

April 2011

Ministering Hope, Healing and Wholeness to the Relationally & Sexually Wounded Through the Power of the Cross

“A New Season of Ministry”



Dear Friends,

Greetings and Happy Easter! I am grateful to God for new seasons and His promise to always be there for us no matter what season we are in. I know some of you are going through difficult times in your personal life and with your loved ones. You wonder if things will ever change for the better.

In this ministry we are often asked, “Can people really change?” Jesus answers this question: “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” Being born again entails a heart change that is reflected in our behavior and relationships. We *are* to change – to be like Christ.

However, Jesus knows we can’t change by ourselves. He says, “With man it is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” I always feel relief when I read this verse. Every day, God is ready to change our hearts and our behaviors if we will let him.

For me, my destructive behavior patterns change when I “cast my cares” on to Jesus and trust him to provide. Covetousness, greed, lust, the need to control, worry, anger, loneliness, depression, and fear lose their grip on me when I trust that God will provide everything I need - including Himself. God continually reminds me that I do not have to grasp for what God wants to place in my hands.

May we persevere in faith, knowing that we serve a God who gives us new seasons of change to obey his commands and to watch Him work his wonders.

Kristin Tremba
Director Exchange Ministries

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possible.”*

Our Parents Group

The Lord has blessed Exchange Ministries with a wonderful group of parents that meet the first Monday of the month at 7:00 pm at First Baptist Church of Orlando. For many years Cherrie Rowe has faithfully facilitated this group. Cherrie recounts how the group has impacted her life:

“Who would have thought that through homosexuality, of all things, God would grace us with so many precious friends? Our group has wept together, prayed together, and God graciously knit our hearts together in love and compassion.”

In March, Cherrie passed the leadership baton to Connie Belford. Connie is an Exchange Board Member and a former employee of Exodus International. As a parent who has a son who is gay-identified, she can relate to the parents who come to the ministry for help. She shares:

“I believe God is trying to get the attention of His Body to meet the deep need of the world by pulling us where we feel it the most; closest to our hearts, through our sons and our daughters. We are committed to pray with each other, hold each other up in close confidence, and stand in the light together. No matter where you are in your journey, YOU ARE NOT ALONE. We welcome you to join us.”

For more information about our Parents Group, please call us at 407-514-4356.

NEW INTERCESSORY PRAYER TEAM

Exchange Ministries is starting an intercessory prayer team. Prayer is the greatest gift we can give another person and ourselves. Please consider joining us the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, starting in May. We will meet at First Baptist Church of Orlando in Faith Hall Cafeteria at 5:00 pm for dinner and prayer time to follow from 6:00—7:00 pm. If you are interested in being a part of this team, please contact Hattie Sanders at 407-332-6627.

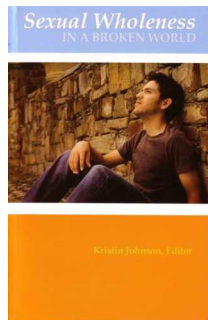
This group is open to anyone who wants to pray in addition to prayer team members.

NEW WEBSITE

Please visit our new website at www.exchangeministries.org.

GIFT FOR GIVERS

We extend our deep gratitude to those who give faithfully to this ministry. We would like to thank our current givers and new givers with a complimentary copy of *Sexual Wholeness in a Broken World* written by five ministry leaders who have worked with individuals and family members struggling with the affects of homosexuality. We will include a copy of this book along with your May/June donation receipt. Thank You!



GARAGE SALE / FREEDOM CONFERENCE

The Parents Group is hosting a **HUGE GARAGE SALE** to help raise funds for those who wish to attend the Exodus Freedom Conference. The garage sale is **Friday, April 29th** (7am-3pm) and **Saturday, April 30th** (7am-4pm). Please help out by donating to the sale and attending. If you would like to receive financial assistance to attend the freedom conference in June, please contact Connie Belford at 407-461-0204 or email her at ellavadermuzak@gmail.com.

NEW EXCHANGE MENTOR MINISTRY

In the fall of 2011, Exchange Ministries will be starting its first mentoring program for men and women struggling with unwanted same-sex attraction and for couples who are in crisis.

This spring/summer we are actively recruiting and interviewing Christians who are willing to commit to a ten-week training (September– October) and a 10-month mentoring commitment (November– August) with an individual or couple.

We are looking for men who have never struggled with same-sex attraction (and who are emotionally healthy and secure in their masculinity) to come alongside a man who struggles with same-sex attraction. The same criteria applies for women mentoring women. For couples in crisis, we are looking for couples who have experienced a similar crisis in their own marriage.

For more information, contact Kristin Tremba at 407-514-4356 or kristin.tremba@exchangeministries.org