



Courageous Hearts Ministries

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Ministries Update

By Steve and Sherilyn Cook

Greetings everyone! Grace and peace to you throughout this holiday season.

Sherilyn is continuing to teach the Courageous Hearts Sunday school class at Timberline Church in



Fort Collins. She has incorporated a short one-lesson prelude to the regular class called "Truth or Lies," that emphasizes how we must carefully distinguish between the truth we know from God through scripture and the lies we are bombarded with in this world. Most sins we find ourselves enmeshed can be traced back to believing and acting on a lie instead of truth.

Also this year, Steve was able to design, implement and publish our website. It is hosted on our internet site, "CourageousHeartsMinistries.org". The website describes the ministry's purpose and philosophy and the first section of the book and the first class video are available on the website without charge. Access to the rest of the book as well as the other nine videos is also available, accessible upon receiving a username and password from CHMinistries. In addition

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tion to online content, hardcopy books and DVDs are also available directly from the website. Finally, online contributions to CHMinistries can be made. All transactions are done through our the ministry's non-profit PayPal account. The new website has filled an important missing piece for the ministry to spread information about what we teach and believe.

We found a different publisher, CreateSpace, for Sherilyn's book, "With All My Heart, I Will Love You." Each book costs about half of what our former publisher charged and can be purchased on the Courageous Hearts website for a lower price than any other source. Part of the sales price goes directly to the ministry. Hardcopy books as well as electronic versions (eBooks) are also available at Amazon (Amazon.com) and Barnes & Noble bookstores (BarnesandNoble.com).

Other News

After a wonderful motorcycle trip to Alaska during the summer, Steve began a software contract job at Agilent that will last through February. The extra income takes some of the financial pressure off us in the current financial climate.

Sherilyn is keeping busy counseling and conducting her fall class at Timberline Church. She also has a growing ministry to a group of high school kids from Mountain View High School next door to

where we live. Twenty to 50 kids come by each school day from 11 to 11:30 for lunch, hugs, and fellowship. Many of these kids were falling through the cracks and find love and support at our house. In addition to coming to our home for a few minutes each day, a few have come to Easter and other church services with us. One of them, Zac, 18, is now living with us while finishing his senior year. While not a Christian, he is attending church, memorizing scripture and watching the CH Ministry DVD's. Allie, the 17-year old mother previously living with us, moved back to Anchorage, Alaska in June after 11 months. We are truly blessed by these

high school kids. God just seems to keep sending these special teens to us and we just keep loving them and helping them with their needs. Sherilyn led one to the Lord three weeks ago and he was so excited when we gave him his first Bible!



Ministry Musings

By Sherilyn Cook

It's not the big things in life we acquire or accomplish that matter, but the little things done with love that truly count.

The year ends with wonderful memories of teaching and mentoring (our new word for "counseling") individuals and couples, and especially loving a special group of high school teenagers. Interacting with teens five days a week is a lot of work, but, Oh, so rewarding! It has been so awesome, letting Jesus love them though Steve and me.

Every one of the 56 teens that comes to our home has a story—broken homes, probations, drugs, health issues, homelessness, some contemplating suicide. Two brothers lost a mom this year.



A few days before Christmas, I pulled the car over when I found myself crying for them. I hurt for their hurts and disappointments. I cried for their losses this year of one mother and friends. The love I felt for them was overflowing and leaking out through my eyes. Then it was as though I heard God say, "This is only a teeny tiny glimpse of how much I love all of you." Wow! To be loved so deeply, it is hard to fathom.

We have all received so much love from the Father. The teens come to our home not only hungry for lunch, but hungry for love. They share many secrets with me and I love them so much it overwhelms me at times.

The world around us needs more Christian love in 2013.

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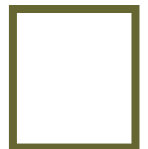
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Prayer requests:

- ▶ That people will read, watch and take to heart CH Ministry's materials and website and have their lives be changed as learn to love God with all their hearts.
- ▶ A job for one of our board members, R. W., who has not had regular work for four years.
- ▶ For continually improving health for Sherilyn following her surgeries.
- ▶ Pray God will continue to meet the ministry's needs. That He will continue to talk to us, lead, direct and teach us.
- ▶ That many more high school teenagers would accept the Lord as their personal Savior.



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