



Blessed are the porn addicts?

September 19, 2007

Jesus, the Bible tells us, loved the meek, the blind, the lame and the poor.

And, it would seem, the over-stimulated.

Next month, the U.S.-based XXX Church will visit Toronto to hand out Bibles at the Everything to do with Sex Show, Oct. 19 to 21, at the CNE.

And not just any Bibles, but the Jesus Loves Porn Stars Bible, featuring '60s-style fat lettering on the cover, as well as palm trees and a 1970s-looking man, cheesy moustache and all.

3X Church, as it also likes to call itself, is an online ministry that preaches through downloadable podcasts at xxxchurch.com, streaming video, blogs and a never-ending lecture tour by founders Craig Gross and Mike Foster.

The two began handing out Bibles at porn trade shows about five years ago, and set up the online ministry shortly after. Since then, they've handed out 3,000 Bibles, according to the "Porn Show Bible Meter" on their website – which includes a countdown to the Toronto show.

A regular feature at their events – such as Porn and Pancake Breakfasts, at which porn-addicted men can start on the road to counselling – is an inflatable giant elephant. Gross and Foster say it represents the "elephant in the pews" of porn addiction that many churches are hesitant to confront.

The two hope to break that taboo with a special "Porn Sunday" on Oct. 7, when they are encouraging all ministers to address porn addiction in their sermons.

Discovery Church in Bowmanville, which is working with 3X on the Bible handout at the sex show next month, is hosting a sex addictions talk at Bowmanville High School at 7 p.m. tonight. A 3X rep will be there.