



# Courageous Hearts Ministries

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## Ministries Update

By Steve and Sherilyn Cook

Another winter and summer (and most of fall) has come and gone for the ministry. Thank you so much for all of you that partner with us.

During the spring semester, Sherilyn taught another Courageous Hearts Sunday school class. This time, the published book and DVDs were used for teaching the 10 session class. This was one of the best classes we've had and several people were able to recognize and deal with strongholds in their lives. As mentioned in the last newsletter, the book, "With All My Heart, I Will Love You" is available at Amazon and Barnes & Noble company websites (Amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com — search for ISBN #1450083102). Before the class, the DVDs were much improved because Steve was able to remove the 60-Hz hum from the audio tracks using sound filters. If you want to replace an older set that has the hum, please ask for a new set.

Here are some testimonials we've received after our class:

## Testimonials

*As a result of being in the Courageous Hearts class, hearing the DVD's, reading and working through Sherilyn's book, counseling with her, the power of prayer, and God's loving grace, I am on the road to healing my heart, loving God with all my heart, getting rid of the strongholds in my heart that have been blocking my ability to love as God has loved me, and healing my relationships with my husband and my kids. I have hope for the first time in many years...*

*...Identifying strongholds on your heart, forgiving those who've hurt you, and giving it all to the Lord so your heart*

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*can be wholly His, is an incredible process and so freeing! I literally feel like I have a new heart, light in my eyes and life in my soul once again! It doesn't matter what those who have hurt me in the past have done, or will do...*

*Hopeful and Smiling once again in CO*

- DH -

*I cried all through the first class and was deeply touched, God was there with me. During the ten classes, I was diagnosed that I have a severe heart problem; cared [for] and assured that Jesus is right here caring [for] me all the time; and given a miracle medicine to treat my heart: unconditional love. From the class I learned that the problem is not simply [that] a family member abused me, or a matter of blaming somebody else for my damage; it is all about my own heart... Should I follow my flesh pattern or should I follow Jesus...*

*...I am so thirsty to God's words, and His words become so real to me. I am in the journey caring my own heart and others, and decided will never turn back...*

*...I hope someday somehow, I can help God's people the way Courageous Hearts helps me.*

*...I would strongly recommend every Christian to look at their hearts some time in their life just as what Courageous Hearts brings up.*

- EL -

Through Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit, we are able to journey with people and help them. Courageous Hearts makes that possible. This year, Sherilyn was able to work with at least four people

who were suicidal. We praise God for His healing power in all their lives. The ministry is doing well financially and has been so blessed. We continue to be amazed how God meets ministry needs through all the support we receive.

Steve has only a few more weeks to earn his AAS degree in accounting. One of the classes he is taking is web site design, so he may be able to get the Courageous Hearts website published during this semester or shortly afterwards. The website has been one important piece we feel has been

missing to better spread the word about the ministry and what we teach and believe and to make ministry materials available through the website.

Sherilyn is keeping busy counseling and conducting her fall class at Timberline Church in Fort Collins, CO. Two prisons now have a book inside as she is working with two inmates. We also welcomed Allie (17) and her new baby into our home. She needed a home and a family so she could finish high school. We are looking forward to loving her and guiding her in her path to adulthood and in her spiritual walk.

## What's Next?

We're ready to submit the final edited version of our book, "With All My Heart, I Will Love You" to a new publishing house to significantly lower the book's price.

Our new 3-hour "Truth or Lies" class seemed to be very helpful this year as a prelude to the Courageous Hearts class. Sherilyn plans to work on the material and shape it into a one hour class.

We would still like to develop a 3-4 session seminar series. Some friends of ours have offered their cabin in the mountains for a retreat. We hope to find a few couples to join us at the cabin this sum-

mer to work on their marriages and their relationship with God.

Sending out material and asking people to look at it was not a successful venture. Our best results come from people who attend the classes and who have been personally helped. These people then reach out to others and share the material along with their personal testimony.

Each time someone's life is truly transformed and healed we are so excited and feel God is richly blessing all of us. To God be the glory for all he does!

## Ministry Musings

By Sherilyn Cook

First, we want to take the opportunity to wish all of you a great holiday season and a very special 2012.

I love this time of the year. As I look back over the year, I praise God for all the things He has accomplished through us and for us and how He has blessed us in our personal lives – especially for how He has physically healed me after the two surgeries. It is nearing the end of another year that can never be replaced or be done over. Now we can fix our gaze on 2012 with great anticipation. We hope you will continue to be PIGs (Partners in Glory) with us and share in the excitement and awe of what God can and will do in 2012.

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This past year I have discovered how even the "simplest" of scriptures can take on such deeper meaning in light of my new walk in Christ.

I John 4:19 says "We love because He first loved us." As I read this earlier this year, I was just blown away. I read it over and over about ten times. I was simply gripped with a new revelation. It does not say, "I read a lot of books and so can love," or "I was created with the ability to love and can therefore love," or "My parents loved me so now I can love by example," etc. Get the idea? We are able to love because Christ first loved us. Period. He was born in Bethlehem (He came). He lived among us (He showed us how to live and love). He died (He paid the personal price and forgave us). He rose and gave us the Holy Spirit (He now lives in us). He did all of this for us because He loves us. And now we can love others "in Him" and "through Him." We (only) love because He first loved us! It is all about

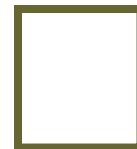
Christ – it all circles back to Him for His glory. Yet, we are His Glory, so let's love others in 2012 through Him so the world will KNOW we serve the God of love.

#### Prayer requests:

- ▶ That people will take the time to look at CH Ministries materials and see their lives change as they surrender all of their hearts to Christ.
- ▶ A job for one of our board members, R. W., who has been out of work for three years.
- ▶ For continually improving health for Sherilyn following her surgeries.
- ▶ Pray God will continue to talk to us, lead, direct and teach us.



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