

RANSOMED MINISTRIES *Heart*

- March 2002 Newsletter -

“I came here resigned. I don't want to be in the Story. I don't play no more at all (Baggar Vance). At 4am Saturday morning I awoke crying - not able to believe God comes through. My captors are strong and savage. I told God, ‘I want out. I don't want a part in this Story.’ But as I prayed I saw a picture of a man - who I knew was Jesus - racing towards me. I did not understand it, dismissed it as my imagination. Then, today, when I sat here and watched the scene from *The Last of the Mohicans* - tears began streaming down my face. I suddenly knew!! In a moment I realized God was telling me ‘I will come through. I will find you.’”

Dear Friends, this amazing story comes from a woman who attended our Minneapolis Sacred Romance conference. She is living Isaiah 49:25 and 45:3...

Yes, captives will be taken from warriors,
and plunder retrieved from the fierce;

I will give you the treasures of darkness,
riches stored in secret places,
so that you may know that I am the Lord,
the God of Israel, who summons you by name.

That treasure is *our heart*...God restoring the riches of our heart, long lost to us and to the world. Hidden by darkness. The beauty of this astounds me. And in hope against hope, it's happening. Listen to these stories from three other women...

“One woman who I had counseled with for years – Kathy – fell into my arms as I left the conference. I had worked with her for many years, and God had done some great things in her, but she struggled with the concept of being the Beloved of God. To my delight she sobbed, ‘Julie, I finally get it!! I can be loved and cherished by Jesus.’ People came out of there ALIVE, more alive than they had ever been, more filled with joy than they knew was possible.”

“Wild at Heart was the parachute I needed. My relationship with my 19 year old son was in a death spiral. I now see my role as mother to nurture his wild heart. In his words, ‘our relationship has completely changed.’ My relationship with my husband has been one of restoration - restoration of truth, intimacy, and biblical roles. Our marriage was a toxic waste dump. He brought deceit and adultery. I contributed Hitler-like control (kill everything you don't understand) and self-protection. What a mess. But Jesus is here, which makes things dangerous and beautiful beyond my wildest imagination. Thanks for the ticket to adventure.”

“I left my husband after 17 years of marriage. It was abusive. He was a preacher (unthinkable). But, I lost my heart in the marriage. I shriveled and died. I was drawn into alcoholism, immorality, games of deceit and lies. The battle ensued. Me and God, back and forth. He led me to both of your books. I bought Wild at Heart *by mistake*. I loved Sacred Romance and wanted more. So much *light* flooded in. Now God is telling me, ‘Give this book to your husband to read.’ As of now, we are not back together. I have only asked him to spend a day with me so we can talk. I go seeking forgiveness, asking for a chance at restoration. Can I even begin to express here the *joy* that is bubbling up

within me? No, I cannot! But, I can only say from the bottom of my heart: *Thank you for sharing the marvelous romance of God, his mystery, wonder, and his desires for us.* You have blessed my life beyond words.”

Thank you, Jesus, thank you. And its not only women, but many, many men are coming alive in a huge way...

“I decided to drive down from Boston on Friday afternoon and sit in on ‘Unleashing Hearts.’ My wife watched our 5 kids, while dad sought some healing in Christ. Having grown up without the initiation and welcome of my dad, never having heard the concept of a wound, a message, or the vow (all of which you described from my life), I just sucked it all in and tried to be what the world told me to be. I found my life pinned between the lies of the evil one, and fearing letting the Lord have my heart, because I felt it wasn't a real man's heart. Your message that in Christ we have a good heart brought me to tears. I have now begun asking the Lord to take down the strongholds that have existed since my youth and allow me to open up to my loving Father.”

“I realized why Wild at Heart made such an impact on me – you helped me walk into manhood. I'm 47. My parents are missionaries in Africa. Yet my dad was very aloof. I felt like reading your book, I actually became a man. I no longer feel like a kid when talking to my parents. My dad failed to walk me into masculinity, into the un-suburban heart. You did. I just wanted to say thank you.”

“It is an utter miracle of God what has happened in my husband's life! God has set my husband's heart free from captivity. I've been waiting for this for 15 years. God has answered my prayers to take his heart of stone to a heart of flesh. The night before he left, light entered a very dark part of his heart that he thought he would keep secret from me forever. The retreat was all part of that plan and I am glorifying God continually!!! I have my husband back due to the Spirit's work through Wild at Heart. He's coming home telling me that he's going to battle for me. It was amazing!!! He heard from God! He said he's never heard God's voice.”

To see this happen in one person's life is a gift. To see it in hundreds feels like the Welsh revival. But to see this in thousands upon thousands...it feels like beholding the Exodus in person. And its not just here in the U.S. – Ransomed Heart allies are taking it to Slovakia, Thailand, Siberia, New Guinea – all over the world. Aslan is on the move.

This is the fruit of your love, your prayers, and your partnership with us. My friends, these people could not be saying this unless you had helped us ransom them.

Thank you.

Remember us.

John