



Set Free Update

A Publication of
Set Free Ministries

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A new kind of LOVE



“Love” is, by far, one of the most confusing words in the English language. Webster alone has offered ten definitions—ranging in subject from “a strong affection for another,” to a score of zero in tennis. With this word we profess our deepest emotions to our special someone and then go on to use that same word to describe how much we enjoy our sandwich. With so many different layers, how does one define love? What is love?

Love is both noun and verb, an emotion and a decision, innate yet learned through many difficult years of life. Love is a mother holding her newborn baby girl, a dad playing catch with his son, a kiss, a spanking; love is training and disciplining teenage children; love is washing that same old pair of socks for fifty years. Love is so many things— I could bore you with page after page with the many definitions of love.

The truth is, God’s definition is the most important. 1st Corinthians 13 lays it out clear:

Vs. 4-7 “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, is does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

Go ahead and re-read that definition— visualizing what each aspect of love is. What does being patient actually look like in your life? Do you *always* hope? I like this one a lot- “love is not self-seeking.” Boy, does that contradict everything the world teaches! Who else do you live for if not yourself? You see, that’s the lie. The truth is— we serve a living God, a God of love, and the

whole purpose of life is to love God and love each other. The entire content of the Bible is summed up on those two commandments.

How easy it is to get distracted, to let our sinful natures interfere. You had a rough day at work and come home to a catastrophe of dirty dishes and screaming children. The natural response would place tape across the mouths of your youngsters and then grump at your spouse to get cleaning, but **love is patience and kindness**. Your next door neighbor just bought a boat three times as large as yours and he’s letting you know how great it glides across the water. You look over at your own floating device and see a disgusting lump of metal. If only you could have his boat— everything would be fine.

What a silly lie to believe. That boat will be old and rusting in a few years just like the rest of them, just like every tangible item on this earth. **Do not be envious** of material gain for what will it matter in the end?

Only three things are eternal— God, God’s word, and people. These three should be top priority in your life. Love God (by obeying his Word) and love people, and when I say people that includes the ones that you’d rather avoid. Remember, **love keeps no record of wrongs!** I know that this will not come naturally; unfortunately this is not the kind of love that we are just born with. Ask the Lord for his love, ask continually, make this your heart’s request and watch what the Lord will do.

1 Corinthians 13:13 “**And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.**”

~Aubrie Benting

SFM USA We cannot count the miracles...

What an amazing thing it is when God's children return to him! This is just a short list of testimonies....I'll let the stories speak for themselves.

- "I have been a Christian since I was a child. I have grown in my relationship with Christ throughout my life but was bound up in legalism and trying to "please" God. I strove to be the "good child." In school, I excelled academically but struggled socially. I was bullied unmercifully at school during junior high. Early childhood abuse had left me feeling worthless and taught me to expect the doormat treatment. Set Free and my freedom appointment was a means to finally throw off all of the bonds and proclaim my freedom . I have greater confidence and joy than I have ever felt before. I am letting go of the frustration of trying to be perfect." -M.F.
- "I was caught up in deep sexual sin and was very angry towards my father and mother. Set Free has given me the tools to get my life back on track and living for Jesus." -A.S.
- "Much of my life, I have walked in the flesh instead of the Spirit. I was stiff-necked and the world, Satan's lies, and the flesh ruled my life. I went to church. I talked a religious talk, but sin had a foothold within my spirit. It has taken many trials and hardships for me to finally realize that God wants me to love him back with my whole strength and with all my heart. Through Set Free ministries, Jesus is setting me free. He is washing me with his blood. Bitterness, unforgiveness, addiction, self-centeredness, rebellion, pride, and spiritual bondage no longer have a stronghold in my heart. I choose to believe the Truth and His Word. The Truth is setting me free! My freedom in Christ has begun; I am reconciled to Him." -N.D.

BREAKING THE CHAINS CONFERENCE



A conference for those seeking Freedom in Christ

Are you hurting? Struggling with who are in Christ? Do you know anyone who is? Muskegon Community Freedom Ministries invites you and anyone you know to join them in using Scripture to break any strongholds in your life so that you can experience a greater personal relationship with God. Please extend the invitation!

When: March 27 & 28, 2009

Friday, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Saturday, 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Where: Fellowship Church

4200, E. Apple Ave.

Muskegon, MI 49442

Cost: \$15 per person or

\$10 per person if

you register with

5 people or more

For more information, call (231) 788-2321



GOOD NEWS FROM INDIA

The Lord has been hard at work, both at home and across oceans. We have recently received an update from Lal Zuala, director of SFM located in Mizoram, India. There is nothing but songs of praise for our King! Isaiah 61: 1 says:

“The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners...”

Here is just a short list of some of the things that have taken place in India:

- More than **300 inmates at the Central and District jails have received Christ as their personal Lord and Savior!!** That's 300 more citizens of heaven...
- A local group of women set out to keep many orphans and inmates warm this winter with a truckload of used clothing. (Mt. 25:36 “I needed clothes and you clothed me...I was in prison and you came to visit”)
- God's Word is spreading! SFM volunteers have been asked by local hospitals to offer counseling and hope to many cancer patients in the name of Jesus Christ

FREEDOM IN AFRICA

Last month, the Lord rained down forgiveness in Arusha, Tanzania. SFM East Africa, led by Rev. Emmanuel Kabambi, teamed up with other ministries to offer God's love and grace to many hungry souls. During the freedom conferences, both men and women confessed their sins and begged for cleansing from their Heavenly Father. God heard their cries, and he answered!



- 102 pastors and their wives confessed of their failures in their ministries and homes including one pastor who had held unforgiveness in his heart against a church member for three years...
- Many townspeople sat outside the church doors, listening to the teaching and praying right alongside the pastors inside



- There is a hunger for more! Rev. Emmanuel Kabambi was asked to return with more teaching

For more information and video, visit: www.activationinternational.blogspot.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

FREEDOM IS COMING TO THE PHILIPPINES

Dr. Jeff Stam will be leaving for the Philippines on March 14. Joining him will be his wife, his prayer partner and his wife, and eight people from Bella Vista (a church located in Rockford). Jeff will be leading conferences on spiritual warfare and the steps to freedom in Christ. He also hopes to be meeting with people on a one-on-one basis, leading them to freedom through Jesus. That same group will also be visiting **CHINA** on the 23rd of March for only a short stay. They will be meeting with a missionary from ELIC (English Language Institute/ China) and then returning home by March 29.



INDIA, KENYA, AND UGANDA

Dean Vander Mey, along with SFM supporters– Doug Olin, Rick Brummel, and Simeon Leach– will be crossing oceans as of March 16. They plan to return home April 3 with many happenings in between.

- **India**– Dean will be leading a conference in Calcutta on what it means to be free in Christ. Sixty house-church leaders and elders will be attending who in turn will teach **6,000** people from the house-church movement! Then they are off to Mizoram where they will be meeting with Rev. Zuala at the SFM India headquarters to encourage the SFM workers and volunteers.
- **Kenya**– Dean will be leading a SFM conference in Eldoret, emphasizing on forgiveness. This is the town where many women and children were locked inside a church and burned last year when I (Aubrie) was in Kenya. They will also visit with 27 girls who ran for their lives to escape the clutches of a sex slave ring. The girls are now relocated in Kisumu and thanks to the big heart of one SFM donor, all of these girls are now being fed, clothed, and given an education.
- **Uganda**– The last stop for the team is in Rakai where they will visit the 550 children who are attending the Christian school that SFM USA founded in 2006.



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PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL INVOLVED ON THESE MISSIONS!

When God's people work for his glory and bring others to join in God's army, there is an enemy who does NOT like it. We are at war against the powers of darkness, and the purpose of these mission trips is to bring Jesus' light to a people trapped in darkness. Pray for the hurting people who will hear God's word– may it take root deep into their hearts that they may become a witness of God's love. Pray for the men sharing God's Word- may the Holy Spirit pour in and through them. Pray against the schemes of Satan– may his head be crushed! Please pray; prayer is such a powerful tool.

CAN YOU HELP SUPPORT?

We are very busy here at Set Free Ministries. We are already booked the entire month of March with freedom appointments and more requests coming everyday. One woman shared her story of healing at SFM on 91.3 WCSG which has influenced many people in coming here for help. The number of people looking for freedom is growing, while our funds are diminishing. Not only that, but spreading the Gospel over seas is very costly. If there is anyway you can help at all, please send check or cash to:

Thank you!

Set Free Ministries 700, 36th St. Suite 108 Grand Rapids, MI 49548

~Aubrie Benting