

Set Free Ministries

September 2010 Update



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

Dear Friends of Set Free Ministries,

Please enjoy the rest of the story about Jim- "Raised from the Dead!" This is a continuation of last month's update. The Lord's hand is behind it all!

Raised from the Dead- Part II

By Dean Vander Mey



"We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him and who have been called according to 'his purpose.'" Romans 8:28

What an amazing verse this is that has been tried and tested over time and proven true. The story of Jim coming back to life after being dead began nearly 50 years ago when I was just 2 years old. My wife's Uncle Corky Pals bought a cabin along with some friends in the U.P in 1961 for \$1,200. Corky was a God-fearing man who loved the Lord. He enjoyed his cabin for nearly 50 years before passing away a few years ago in May of 2008. It was Corky who encouraged us to purchase the deer cabin next to his when it came up for sale in 1988. I will never forget Corky's words to me as he lay on his death bed, just a few weeks from dying.

He said to me, "Deano, its been the best month of my life laying here and waiting for the Lord to take me home. The Lord has shown me visions of heaven and I can't wait to be there. You tell all my friends about Jesus so they can get saved so we can all be together in heaven; even my U.P friends!"

I shared these words at Corky's funeral just a few weeks later. Corky wanted everyone to know his Jesus; I promised him I would tell his friends. If it wasn't for Corky Pals we wouldn't own a camp in the U.P and Jim would most likely be dead today; it was because of another one of God's faithful servants who has passed on before that Jim has extended

life today and testifies of God's power to save! It was God's plan all along to work through his children to bless others, through us, His body.

It was in God's plan to allow Sam to experience great pain and sorrow as a young boy by being abandoned by his birth mom and dad, then to lose his adoptive mother in 2007, and then to end up in our home, only to rebel and end up in a youth camp. The youth camp had summer vacation mid-July. The family usually goes to the cabin the second week of June, but this year we delayed the trip so that Sam could come with us during his summer break, which is the only reason we were in the U.P., at Stuesser Lake during the same time that Jim was that day.

It was in God's plan to allow for Jim to experience great pain and sorrow as a 13-year-old boy when he came home one day to find his dad dead (suicide), lying next to his dying mother. She ended up surviving the shot to the chest but remained paralyzed for the rest of her life. The bullet came at the hand of her husband.

Jim saved his mom that fateful day and had been caring for her up until the day she died, which was the spring of 2010. Now it's easier to understand why Jim was all alone that day at Stuesser Lake, still grieving the loss of his mother through the dulling effect of medication and alcohol. When Jim died he remembered an intense, bright light that he was walking in. In that light, his beloved mother appeared and shared with him that he was to go back as his time was not yet. Jim was at peace and found himself alive and well 10 days later waking up in ICU.

I find it amazing that the first of many of Jim's rescuers that day was Sam, who at age 12 lost his beloved mother. Jim and Sam's story are similar as they both hold lots of pain. God used Sam to reach Jim first, something that touched Sam's heart. Sam began to piece together that God was actually using *him* and his past hardships to arrange for such a time as this. In a tentative manner, Sam started to consider that God really was watching and involved in his life...all things seem to be working together for the glory of God!

That weekend of July 12th, all 10 of us met with a local family in the U.P. to worship with them on the Sabbath. The man leading the worship service was excited about what God had laid upon his heart to teach. He had no idea of what had happened earlier that week at Stuesser Lake. At his request, we all opened our Bibles to Proverbs 24:10-11 which says, *"If you falter in times of trouble, how small is your strength. Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter."*

We all sat amazed at the text God put upon the man's heart to share with us. The Lord affirmed all of us that He was the one who arranged our meeting with Jim and enabled us to be the hands and feet of Christ- helping a man in trouble and in the jaws of death.

Jesus said, *"I am the Resurrection and the Life.* We say amen and amen!

"In all things God works for the good of those who love him and who have been called according to his purpose." It's true! God loves a basket-case! Let's just make sure we give Him all the pieces...the good, the bad, the ugly. He will then make us into "new creations" for His glory!

Your Story...(SFM USA)

Free From Homosexuality

- For almost 10 years, **I was enslaved to thoughts of lust and homosexuality.** Through the work of the Holy Spirit and the power of Jesus Christ and confession/repentance, **I found freedom, hope, healing and forgiveness!** -Anonymous, August 2010



Surrendering the Pain of Divorce

- Divorce is a difficult thing to go through, and when I was not the one who wanted the divorce but my ex-husband did, it was hard to deal with. **All of the questions- what's wrong with me?** What do I lack? What does she have that I don't? The ladies that worked with me were great encouragers and helped me to feel comfortable in sharing things that I needed to have healing from, which God was awesome and He did for me! -M.M, July 2010



SFM Worldwide

50 New Believers in India!

SFM Gospel Crusades are making a huge impact in India. SFM India volunteers have been busy at work in the local jails baptizing others (inmates) in the name of Jesus Christ and teaching them to obey God's Word. 50 new Believers have been added, including one convert from Hinduism.

Another crusade is being organized for next month. The crusade will take place from October 3- October 28, 2010. Please cover these warriors in prayer.

Son of Witchdoctor Repents and Chooses Life!

Last month, SFM East Africa held a conference in Kenya, Africa. Attending this conference was a young man who came from a long line of witchdoctors; **a man who already in his youth had killed many innocent people as sacrifices for the sake of magical power.** Inevitably, this man came to the conference feeling absolutely trapped and suffocating in the darkness around him.

God did an absolute miracle in him that day! He pulled him from the darkness and called him into light. The young man openly confessed sin, wept and asked for forgiveness. He repented of murder, witchcraft and any other holds the enemy had on him. **The young man declared Jesus Christ as King**, and right away went home to tell his friends about

the freedom of choosing life. The very next day, **14 of his friends came to the church and received Jesus as Lord.** The entire village is amazed at the transformation that has taken place. According to reports given to our SFM/EA Director, there is revival in the land!

Steven on Wheels!



We met Steven last year when he attended one of the SFM conferences. Steven is a student at Bethel Bible College, located in Soroti, Uganda. With aspirations of becoming a pastor, Steven knows all too well that sometimes this life on Earth has its challenges.

For many years, Steven has not been able to walk. Polio has taken the life out of both of his lower legs, forcing him to walk on the balls of his knees to get to and fro. When we met him, he had with him an old wooden bike that was beyond proper functioning ability; he had succumbed to using his knees to walk. The team ordered a new bike designed specifically for him, tailored to his need of using his arms to pedal.

Steven received the bike last month. He is so happy and thankful; his life has been dramatically changed and he is giving all glory and thanks to God the Father who is the one who watches and cares for all.



A Special Request for Prayer: SFM/EA Staff Member Dies Unexpectedly.



This past month, Blessed Mugisha, a respected pastor and SFM/East Africa staff member of 3 years died unexpectedly at the age of 55. He is believed to have suffered from TB and Malaria. After many blood transfusions and other efforts of healing, the Lord has taken Pastor Mugisha home. He has left behind his widowed wife and 7 children. Please pray for the family of Pastor Mugisha as well as SFM/EA staff as they suffer the loss of a friend and coworker. Please pray also for the 221 orphans who were under Mugisha's care at Free Orphanage Academic Christian School.

*Pictured is Blessed Mugisha (center) at a SFM conference. Alongside him are men who were victims of land mines in Northern Uganda who attended the conference.

SFM On TV!

October 15, 2010 at 6:00 pm. TV station WTLJ-TV 54!

SFM is going to air on TV next month, featuring Executive Director, Dean Vander Mey. In summary, Dean will share about "bringing hope to a lost and dying world."

Our Lord God brings faith and hope! Please tune-in to your local WTLJ station.

***WTLJ will be channel 54 for many in the local area.**

PRAYER BOARD

Praises

- SFM East Africa has met with local leaders from three different villages around Kasensero, Uganda. They have established committees who will be doing assessments on the villages to make sure that the orphans, widows, poor, and those living with AIDS are being properly cared for. Praise God!
- 24 Freedom Appointments took place last month in SFM/EA as well as 29 here in the U.S.A. We are keeping very busy here at the ministry!
- Another successful Discipleship Training took place this month. Four were added to the SFM volunteer team and seven are taking the materials to their hometowns! Thank You Father!

Prayer Requests

- Please pray for the new volunteers. The adversary likes to dismantle those who choose to take an active role in helping others find Truth!
 - SFM Missionary, Dalene DeGraaf, has landed safely in Uganda. Please pray for her continued safety and boldness for Jesus Christ.
 - Please pray for Blessed Mugisha's family and friends as indicated in the special request above.
 - Please pray for SFM India as they prepare to launch another Gospel Crusade next month. May the ears and eyes of those attending be opened to hear and see the truth of God's Word!
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For more information, check us out at
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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