

# *Set Free Ministries*

February 2010 Update



*"For if the SON sets you free, you will be free indeed"*

Dear Friends of Set Free Ministries,

**"Consider now, for the Lord has chosen you to build a temple as a sanctuary. Be strong and do the work." (1 Chr. 28:10)** Although David was speaking to his son Solomon about the physical reconstruction of the temple, I think we can apply this command to ourselves. The Lord has chosen YOU. Your body has become His temple. Be strong and do the work!

May you be encouraged by the example of one of our SFM volunteers to do just that.

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**"The Bible Doesn't say Anything About Retirement!"** -Dore` Westra



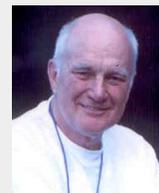
By **Aubrie Benting**

I recently read an article about "entitlement" that caught my attention.

Entitlement is not a word that is used often these days, most likely due to the pompous connotation that it carries, but our culture is drenched with it. If you need proof of that statement, take a look at our economy. Our country is buried under trillions of debt because too many people felt entitled to the best, even when it far exceeded their budget.

Be honest with yourself. Look inside your heart and sincerely search for what you feel entitled to. A better house? A spouse? A baby? An easier life? For the younger generation, do you feel entitled to "live it up" while you can? For the senior generation, do you feel entitled to finally hang up the hammer and spend the rest of your days enjoying whatever it is *you* wish to do?

Dore` Westra (pictured right), one of our SFM volunteers, is as "entitled" as anyone to do just that. This week he turns eighty-five years old. He has spent a lifetime providing for and raising six children, facilitating a home repair company, gardening, volunteering at church, SFM, and prayer groups, and even spent two and a half years in service to our country during the



second world war. That man deserves to spend the rest of his life relaxing! Or so the culture says...

Once we pledge our lives to Christ Jesus, we sign the eternal declaration of servitude; we are entitled to nothing more. No matter how old you are, every day you are given is to be spent in serving and glorifying the Lord. That is the ultimate purpose of life.

When I was a child, I thought that the only way to glorify God was to become a preacher, or speaker, or a Christian singer. I couldn't be more wrong! Dore` and many other believers have shown what it looks like to glorify and serve God with everyday living.

When I sat down to do this interview with Dore`, he said, " I don't want you to go painting me up as some extraordinary person. I'm just a normal, typical guy, but if sharing my story is going to glorify the Lord, then I will do it." Which is exactly why I told you about Dore`, *because* he's just normal. He did not write a famous book or give speeches in front of crowds, but he is "fighting the good fight." Countless times, Dore` has come in to volunteer at SFM, and he'll say to me, "Sit down; I want to tell you something that the Lord has done." Immediately, I sit myself down and listen as this man full of wrinkles and wisdom passes on the most important thing that he can, the seemingly small yet very significant, daily testimonies of what God has done in his life.

It is easy for people to think that they have somehow missed the mark or that they cannot be of much use because they live ordinary lives. That cannot be further from the truth. Remember the story of the demon-possessed man? After Jesus healed him, the man begged Jesus to allow him to follow in His footsteps. He was ready to follow God across the country; prepared to offer his life for whatever his Savior needed. And you know what? God wanted him right in his hometown. "*Return home and tell how much God has done for you.*" (Lk. 8:39)

Tell how much God has done for you. For all of you who are our valued "senior citizens," you have lived! Share with my generation what God has done in *your* life. Pass along the wisdom that comes with years of experience. In today's culture, it is only expected that after years of hard work, the last twenty-five years of one's life is spent playing golf and sun-bathing. I challenge you to break the mold. Like Moses, like Abraham, like Dore`, press on! For old and young alike, get involved, volunteer, tell how much God has done for you. Need somewhere to do so? Currently, 48% of our SFM volunteers are senior citizens and are vital to the ministry. We are praying for more volunteers to join our team. Please consider this opportunity to help others grow in their relationship with God!

Dore` spends countless hours helping other people grow spiritually. Along with that, he is still clocking into work once a week, repairing homes for low-income households. When I asked Dore` why he continued to stay so active at eighty-five, he smiled at me like "that's an easy question," lifted his working hands and said, "The Bible doesn't say anything about retirement."

***"I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:14)***

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### Free at Last!



- I went to SFM hoping that my life would be fixed. My husband, children, marriage, etc. would all be fixed so I could be happy. To my amazement, I was the one released from bondage. **I lived in fear, worry, and stress. I was miserable, lonely, and agitated.**

Little did I know that I had to release all the evil that controlled my life and learn to live in peace with our Savior. After my freedom appointment, I was able to see where I am supposed to be in Christ. I do not know if there is enough words on a paper to express the feeling inside I have now knowing freedom. **If you ever have been in bondage with abuse, addiction, etc., there is freedom in this program.**

~Brenda Hagen SFM, USA

### Released from "Blood Guilt"

- I am so thankful to God that I was able to attend the conference this day. I have been undergoing some pains in my heart when I remember what I did in 2007. **I killed more than 30 people** and those people I killed, I knew them. I killed them because of the elections difference in our country. I was planning to kill myself and my children because I feel bad when I remember what I did. **I really want to thank you so much for leading me to Christ** at the conference, and thank you so much for teaching me on the true forgiveness. Now I feel I am free. ~SFM, East Africa

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## Upcoming Events!

The Spring Training will be taking place on Friday, April 16 from 7-9 pm, and Saturday, April 17, 2010 from 8 am- 4 pm. The training will be held at Messiah Christian Reformed Church. The cost for the training is \$30 (includes lunch and materials), and the only requirement is that you have gone through a freedom appointment of your own prior to the class. For information, please contact Nancy Beaver via email at [nancyb@setfreeministries.com](mailto:nancyb@setfreeministries.com), or by phone 616.726.5400



Leave No Man Behind Men's Conference is scheduled for Saturday, March 13, at Corinth Reformed Church from 8 am- 3:50 pm. The conference will feature over 16 speakers, including Dean Vander Mey, and will cover a variety of topics geared towards men. The cost is \$25 per person (includes lunch).

More information and registration at [www.LNMB.org](http://www.LNMB.org)

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## PRAYER BOARD

"And **PRAY** in the Spirit on *all occasions* with all kinds of prayers and requests." (Eph. 6:18) because... "**Apart from me you can do nothing.**" -Jesus, (John 15:5)

### We praise the LORD for...

- the new Sawyer Water Filters that are now working and being used in Tata, Uganda. 220 orphan children now have clean water to drink!
- the 30 Freedom Appointments (USA) held in January and February. May God continue to work in each one of their lives.
- all of the donations that we have received so far in 2010. Thank you Father!
- Jamie Lohrberg, who is offering his time and talent to re-develop our website.

### We ask the LORD for...

- wisdom for SFM/ East Africa director Emmanuel Kabambi as he looks to purchase land for a new orphan school which will minister to approximately 280 children. They are hoping to have the school built by fall of this year.
- continued funding for SFM USA, East Africa, and India.
- safety for a SFM team who is going to be secretly teaching the Word of God in a country where the Bible is forbidden. May God grant wisdom and courage to all involved.
- a hedge of protection on SFM Director, Dean Vander Mey, who will be traveling to Indianapolis to speak at Deeper Walk International Conference on March 6, 2010. May the Lord give him the words to speak!

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For more information, [check us out at our website.](#)

If you would like to receive our monthly updates, please send an email (include first and last name) to [aubrie@setfreeministries.com](mailto:aubrie@setfreeministries.com).

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

(616) 726-5400  
Office Hours:  
Mon.-Thurs. 9 am- 4 pm