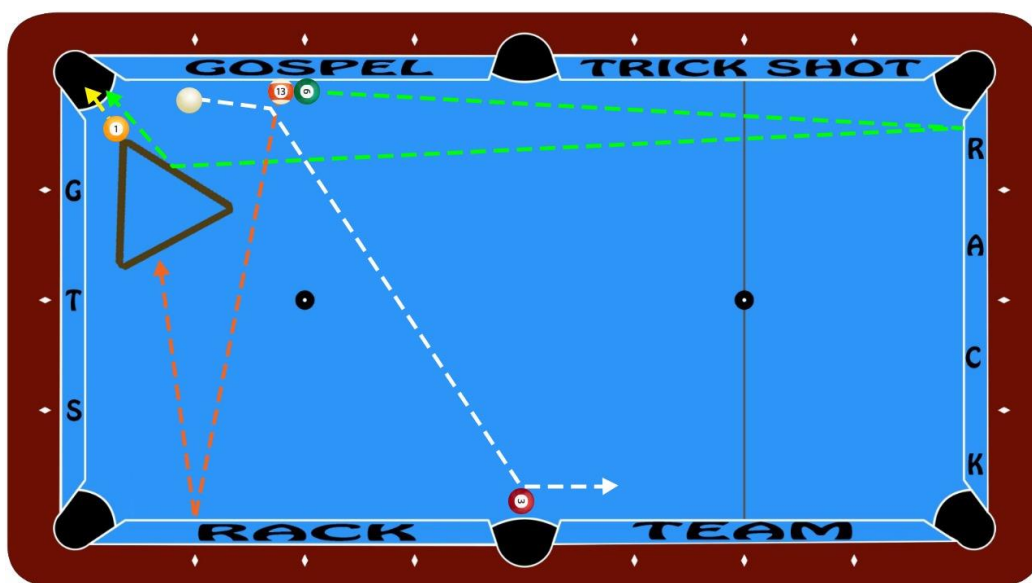
Object Ball(s) Placement: The 6-ball is frozen to the cushion on the 2nd diamond from the corner pocket, and is also frozen to the 13-ball which is also frozen to the same cushion. The 3-ball is placed directly in front of the opposite side pocket with its edge flush with the slate edge of the side pocket. A triangle rack is also placed on the table with one of its points frozen to the 1-ball, pointing directly at the corner pocket as diagrammed. The 1-ball is about one and a half ball widths from the slate edge of the corner pocket.

Objective: Hit the cue ball hard straight ahead into the 13-ball with extreme center right-hand English. The cue ball will carom off the 13-ball and make the 3-ball in the opposite side pocket. The 6-ball will naturally bank across the length of the table and return to ricochet off the rack into the pocket where the 1-ball is located. The 13-ball will then receive transfer spin from the cue ball causing it to bank backwards across to the opposite long rail, and then back into the rack making the 1-ball just before the 6-ball arrives.

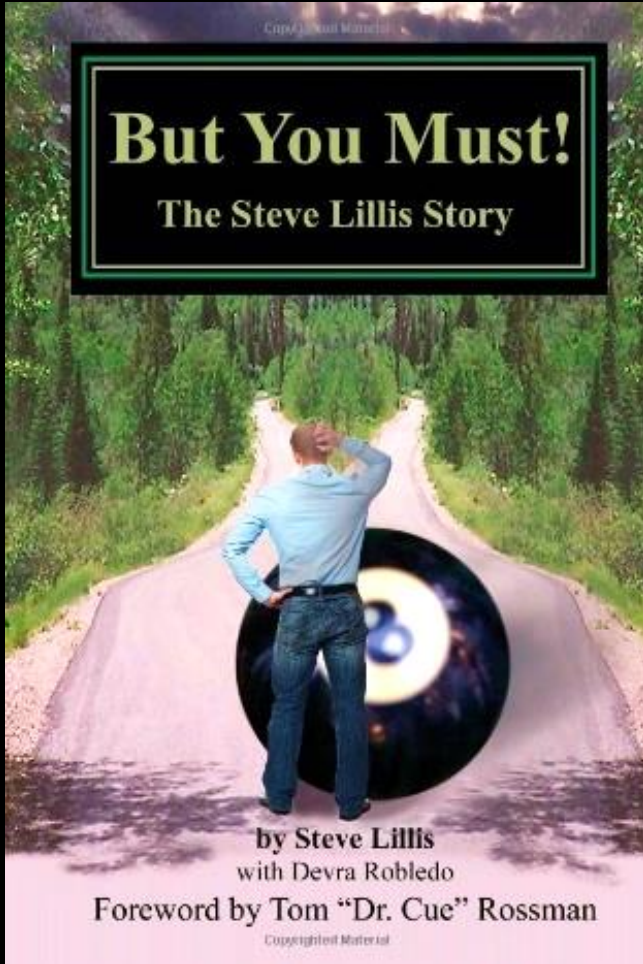
Special Notes: If you find that 13-ball does not bank backwards to go into the rack then use more right-hand English. If the cue ball misses the 3-ball by going past the 3-ball, then try aiming a little thicker on the 13-ball. If the cue ball misses the 3-ball by hitting the long rail before the 3-ball, try playing the 13-ball a little thinner. This shot requires some practice but is a sure way to bring a great message across. If one misses the shot, you can say that Peter denied Jesus 3 times and have another two more attempts. If you have missed all 3 attempts, then say many of us have denied Jesus more than 3 times, and Jesus is willing for us to keep trying until we come back to Him.

There is a secret hidden Bible reference and verse hidden in the order in which the numbered balls are pocketed. Can you figure out that Bible verse reference? Hint: It is found in the book of John.

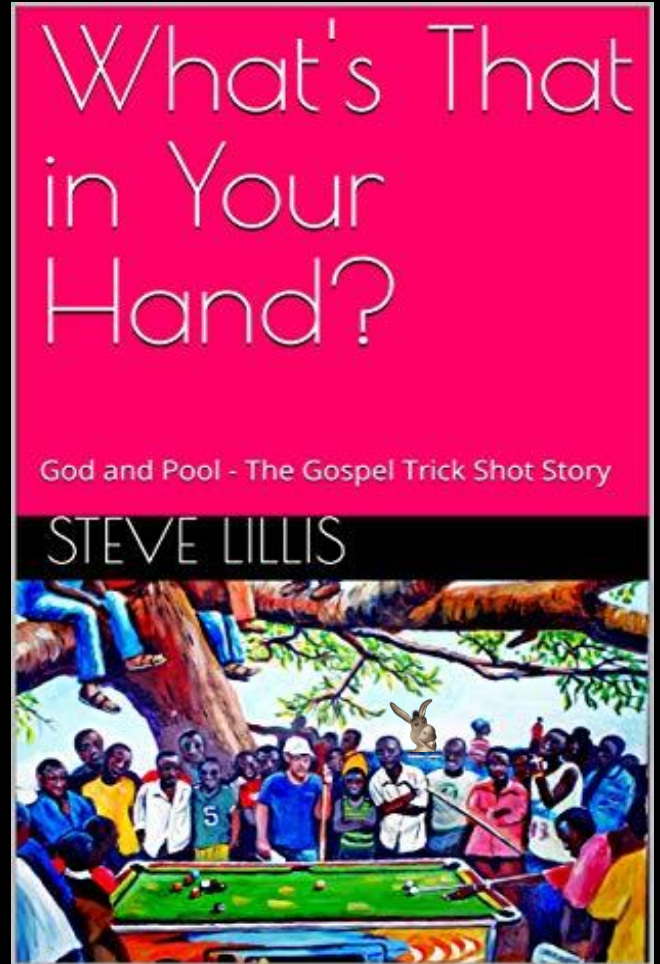
Crowd Reactions: This shot carries a very powerful and convicting message. Many people can relate as experiencing setbacks are a part of life. You can emphasize the truth that Jesus has already planned your comeback even before your setback. This will result in a heartfelt round of applause as the 6-ball not only represents Peter but also every person who returns and comes back to the One (1-ball) and follows the One (Jesus) into the pocket which represents this life and the life to come! Jesus loves you!



Books by Steve Lillis



**Click on Image
to Order
(Available in English & Spanish)**



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GTS Calendar 2025: changes and additions are forthcoming (BILLIARD INDUSTRY events are confirmed as GTS participation is (TBD) To Be Determined!!)

>**4/23/25 – 5/7/25** – 2025 Heyball Grand Masters international player qualifier in Chengdu, China. Wayne Parker competing, doing Gospel Trick Shots and networking with Chinese companies for future Artistic Pool events and GTS shows.

>**5/16/25** – GTS show with portable pool table for the Hawthorne Gospel Church Adult Singles Ministry at 7:00 pm in the chapel. Please register and invite friends. Go to: <https://hawthornegospel.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2905652>

>**5/30/25** – GTS outreach show with portable pool table at Grace Gospel Church at 139 Montgomery Street 4th Ward Paterson. NJ outdoors in church parking area at 7:00 pm.

>**6/7/25 (TBD)** – Hope Day Free Community Event with food, music, Kids Zone, and GTS show at Grace Gospel Church at 139 Montgomery Street 4th Ward Paterson. NJ outdoors in church parking area at 1:00 pm.

>**May/June 2025** – Please check Tom “Dr. Cue” Rossman and friends for upcoming events at <https://www.drcuepromotions.com/outreach-vision-witness/>.

>**July 2025 (TBD)** – Billiard Education Foundation (BEF) and 2025 World Junior Pool Championship with Michael Hewitt and Jason Lynch and the Rising Hope Church.

>**July 2025 (TBD)** – Café Con Dios in Seville, Spain and Rising Hope Church in Muncie, IN outreach in Spain using disco and Gospel Trick Shots.

>**8/23/25 (TBD)** – GTS show for the Annual First Swing Golfing cookout at the Tyrone Collins Memorial Basketball Courts on Presidential Boulevard in Paterson, NJ.

>**Sept/Oct/Nov 2025 (TBD)** – CUNY Queens College, Queens, NY with GTS Show by Steve Lillis with Chi Alpha Campus Ministries in the student center.

>**Sept/Oct/Nov 2025 (TBD)** – New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) with GTS Show by Steve Lillis with International Students Ministry (ISI) in student center in Newark, NJ.

>**Sept/Oct 2025/Nov (TBD)** – SUNY Polytechnic Institute in Utica, NY and other colleges with GTS Shows in the Mohawk Valley Region working with InterVarsity (IVCF).

>**Sept/Oct 2025/Nov (TBD)** – VCU, Virginia Union, and the Potomac Region with a GTS portable pool table college tour working with Chi Alpha Campus Ministries.

>**Sept/Oct 2025/Nov (TBD)** – Florida Institute of Technology (FIT) in Melbourne, FL with GTS show by Steve Lillis working with Campus Crusade for Christ (Cru).

>**GTS World Tour 2025 (TBD)** – ministry & billiard federation invites: India, Turkey, Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Japan, Indonesia, Portugal, Serbia, Hungary, Honduras, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Swaziland, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, and Malawi.

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For **donations**, please send your tax-deductible **check** made payable to:

GTS, P.O. Box 313, Hawthorne, NJ 07507.

For a specific outreach put the name in **memo section** of the check or PayPal text box.

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www.gospeltrickshot.org

Thank you for your support,

Steve Lillis
Chairman & CEO



Wayne Parker
President & COO



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