

September 2013

*Offering Hope and Help to Individuals and Families Affected by Homosexuality*

## IN HIS CARE

As Director of Exchange and as a mother of a three-year old, I daily ask God to help me put the most important thing first: relationships. I have to nurture my relationship with God, my family, and those God sends to me in my neighborhood and church. It's not easy, but life, work, and church would be a misery without seeking and attaining this intimacy with God and others.



Judson Edwards wrote: "Only when we die to self can we fully love one another."

Too often, our ministries and personal lives suffer when we don't put relationships first and care for one another. We who are called by God to be shepherds can be more concerned about ourselves than the flock entrusted to us. Phillip Keller, in his classic book: *A Shepherd Looks at the Good Shepherd* writes:

"There are ministers, teachers, scholars, writers, and leaders who pose as champions of Christianity. But when the enemy comes in they are shown their true colors. They back away rather than risk a confrontation. They settle for withdrawal rather than beard the lion or bear or assail the wolf. They run and flee in the face of violent attack. Others remain silent while their people are deceived, harried, and driven to despair. Only the Good Shepherd cares enough for His own to lay down His life for them" (p. 244)

May we as parents, sisters and brothers, caretakers, neighbors, pastors and leaders have the courage and compassion to nurture those God has entrusted to us - in our homes, churches and ministries. In doing so, we will experience joy and "life to the full" as God promised us (John 10:10).

## EXODUS INTERNATIONAL SHUTS DOWN

For almost 30 years, Exchange Ministries has been affiliated with Exodus International. In 2012 Exchange removed its

affiliation with Exodus due to its increasingly compromised views regarding a Biblical understanding of homosexuality, and God's ability to change lives.

Exchange Ministries, and all other Exodus-affiliated ministries around the nation and world (Exodus Global Alliance), has always maintained its own Board of Directors and raised its own support apart from Exodus International.

Exchange Ministries continues to follow a Biblical witness by encouraging godly sexuality, helping people to understand why they struggle with same-sex attraction, and believing that change is possible through Christ.

We are grateful to the Lord for his protection and provision. He has been and continues to be faithful, as we remain faithful to him. We value those of you who come to Exchange for help and hope, and those of you who pray for and support the ministry.

## EXCHANGE ALIVE AND WELL, UNITING WITH OTHER MINISTRIES

Over the past year and half, former Exodus-affiliated ministries have come together to encourage one another. A ministry which has been serving for many years in South Carolina, Truth Ministry, is creating a national outreach called the Hope for Wholeness Network.



It has been exciting to connect with leaders via this newly forming group. A national conference October 31-November 2 in Greenville, SC will include renown speaker Joe Dallas, and the Christian actor, Stephen Baldwin. We encourage you to consider coming. Please see registration information at our website: [exchangeministries.org](http://exchangeministries.org). Click on "What's Next?"

## REACHING CHURCHES AND THOSE IN NEED

The majority of those who support Exchange Ministries are Christian individuals. Only a few churches in the Orlando area support Exchange. Though we appreciate financial support, we desire to reach people who are in need, first and foremost.

The vision of our ministry is to bring the hope of Christ's healing power to lives in the Orlando area (and anywhere there is need). We are living in an age where more and more Christian families and Christian young people are struggling with homosexuality, whether they face unwanted same-sex attraction or confusion over the ever-increasing advocacy in our nation to embrace homosexual behavior and identity.



Exodus International used to be the main organization parents, spouses, and individuals went to for help. No more. They no longer refer people to ministries and resources for those who want to turn away from homosexuality.

It is up to us. Are you willing to let your church know about Exchange Ministries? Whether you live in Orlando, the surrounding FL area, or in another state, we are here to provide help for those in crisis and for pastors and youth leaders.

How can you help? It is as simple as letting your pastor(s) know about our website. You can also request our brochure and we would be happy to send you enough to display at your church. You can talk with your mission pastor and ask if they would be willing to financially support Exchange as a mission outreach.

## IT'S NOT EASY

I said this was "simple" but I know it is not easy. I realize that by letting your pastor know about Exchange you are exposing your families' issue or your own personal struggle. This is very difficult. However, as one who

has done it herself, I have discovered it is much more rewarding to live a courageous Christian life than to hide in shame or to play it safe, maintaining my comfort and safeguarding my pride.

I would encourage you to be open about what God is doing in your life so that you may help other people and honor the Lord who went to the cross for you. As we help you, I pray that you would prayerfully consider supporting Exchange by donating to our ministry.

Each check, no matter how small, is a gift to God and is never taken for granted. To ensure the financial integrity of our ministry we employ outside accountants and tax consultants to help us keep our books in order and our non-profit status ensured. We have no outstanding debt, and God has provided, through you, what we need each month to keep our doors open. We are grateful to Him and to those of you who give. Thank you!

## MINISTRY UPDATE AND UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday Night Meetings** continue for individuals, parents, spouses, and students (18 yrs – 23 yrs)

(6:45 pm– 9:00 pm First Orlando Counseling Center)

**October - November ACTS classes** (Wednesday nights at First Baptist Orlando)

**October 31- November 2 - Hope for Wholeness Conference**

[To register for ACTS classes and the HFW conference, go to our website and click on "What's Next?" To find out exact dates we meet on Mondays, go to "Support Groups"]

## CONTACT INFORMATION AND HOW TO GIVE

**Director:** Kristin J. Tremba

**Mailing Address:** Exchange Ministries, 3000 S. John Young Parkway, Orlando, FL 32805

**Ways to Give:** By mail (see above address), by website (Paypal)

**Website:** [exchangeministries.org](http://exchangeministries.org)

**Phone:** (office) 407-514-4356 (work cell) 407-637-1203 and (email) [kristintremba@gmail.com](mailto:kristintremba@gmail.com)

