Ministering to Christians Seeking Spiritual Freedom and Deliverance



Newsletter—Vol. V, No. 6 June 4, 2011

Dear Life of Freedom Ministries Supporter:

Greetings!

Here in Indiana, the temperatures are finally increasing. My family is grateful for the warmer weather, and the children are itching to play in the sprinkler. "Fun in the sun" is what Anthony calls it! I pray that this summer is blessed for all of you.

Announcements:

This month, I need to make a clarification. In a little pamphlet I made called "A Ministry Overview," which was created to explain *Life of Freedom Ministries*, I failed to edit two portions properly. In one section it appears that I have been directing the ministry for ten years, which is not the case. From 2001 through May 2007, Rich and Anita Yoder created and directed the ministry, then known as *A Pastor's Friend*. In 2007, I was blessed to receive directorship of the ministry. Second, there is a reference to me being a counselor. I am not a counselor, as this is a prayer ministry. The best description for what I do is a prayer minister. New edited copies of the "Ministry Overview" will be available soon if you desire to have a copy.

Praises:

The four session series at Roselawn Conservative Mennonite Church went well. It was an enjoyable time of sharing about spiritual warfare and freedom in Christ Jesus.

May was a challenging month, but it had its joys of seeing God continue to minister to people:

- 1) One person, bound by fear, was able to walk in victory and believe in the freedom in Christ.
- 2) Another person joyfully shared about a transformed life in Christ and does not want to go back to the old life.
- 3) A number of people have been freed from being easily angered.

Praise God that He is still in the business of healing!

On May 30th, Angela and I celebrated twelve years of marriage. She is a huge blessing to me!

Something to Consider:

Mark 2:1-5, 11-12—¹ A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. ² They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. ³ Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴ Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

... "I "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." ¹² He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

In my work as director of *Life of Freedom Ministries*, I need to make clear that ministry is not about me, or any special abilities I have. I'm not a counselor or a licensed pastor. This ministry is a prayer ministry, helping people to the Lord Jesus for healing. I do not do the healing and don't have any gifts of healing, as He does the healing!

Just as the man in Mark 2 needed some help to get to Jesus, sometimes people who are burdened by emotional and spiritual burdens, and even by evil spirits need help to Jesus too. The men knew how to dig through the roof to get to Jesus. I've been blessed with training and experience to help burdened people in praying and addressing hurt and pain. It is in no way due to an ability to pray better or be more connected to God, or that God listens to me more than others. In fact, it has more to do with a person being honest than anything I say or do.

Sometimes it can seem difficult to know how important I am to the work of bringing healing and freedom. God does the healing and drives out the demons, but often it is necessary for a person to be there with a person. When the Israelites were conquering the Promised Land, God made it very clear that He was driving out the people there (Deuteronomy 9:3). Nonetheless, God told them that they had to set foot on the ground they were claiming (Joshua 1:3). They had to take an active part, even though it was God's power at work. In the same way, as a prayer minister I need to be ready to lend a hand to a person in need and help them to pray and deal with the burdens. The Israelites didn't have to have a great army or be super warriors. They had to be faithful. Fortunately, I believe that is what God asks of me!

I'm honored that God has called me to help others in this ministry. I hope to honor Him and bring Him glory through this ministry. He has always been faithful, and I know I can trust Him to work in powerful ways to bring people freedom and healing. May He forever be praised!

Prayer Concerns:

Events:

Life of Freedom Bible Studies—The next Bible study will be on Monday, June 13 at 6:30pm. All are invited to attend. Isaiah 53 will be the main text of our study in June.

At times I sense a need for prayer for people debating on coming for ministry, and this is one of those times. Please pray for God to give them the courage to call for ministry.

Final Thoughts:

The story of the friends helping the paralyzed man get to Jesus has always been one of my favorites. It reflects *Life of Freedom Ministries* very much. Not everyone who needed to be touched by Jesus was on a mat or needed a number of people to get to Him. It is the same today. Sometimes, it is just an encouraging or comforting word to give the person courage. If you are one who is debating, I encourage you to reach out to Jesus. If you know of people who are considering getting help, I encourage you to gently encourage them to call for help. As the man in Mark 2 could walk away carrying his mat, hurting people today can be healed by Jesus and get up and walk in victory!

In Christ,

Ben Snyder

Ben Smyder

Click on the link below to return to the Life of Freedom Ministries home page:

www.lifeoffreedom.org