



# FREEDOM MINISTRIES

of the Quad Cities

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## Trusting & Following Jesus

Years ago, while listening to Moody Radio, I heard the story of a father and young son who were visiting the building site of their new, yet unfinished house. The boy excitedly went running upstairs exploring while the father decided to examine the basement. The stairs had not yet been built, so the father lowered himself into the hole and dropped to the floor. Meanwhile, the boy having finished his exploring, came looking and calling for his father. The father shouted up from the basement and the boy arrived at the hole in the floor. There was no electricity, so the basement was dark. The boy wanted to join his father, but there were no stairs. He couldn't see his father but could hear his voice. The father said, jump and I will catch you! The boy said, I can't see you dad. The father said, but I can see you! Trust me! I won't let you fall! So, the boy jumped into the loving strong arms of his father!

Jesus, in Luke 9:57-62, calls three different men to follow him. One says he will follow Jesus wherever he goes. Jesus lets him know that he will have to live by faith. What about you and me? Am I allowing any material comfort or even the supposed promise of health keep me from going or willing to go where Jesus sends? Is there anything keeping me from that commitment?

Another says he will follow, but he needs to go bury his father first. Jesus replies to let the

dead bury the dead. The truth is, if his father had already died, the man would have been occupied with the burial. But evidently he wanted to wait until after his father's death, which might have been years... He was more concerned about what was convenient for him. Have I made Jesus my first priority?

The third says he needs to go and say goodbye to his family. Jesus replies that no one who looks back is fit for service in God's kingdom. Am I distracted from following Jesus? Am I looking for an excuse not to follow. Do I want to keep my options open to do what I want to do?

Oswald Chambers said, *"Suppose God tells you to do something that is an enormous test of your common sense, totally going against it. What will you do? Will you hold back? If you get into the habit of doing something physically, you will do it every time you are tested until you break the habit through sheer determination. And the same is true spiritually. Again and again you will come right up to what Jesus wants, but every time you will turn back at the true point of testing, until you are determined to abandon yourself to God in total surrender. Jesus Christ demands the same unrestrained, adventurous spirit in those who have placed their trust in Him. If a person is ever going to do anything worthwhile, there will be times when he must risk everything by his leap in the dark. In the spiritual realm, Jesus Christ demands that you risk everything you hold on to or believe through common sense, and leap by faith into what He says."* This commitment does not mean that He will involve you in some far flung adventure. He might want you here at home or at

June 2017

### Mission

Freedom Ministries of the Quad Cities exists to help couples and individuals experience freedom in Christ through identifying and resolving spiritual and emotional conflicts thus strengthening, empowering and helping fulfill their relationship with Jesus Christ and others.

### Memorials

Thanks to all who gave memorials in honor of my mom,

### Maurine Beresford

Catherine Clarke, Thomas & Marie Dang, Ron & Gail George, Jim & Renee Hasty, David & Eva Hunt, Orlin & Karen Johnson, Warren & Debbie Lauritzson, Dave & Darlene Link, Joe & Kim Roach, Jenna Wolfert, Don & Sheila Yoeckel

work in your present situation. The point is that He is your Master, and you will follow Him. He has the best plan for your lives and knows best how your life can help others, here and around the world.

Jeanine and I are grateful for the far-flung adventures Jesus has taken us on as well as the ministry he has called us to right here at home. Each has taught us to trust Him, no matter what. But, wherever we are, weather we go overseas or stay, we must daily choose to follow Jesus.

### *Testimony*

I'm still praising, thanking God from my heart this morning. Still experiencing His sweet rest and calm. So thankful for God's gift of Grace and His assurance of never leaving us and seeking out the sick, the weary and the outcasts. The verse "Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest" continues to be more and more of a treasured promise and reality. So thankful! Thanks again for seeing me and being so patient...it feels like a few more pieces of the puzzle were put together that help me face the everyday bumps in life.

### *Praise and Prayer*

#### **Praise**

- ♦ For our prayer partners who are so faithful to lift this ministry up to the Lord in prayer.
- ♦ For God's faithfulness providing all we need.

#### **Prayer**

- ♦ For parents of teens who are struggling with depression.
- ♦ For parents with young children who are struggling to raise their children in God's way.
- ♦ For the couples and individuals who are scheduled this summer, that they will find healing and peace.

### *Birdies for Charity*

Thanks to all who sent in pledges for the Birdies campaign. We are so grateful to you for your gifts. July 10 is the cut off, so there is still time to send in your pledge!



**Thank you!**

### *CFFH Annual Conference*

**October 1—5, 2017**

**Heartland Alliance Church  
Sherwood Park, Alberta Canada**

Evening sessions are free  
And open to the public.  
Afternoon workshops for teaching and training will require registration and fee.

[www.caringfortheheart.com](http://www.caringfortheheart.com)  
Or call 719-572-5550



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