

GOSPEL TRICK SHOT MINISTRIES, INC. NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2024

YOUTH CONFERENCE IN CINCINNATI
ARIZONA AND CALIFORNIA GTS TOUR
ANNUAL DERBY CITY CLASSIC
GOSPEL TRICK SHOT OF THE MONTH
CALENDAR



1 YOUTH CONFERENCE IN CINCINNATI

Youth Conference in Cincinnati – GTS Vice President Michael Hewitt led a GTS RACK Team December 28-30 with Tom Rossman and Jason Lynch to the “Follow Conference” with over 5,000 young people in attendance at the Duke Energy Convention Center in Cincinnati, OH for the International Wesleyan Youth Convention. The GTS portable pool table attracted young people to engage with the team. Please pray for future invites for the team and the GTS portable pool table to share Christ with youth groups, schools, and community centers in the Midwest.



ABOVE: Tom Rossman and Jason Lynch doing a tandem Gospel Trick Shot making 10 balls together, when the shot did not go as expected, but worked out perfectly in the end demonstrating that God works it all out for the good in the end!



ABOVE: Pastor Michael Hewitt doing a Gospel Trick Shot for the youth, jumping a ball over a row of balls and through the triangle to make the 8-ball in the corner pocket! The youth were amazed at the skill level that was displayed and were all greatly encouraged with the Gospel message that was shared with each shot!



ABOVE: Tom Rossman ministering to some young people explaining some biblical principles demonstrated through a Gospel Trick Shot done on the Portable Pool Table!

2 ARIZONA & CALIFORNIA GTS TOUR

Wickenburg – Steve Lillis went on a GTS Western Tour from January 5 - 22 working with many partners in Arizona and California. Steve has been traveling out West his entire pool playing career. Through the years, partnerships and friendships by God's grace have developed. On this recent trip 7 Gospel Trick Shot shows were performed along with 3 speaking engagements and 2 Artistic Pool training sessions. Steve partnered with 4 churches, 2 men's groups, with 30 church members helping and participating in the GTS outreaches. BCA Hall of Fame pool player Robin Dodson participated with Steve to do two of the GTS shows. Over 100 people responded to various invitations to trust Jesus Christ at the different events. Plans to return out West are already underway as more invites were offered! Praise God!



ABOVE: Steve doing Gospel Trick Shot at the MECCA bar and pool room doing "The Butterfly" Trick shot, demonstrating the transformative power of Jesus and the freedom when received when we surrender to Him.



RIGHT: Steve looking like a local Wickenburg Cowboy ready for a Gospel Trick Shot show at the MECCA and the La Cabana saloon & Pool room



1 Corinthians 9:21

"I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some."

CONTINUED...





A Gospel Trick Shot ISI men's conference in Peoria, AZ and many men being deeply touched!



**Another Gospel Trick Shot Show at the Encore Group
at Richfield Community Church in Yorba Linda, CA.**

3

ANNUAL DERBY CITY CLASSIC

Annual Derby City Classic – Michael Hewitt led another GTS RACK Team of five to the annual Derby City Classic January 19 - 27 at the Ceasars Hotel and Casino in Southern Indiana. This is the 9th consecutive year that GTS has had a booth with Bible studies and team members present to share the love of Jesus through Gospel Trick Shots.



GTS SHOT OF THE MONTH

‘Escape Temptation’ Shot



History of the Trick Shot:

This shot is a famous shot, originally featured in the opening sequence of the movie “The Hustler”, it starred Jackie Gleason and Paul Newman. Many trick shot artists perform this shot in their shows and it is even in the WPA Artistic Pool Program. Tom “Dr. Cue” Rossman adapted it from the pool table to work on the Blackball Pool Table.

GTS Name and Why:

Tom named this shot “Escape Temptation” because of the visual reference of the two rows of balls indicative of the many forms of temptation that surround us in our daily lives. We are the Black Ball and the Cue Ball is God helping us to escape the temptations.

Scripture References:

1 Corinthians 10:13 “No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.”

Cue Ball Placement: Frozen against the Black Ball, slightly angled to the shooter’s right.

Object Ball(s) Placement: The Black Ball is frozen to the long rail about 3 -4” from the side pocket. Two rows of balls are on either side of the Black Ball and Cue Ball, angled away in a V formation.

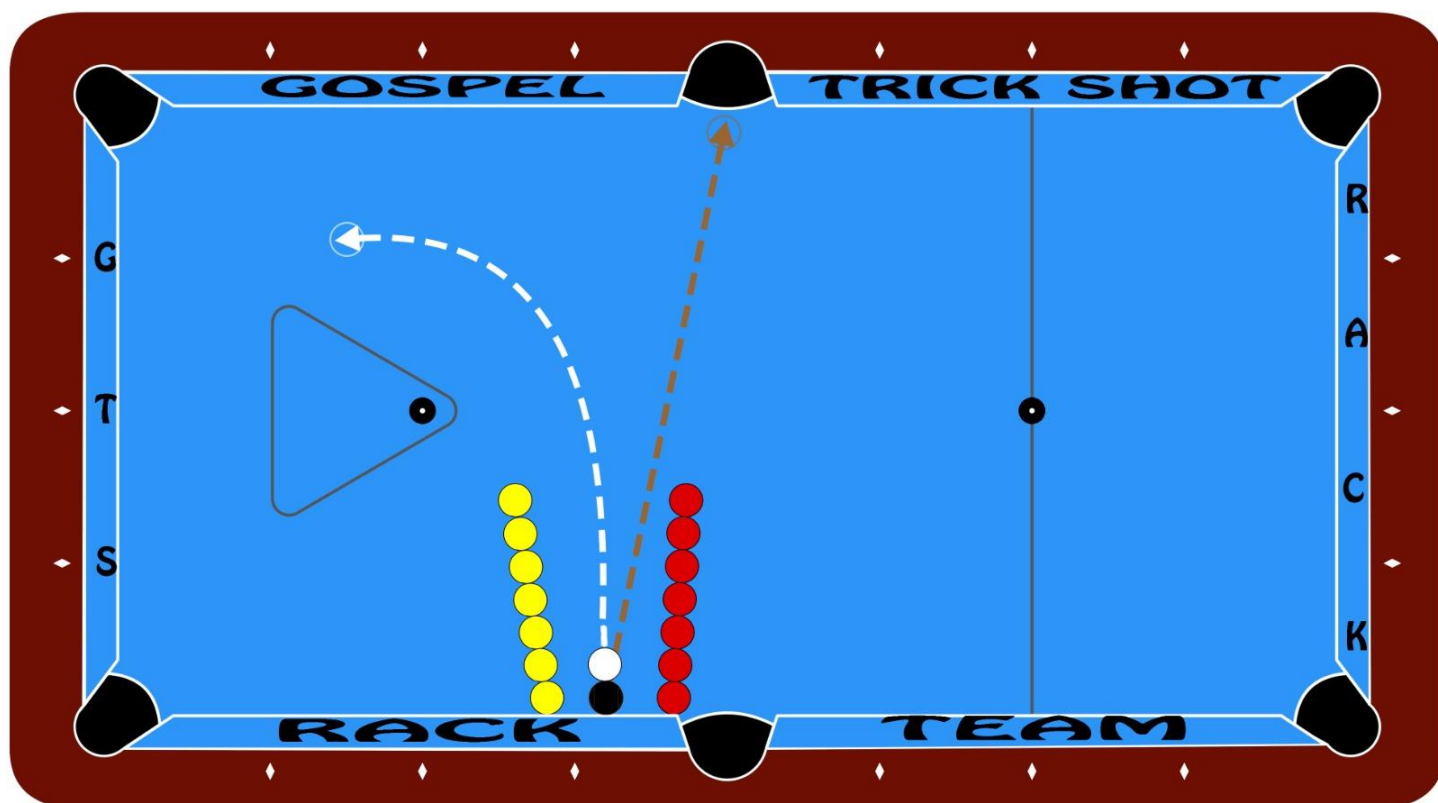
...CONTINUED

Object Ball(s) Placement: The Black Ball is frozen to the long rail about 3 -4" from the side pocket. Two rows of balls are on either side of the Black Ball and Cue Ball, angled away in a V formation.

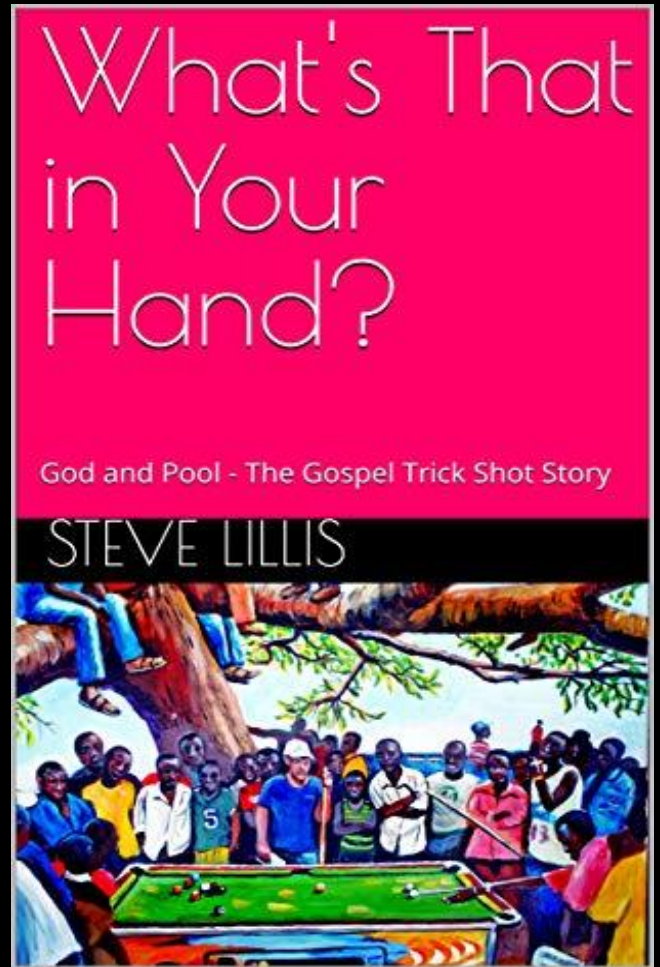
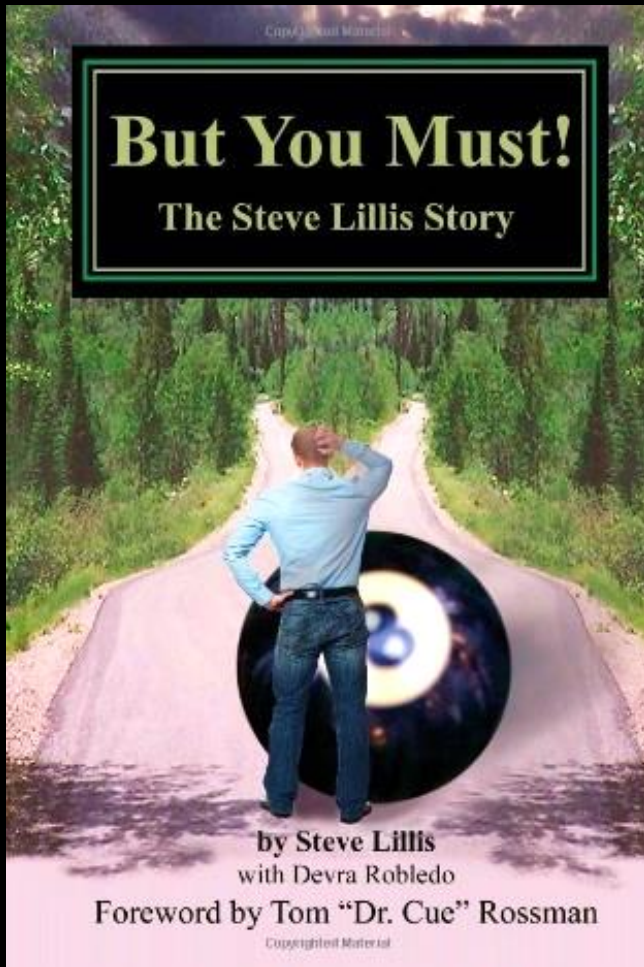
Objective: Shoot the Cue Ball into the Black Ball with an up stroke glancing off the top of the Cue Ball. You will need to elevate your cue slightly to allow the cue stick to glance upward after the hit, avoiding a double hit on the Cue Ball.

Special Notes: If you find that you are trapping the Cue Ball, try using a looser bridge hand, even an open bridge can be used in this shot. Even though this looks like a foul, it is a completely legal shot if executed correctly since the cue stick is only in contact with the Cue Ball for an instant. This shot can be played into the corner pocket on a pool table or even down the length of the pool table.

Crowd Reactions: This shot is always a crowd pleaser, beginning players are amused with the novelty of it and the more advanced players will learn a new shot that they may not have encountered before. We see many temptations in the billiard world but the good thing is that God always has an answer to whatever temptations that may come our way.



Books by Steve Lillis



Click on
Image
to Order



Click on
Image
to Order

GTS CALENDAR

GTS Calendar 2024: changes and additions are forthcoming!

>**2/7/24 – 2/10/24** - WPA World Artistic Pool Championship in Bay City, MI with GTS Booth and GTS RACK team members participating in world class competition.

>**2/12/24 – 2/13/24** – McDermott Factory tour with GTS partners Wayne Parker, John English, and Steve Lillis in Menominee Falls, WI.

>**2/14/24 – 2/20/24** – GTS RACK Team member Wayne Parker on tour in Los Angeles partnering with Good Times Family Billiards and Automated Entertainment.

>**2/18/24 – 3/5/24** – Steve Lillis and family members doing GTS shows on the Mildenhall and Lakenheath Air Force Bases near London, England for the U.S. Military working with the USAF chaplaincy program.

>**3/6/24** – GTS show with Steve Lillis and the GTS portable pool table at 12:00 Noon at Bergen Community College in the student center on campus in Paramus, NJ.

>**3/20/24 – 3/21/24** – Annual BCA Trade Show in the Las Vegas Convention Center.

>**4/3/24 – 4/11/24 (TBD)** - GTS Portable Pool Table Tour with Steve Lillis and Steve Jefferson in North and South Carolina at HBCU campuses with NCS Paterson partners.

>**5/31/24 – 6/2/24** – SA Classic Artistic Blackball Championship with the “Steve Lillis Trophy” directed by GTS RACK team member Wayne Parker at the Sessions Pool Room in Cape Town, South Africa with a GTS show and booth.

>**7/8/24 – 7/13/24 (TBD)** – Billiard Education Foundation 36th Annual Junior National Championships sponsored by the BCA in the Oakley-Lindsay Center in Quincy, IL with a Blackball arena featuring competition and Artistic Blackball.

>**10/11/24 – 10/22/24 (TBD)** - WPA Blackball International (BI) World Championships and the Hawley Cup in Bridlington, England with a team of five A players (pros) and a team of five B players (juniors or amateurs) in international competition with the 2024 WPA World Artistic Blackball Championships and GTS shows.

>**GTS World Tour 2024-25 (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.

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.

To receive a tax-deductible receipt for 2023, gifts need to be postmarked and dated by December 31, 2023.



Thank you for your support,

Steve Lillis

President and Founder

www.gospeltrickshot.org



**Scan to
Donate**



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE "REMOVED" FROM OUR GTS EMAIL LIST PLEASE HIT REPLY AND INDICATE AS SUCH!