

# *Set Free Ministries*

December 2010 Update



*"Bringing God's healing and freedom to hurting people worldwide."*

Dear Friends of Set Free Ministries,

The holidays are officially underway! From Thanksgiving, to Hanukkah, Christmas, and New Years, it is the time of year for celebration, remembrance, and a re-prioritizing of what is important in life. It is the time of year for family.

Would it surprise you to hear that the end of the year is our busiest time of year with people looking to be ministered to? For some people, seeing family again does not bring happy memories but rips open wounds that have never been dealt with.

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Sara's sexual abuse began at the wee age of five by a relative who was consumed with his addiction to porn. Twice she approached an adult about the situation, but each time they turned away, not really believing what she was saying. Little Sara feared her abuser would follow through on his threats if she told anyone again, so she kept the secret to herself.



Things did not change as time went on. Sara grew to be in her teens and then her twenties as the abuse continued. By now, Sara's relative was not the only sexual offender. Another family member, camp counselor, and so called "friends" took advantage of her. The lies that she was told by her abusers only increased her shame and guilt. It was like she lived a double life- a "normal" person to the outside world, and the other a used, afraid, and hopelessly trapped piece of flesh.

Sara was in her mid-thirties when her capacity for pain, hurt, and anger reached its' brim. Alcohol became her closest friend for the next few years. Voices began to taunt her daily, telling her how worthless she was— begging her to end her miserable life. Sara believed the lies; she loaded her gun and laid it on the living room floor. This was going to be the end of her sorry story.

God had a different plan! That very night, by His prompting, a friend called her on the phone and begged her to go seek help at Set Free Ministries. By the grace of God, she put down her gun and gave life one more chance. The next day, Sara went through a six hour session of praying and forgiving, finally freeing herself from the chains of her abusers. For the first time in her life, Sara felt clean and free of shame- like a princess of our most high God! For the first time she felt what it was like to be truly loved, unconditionally loved by her Heavenly Father.

-written by Sara and Aubrie

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This is only one story. There are so many Sara's in this world that still carry the shame and believe the lies...some end up pulling the trigger. Still others are blinded by pride, or their light is snuffed out by anger and become lukewarm in the Christian walk. We Believers need to disciple with the truth!

This is the time of year that millions of people choose to celebrate Jesus Christ coming into the world by giving gifts to each other. If you are looking for a way to give a gift to God, LOVE Him and love other people. Shine your light before men that they may be pulled out of the darkness of this world. Share truth, rebuke in love, correct in kindness, and example a life devoted to serving our Holy God.

His Bride may be hurting, but she also is searching. SFM is here to help the Body of Christ live like children of light. We walk with people through their pain and sin issues and give everything to God to wipe clean and make new.



"I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."

Luke 15:7

**SFM would love to continue to the good work of ministering to others in 2011 but we need financial support to do so.** Please prayerfully consider a year-end, tax deductible donation that will be sure to make a life-changing impact on the lives of those who will be searching for God's truth of redemption in the coming year. Your gift will benefit not only the lives of those being ministered to, but also the lives of those who witness the all-consuming joy of restored relation with God!

~Aubrie Benting



[Donate Now!](#)

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## Volunteer Opportunity!

**The Need:** A home, meals, clothing, an education, a FAMILY. That is the need of far too many orphans in Uganda, and despite the ongoing effort to meet those needs for thousands of orphans worldwide, there still remains those who watch by the roadside- wondering when their turn will come, wondering if someone will ever take them by the hand and lead them to a place of safety.

**Our Response:** SFM is continually reaching out! We are here for those children, taking as many into our arms as physically possible. **We want to build another Freedom Center for orphans-** providing hundreds more with a place to sleep, eat, learn, and worship God.



**The Call:** SFM has the plot of land needed for the building, we have the funds for constructing it, we have the children to fill it, now we need your help. If God has gifted you or someone you know with skills in architecture, please call us. **On behalf of the children, we are asking for help in constructing preliminary architectural drawings for the Freedom Center. (616) 726-5400**

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## Upcoming Events!

**The Winter Discipleship Training** will be taking place on **Friday, January 21 from 7-9 pm, and Saturday, January 22 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 training registration or to schedule a freedom appointment, please contact Nancy Beaver at [nancyb@setfreeministries.com](mailto:nancyb@setfreeministries.com), or by phone at (616) 726-5400. All applications must be turned in by January 7, 2011.

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For more information, check us out at [www.setfreeministries.com](http://www.setfreeministries.com)

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).

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