

RANSOMED HEART

LOVE GOD. LIVE FREE.

November 2015

Dear Friends,

I'm smiling and shaking my head this morning.

I've been thinking about way Jesus works in the world. It's just so...wild and unpredictable.

Really now—think about it. The Son of God comes to the earth in order to give his life as a ransom for mankind. He overthrows the kingdom of darkness. He begins a revolution, which everything depends on—the spreading of his message, the rescue of human lives, the healing and restoration so desperately needed, the setting of captives free. This is the single most important movement in the history of the universe.

Would you do it like he did?

Twelve guys? I mean—seriously. Think about it. There is no action of more importance or more staggering ramifications than this one. This is God's plan to redeem mankind and restore creation. Doesn't it strike you as...well...a little irresponsible? I mean, you've seen the church; you know what your average Christian is like. We're a mess. And God chooses to entrust the movement into our hands?

But then I think back to other stories of how He chooses to work. Herod, as you recall, is about to send the Gestapo to kill every boy in Bethlehem. God's very Son and his plan for salvation are in immanent danger. How does he move? He sends an angel in the night to whisk Joseph and his precious family south, through the desert, to Egypt. To hide there. He could have just killed Herod, you know. He could have sent his angel armies to surround Bethlehem. He chose a very unpredictable path.

The children of Israel have begun their great Exodus; the Promised Land calls. But they find themselves confronted by battle with the Amalekites. So long as Moses held up his arms, the battle swung in favor of Israel; as soon as his tired arms began to drop, the Amalekites gained the supremacy. *Really?* The future of the nation of Israel—his chosen people—is based on a guy holding up his arms???

As C.S. Lewis said, "He seems to do nothing of Himself which He can possibly delegate to His creatures. He commands us to do slowly and blunderingly what He could do perfectly and in the twinkling of an eye. Creation seems to be delegation through and through."

Wild. It's just wild and unpredictable and yet so beautiful.

Years ago Ransomed Heart chose a few guiding principles; one of those was to remain small, and give the message away. We simply did not want to become a massive organization, with franchises

all around the world. We chose instead to remain a small fellowship, and allow everyone who wanted to carry the message forward to do so as God led. Counterintuitive, especially in a day when everything says, “Grow! Get big! Success is numbers!”

But it is working. Oh my, is it working.

We just got a lovely note from a group of women who are doing Captivating retreats in Ireland. That followed the note from the women launching it in Switzerland, the same week we spoke to the team doing retreats in South Africa and Colombia.

Faithful brothers have been carrying on Wild at Heart boot camps in England, Switzerland, Germany, Australia, Colombia and in every nook and cranny of the U.S.. One dear brother has held more than a hundred groups in jails in Wisconsin. We hear *thousands* of these stories. Thousands. As an ally recently wrote to us, after witnessing the impact first-hand, “I am not sure I realized the magnitude of what Jesus was doing through Ransomed Heart - although how could I miss this?”

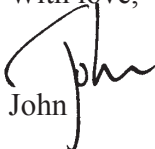
I have read each book, been to Captivating, Captivating taught me to hear God, that HE loves me more than I can think or imagine and to parent better, Wild at Heart made me a better wife and mother to our three sons, we have seen our marriage transformed through the daily prayer and strengthened through Love and War, we have led small groups in our home, I have grown leaps and bounds in prayer by being an intercessor, we have gifted cases of books (to our children, friends, family, employees, etc...), we fell in love MORE with Jesus through Beautiful Outlaw. When someone asks what it is we have that is so attractive and different from most people, we say, “Jesus.” We used to invite these people to church and watched so many come and then go. Now we gift them Wild at Heart and Captivating. The books have been much more effective in wetting their appetite for Jesus.

I just wanted to say that your investment here is reaping massive dividends!

Twice a year I reach out and ask if you would help support this beautiful, life-changing, world-changing mission, and to give a glimpse of how wild God is working through Ransomed Heart, bringing about deep and profound healing of human lives, and carrying that mission out widely across nations and kingdoms. This is a *really* good place to invest in the Kingdom!

I want to ask all of you to ask Jesus about supporting us with a gift this month. And thank you, all of you, who give to us so generously. Thank you! And thank you, all of you, who are carrying this message forward. You know firsthand how beautiful it is.

With love,


John

PS You'll see in this month's insert a very powerful conference we are hosting in March. This is a one-time only event—sure hope you can join us!