

RANSOMED HEART

LOVE GOD. LIVE FREE.

June 2013

Dear Friends,

One of my favorite Psalms is 145, particularly this passage:

Your saints will extol you.
They will tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your might,
so that all men may know of your mighty acts
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. (10-12)

I love the Kingdom of God; I love telling folks about the glory of the Kingdom.

Most of you know we held a Wild at Heart Boot Camp in South Africa last month. It was one of the hardest, most glorious things we've *ever* done. Part of the staggering beauty we beheld – made even more clear by the deep contrast of the darkness – were the stories from men reached by this ministry over the years, whom we had never met.

One man told us he came to Wild at Heart in Colorado in 2007 and there he came to Christ (!); he went home and led his father to Jesus, then his son (whom he had been estranged from.) He then went on to run an orphanage for refugee children. “I wasn’t fathered,” he said, tears in his eyes, “and I wasn’t a good father; now I have more than sixty sons and daughters.” This is the beauty of true redemption; this is the glory of the Kingdom.

And this is what is happening through Ransomed Heart...all over the world. I am honestly speechless, and tears begin to fill my eyes too as I try to somehow help you see it.

After the “wound” session in South Africa, Jon and Alex on our team were praying for a young black man who was weeping. He was born out of wedlock and never knew his father or mother. Years later he went to find them...and was rejected by both. The session lanced this terrible wound, and as he wept he showed Alex and Jon his journal; it simply said, “I am a mistake.” They helped this beautiful young man break the agreement and open his heart to God’s healing love. There in the midst of a country torn by racism and hatred a young black man weeping in the arms of two older white men. This is the beauty of the Kingdom.

Shortly after I became a Christian, in my early twenties, I remember kneeling in my living room one day praying, “Lord, I want to be part of something huge for you.” I had no idea what God had in mind, just how far and how deep this glorious redemption would flow. There were 19 countries represented at this retreat alone. Three Kenyan Catholic priests came to learn to carry the message there; three Egyptian men came all the way from Cairo to ask permission to publish our message in Arabic. Oh friends...this is just a glimpse.

I felt it only right that I should try and tell you something of the “glorious splendor” of the Kingdom extending through Ransomed Heart because I am writing this month to ask your help.

Would you pray for us?

Would you help support this beautiful mission?

One of the greatest joys Stasi and I have – honestly, one of the funnest things we get to do – is to give to this ministry. We *loooove* supporting Ransomed Heart because we know firsthand just where those funds are going, just how far this message is reaching, the beauty and depth of the healing and transformation that is taking place.

For those of you newer to our work, we are a small non-profit with a staff of thirteen. We have no debt, and very little overhead. Honestly, we are a bit like a popsicle stand on top of a volcano – a tiny little outfit having an explosive impact for the Kingdom. By the grace of God.

Those of you who have been with us awhile know that I rarely tout the praises of Ransomed Heart, and even more rarely ask for support. We decided years ago to remain small, stay focused on ministry, and do our best to generate a good portion of our income through our events and resources. That way we don’t have to shout, scream and plead at folks to support us every month. It’s been a good decision.

But, we do need your prayers. This is a wild and dangerous undertaking, a supernatural work that can only take place as we are filled with the supernatural graces of God. Thus, prayer.

We also need your financial support and we are *so* grateful for those of you who have been so generous with us. Thank you!!!

My request this month is that you would add us to your prayer list, asking God’s favor and blessing, his shield and protection over us. That you would also add your support to this work as we carry the beauty of the Kingdom around the world and deep into the hearts of men and women. You can give online at www.ransomedheart.com, or use the return envelope we’ve provided.

I just received a copy of our Band of Brothers DVDs...with Mandarin Chinese subtitles. Friends are putting on Boot Camps in China now. Holy cow. Just when I think we’ve seen all we could see of the glory of this, God expands it into a new frontier (like Arabic!). Oh friends, his Kingdom *is* beautiful. Thank you so much for being a part of this!

I pray blessing and rest upon you as we enter the summer months. May there be – somewhere in this summer – a Sabbath break for you.

Love,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'John' written in a cursive, stylized script.

John