

RANSOMED
HEART
ministries

June 2007

Dearest Friends and Allies,

I want to give you a vision.

But before I do, let me tell you two brief stories.

A few weeks ago, at Boot Camp, I met two men, brothers actually, who had traveled all the way from Slovakia to be with us. We've been in contact with them by email for several years now, ever since they proposed to release a translation of *The Sacred Romance* in Slovak. (Which they did.) These amazing young men are part of a Catholic community there, and they are using the message of the romance, and *Captivating*, *Wild at Heart*, and *Epic* to set people free in a country long ravaged by communism. So many men have lost heart; so many women have labored under heavy burdens. These men are fighting for the hearts of their people.

About a week later I received the most beautiful email from a friend living in Columbia, South America. She's an American missionary down there, but what she was writing to tell us about was a *Captivating* study she was invited to attend. Twenty or so women have been meeting together over the weeks and months to take the journey towards the healing of their hearts *as* women. A little fellowship of Columbian women, praying and working through the book (which is available in Spanish) and the workbook (which is not!). What my friend had written to say was that it worked. She saw how God had come for these women, had met them, had brought healing and more.

I am almost speechless. How beautiful is this? How many others places is this happening?

It is one of the greatest joys, hearing the stories of how others are taking this message out, all over the world, rescuing men and women. (Many of you have stories to tell, I know. I look forward to hearing them – either here or in the leisure we'll have in the Kingdom).

Now for the vision: You can do this, too.

Jesus said, "As the Father sent me, I am sending you" (John 20:21). Why did the Father send Jesus? To heal the brokenhearted, and set the captive free (Isaiah 61:1). To fight for the hearts of his people. To bring the gospel of the Kingdom. To restore men and women *as* men and women. Then, Jesus in turn gave this great mission and utter privilege to us. To me, and to you. How cool is that? There are very few experiences more profound, few times in your life when you will feel more alive than when partnering with God to heal a woman's broken heart, or to set a captive man free.

You can do this. We *need* you to do this.

You could host a small group in your home, like our friends in Columbia. Or teach a class, like these brothers do in Slovakia. I met a man who has given away more than 200 copies of *Wild at Heart*. He simply gives it to a man, prays for him, and asks him to get together after he's finished reading it to talk about it. Many folks are leading their own retreats now, based on our materials. Think of the possibilities.

We *want* you to run with this message. We give it to you, to give to others. That's why we create the resources that we do. As you know, our commitment at Ransomed Heart is to remain small. We have no desire to become a big ministry conglomerate with all sorts of overhead. O, but we want the message to go out. Far and wide. Our strategy is that you do it. Many of you already are, and we are cheering.

A few months ago we released our *How to do a Boot Camp Kit*. It's a "retreat in a box," a game plan for leading men through a Wild at Heart weekend. In it we give all our counsel, all the lessons we've learned on how to fight for the hearts of men through a weekend like our Boot Camps. How to pray, what film clips to use, all of it. Coming soon, as a sort of Part II, we are going to have the full Boot Camp sessions on DVD.

Now, this month, we have the *Captivating Heart to Heart* DVD series available! Ten sessions of Stasi and the women here at Ransomed Heart in a small group setting, sharing openly and intimately as they work their way through this message for women. It's beautifully filmed, it's incredibly vulnerable, and funny, and deep. Perfect for small groups, or women's Bible studies, or even retreats. And now *Captivating* is available in paperback, to make it even easier to use in studies or to give away.

We know of folks using *Epic* with their youth groups. Using our audio resources like *The Hope of Prayer* as the basis for a home Bible study. And their experiences have been profound. Now, I know, I know – you are going to hear all sorts of reasons not to venture in – "You're too busy. You're not qualified. Who would come? Maybe later." It's all a lie. So let me give you one simple step:

Ask God, "What would you have me do? How can I go after the hearts of others?"

There's a lot of hearts out there to be rescued.

And we need you to help.

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

John

P.S. One more way to go after the hearts of men - tell every man you know and every parent of a boy about *The Way of the Wild Heart*. Tell them it's the best book for men out there. Even better than *Wild at Heart*! They need it, but they don't know that until they begin to read it! Then they will thank you.