

# Set Free Ministries

June 2010 Update



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

Dear Friends of Set Free Ministries,

*"Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:19*

The conversion of the soul, the spiritual cleansing of sin, and intimacy with God all hinge on the one issue called "**repentance.**" Repent, according to Webster's: "**To turn from sin.**" If you long to be changed and converted, if you long to be washed and cleansed from sin, if you long to have intimacy with God, then there's only one way. Repent and receive forgiveness. Hear the words of Jesus Christ moments before His resurrection.

*"Repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem." (Luke 24:47) -Dean Vander Mey, Executive Director*

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## "A Broken Bulb and Lukewarm Laodicea."



**By Aubrie Benting**

For the past week, the florescent light located directly behind my desk has been blinking. I am not talking every few minutes or so; this is a constant "light bulb spasm" complete with dim, bright, and complete darkness repeating itself in random order every second. Needless to say, I have already envisioned the lovely meeting my hammer could have with this broken bulb!

Through all of this annoyance, I have developed a new appreciation for Revelation 3:15-16 (NKJ) which says, *"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth."* I'd like to take the time to point out that Jesus is speaking to the *church* members in Laodicea. In other words, some of those people who met on a regular basis, some of those people who were faithfully gathering to go through the

religious steps, were about to be vomited out of God's mouth because of the apathy of their hearts. Much like the fickle light bulb situation, either hot or cold, light or dark, is better than the confusing mess that is made when people decide to ride the fine line between living according to God's law and their own. The surprising thing is- *there isn't a fine line*. Once someone decides to straddle the fence, get the best of both worlds, praise God one day and live contradictory to His ways the rest of the week, they have in doing so chosen luke-warmness and will be vomited out. This is a serious matter!

A few verses later, the Lord offers grace to the one who repents. *"Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. Here I am! I stand at the door and knock...He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."* (Rev.3)

I was reading in Exodus the other day about the detailed description of the priestly attire. Aaron and his sons wore garments that stood out from the crowd; even the passer-bys who knew nothing of the Israelites could tell that there was something different, something very important about the men who were chosen to do God's holy work. In fact, if the colorful breastplate and pomegranate bells on the robe didn't give it away, strapped across their head was the inscription, "Holy to God." Some translations use the phrase, "Set apart for God."

Holy, set apart. Imagine if you would wear something across your forehead everyday that said, "Set apart for God." Would you act any differently? Would you take seriously the call to behave in a way that would glorify the holy God that you serve? We are called to that standard. We are called to be set apart; we should not look like the rest of this world. In fact if we do, if a passer-by cannot tell a difference between those who forsake God and those who serve him (not speaking physical appearance), then we have failed our calling to be holy.

Flip-flop, lukewarm, half-hearted effort does not please the Lord. Choose for you this day- hot or cold, God's ways or yours, and give it everything you have! Middle ground is dangerous (possibly deadly) ground. Now I understand that we all will stumble at times and Jesus' righteous blood has atoned for that, but look at your heart honestly and ask yourself how seriously you take the command, *"Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy."* (Lev.19:2)

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## Your Story...

"Before my appointment, I was constantly doubting my salvation and my OCD compelled me to wash my hands 30+ times a day. Now, I am finding God's Word real in a way that I never experienced before. My doubts are less frequent as are my compulsions. Yes, I still have obsessive thoughts but I am learning to deal with them by taking "every thought captive to Christ." I need to give him everything. SFM helped me realize that I was believing lies in many areas and they helped me counter those lies with Scripture. I am grateful to SFM for their assistance in directing me to God alone for freedom."

-Anonymous, June 2010



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## SFM East Africa- President of Uganda Calls for Repentance



On June 20, 2010, President Yoweri Museveni, led thousands of worshipers in what was called a "National Day of Prayer" for the country of Uganda. Citing sins such as idolatry, sexual perversion, human sacrifice, bribery, witchcraft, and embezzlement, he urged all Ugandans to repent before the Lord and seek forgiveness for "all the evils in the country."

**"These and other acts have not pleased God. We, therefore, run the risk of losing out on God's blessings if we choose to disobey him. On the other hand, we stand**

**to gain if we obey God."** The President layed it out in plain terms at Kololo Independence Ground, located in Kampala, Uganda. He was accompanied by his wife, who said the **hands of Ugandans were soiled with the blood of innocent children and asked for forgiveness.** The two, along with other Christian leaders, urged the nation of Uganda to live in peace with one another and to be thankful for the gift of a rich and beautiful land that God had given them.

Uganda's got it! Repentance, humility, obedience. As the body of Christ, let us all join in prayer for the country of America to follow step in such a beautiful act of submission. Our hands also are soiled with the blood of innocent children. Since the legalizing of murder in the 1973 trial of Roe vs. Wade, approximately **49,551,703 American babies have been killed.** Their blood cries out from this land. Let us humble ourselves, repent and seek forgiveness, and turn back to the God that this country was founded upon!



\*Info taken from [allafrica.com](http://allafrica.com) and [nrlc.org](http://nrlc.org); pictures taken by SFM Director Dean Vander Mey in 2009

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### Upcoming Events!

**The Fall Discipleship Training** will be taking place on Friday, September 10 from 7-9 pm, and Saturday, September 11 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@setfreeministires.com](mailto:nancyb@setfreeministires.com), or by phone at (616) 726-5400.

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## PRAYER BOARD

### **Praises**

- Many freedom appointments have taken place. Praise the Lord for the volunteers who are willing to donate their time and for the willingness of the ministry recipients to receive freedom!
- Praise and thanksgiving for the funding that the Lord has provided so far this summer.
- Praise for all of the men and women who have signed up to attend the next training. We look forward to new team members!
- SFM East Africa has relocated to a new office in Kampala, Uganda to better accommodate its growing staff!
- SFM East Africa director, Emmanuel Kabambi, just received a 1995 Toyota Land Cruiser as a gift from a generous SFM donor! This will enable him to reach the various locations we now serve.

### **Prayer Requests**

- Please pray for a special discipleship training taking place at Impact Church this weekend that will include representatives from 8 local churches.
- Papua, the director and founder of TNT Orphanage in India, is suffering from severe health conditions. Please pray for healing as he has 1,000+ orphans under his care!
- Continued prayer for financial funding.
- Pray for any legal barriers to be removed for a 50 acre land purchase for a new "Freedom Center" in Uganda.
- A special prayer of protection for the 70 new SFM volunteers who are now doing ministry in a very controlled communist country.

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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  
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