



# STRAIGHT TALK

ministries



JUNE 2016 VOL. 13, ISSUE 2

## Heart Change Life Change

### The “OTHER” Decisions

Most people I know love summer. People like the summer for the warm weather, longer days and the opportunity to unplug and slow down a bit. I love summer too, but possibly for slightly different reasons. I do love the warm weather and those longer days but for me summer is usually the busiest and most fruitful time of the year. It is not unusual to see a significant number of kids at camps respond to Jesus for the first time. I never get tired of being a part of kids meeting Jesus. Often I run into these students months or even years later and they share that they accepted Jesus at a camp I was speaking at.



Although first time decisions are the easiest to track, summer camp is often a significant point of heart and life change for campers who already know Jesus. I will never forget going to Living Springs Bible Camp for the first time in the summer of 1995. That summer I met Jeff, a 16 year old who had just finished grade 10. I could tell he was a leader. He had convinced two of his High School friends to come to camp with him. During the week both of his friends accepted Jesus. I remember having some great one-on-one spiritual conversations with him. He later told me that summer had been a bit of a wake up call for him to get serious about his faith.

Two summers later I went back to Living Springs Bible Camp. Jeff was a new grad and I had the privilege of baptizing him. Over the years we have

### A Funny Thing Happened

*...on the Way to Creating a Podcast*

After a very discouraging fall I began getting some coaching from my good Friend Becky Matchullis (very gifted life coach~ [www.expatsfamilyresiliencecoach.com](http://www.expatsfamilyresiliencecoach.com) ) to help me discern what this next season of ministry should be for me. I realized that **one thing I really want to do is to reach young, busy women**, who aren't taking the time to grow in their relationship with God. I decided the best way to reach them was with a podcast. I spoke to a few experienced people, and learned the nuts and bolts of creating a podcast. I also got some discouraging feedback. It's very difficult to reach people unless you have a HUGE platform. Even as I began to question whether I had correctly heard God I remembered what one of my speaker sisters said, "If God is in it, it will happen".



Within 48 hours, I saw a Facebook post from a friend who has a radio show in the greater Toronto area announcing she was starting a podcast on a new digital channel FAITH STRONG TODAY. I contacted her and said, "I've been thinking of starting a podcast too! Do you know if they're looking for more

**Please join the Straight Talk prayer force. You can register to receive email updates by going to... [www.randycarter.org/prayer](http://www.randycarter.org/prayer).**

**To receive updates via text message, text "@stmprayer" to 587-333-2775 and follow the instructions that will be texted to you.**

stayed in touch. Jeff is a passionate Jesus follower and the director of Living Springs Bible Camp. I have told him that he has the most unusual leadership style I have ever seen but his influence on staff and campers is also one of the greatest I have seen in a leader. The ripple of Jeff's influence for the kingdom is staggering.

Years later, Donna was speaking at a women's retreat. A lady at the retreat thanked her for the influence I had on her husband's life. Her husband was one of Jeff's friends who had accepted Jesus that first summer at Living Springs. She was thankful for a husband who was living a godly life and establishing a godly family.

This year I have the privilege of speaking at 5 summer camps. Would you pray with me that God will once again radically change the hearts and lives of students? I am keenly aware that I am not the source of any heart or life change that takes place. Only God can do that. I am thankful, however, that he allows me to partner with Him and camp organizations to see campers meet Jesus and grow in their faith. Thank you for partnering with God, camps and us through your prayer and financial support. Have a great summer, I am pretty sure I will!

## Did you know?

**Donna's book *Kick the Boring Out of Your Life* has been nominated for awards in two categories: Christian Living and Inspirational/devotional.**

**The winners will be announced at The Word Awards gala in Toronto on June 24th. Should Donna win, a representative from FAITH STRONG TODAY will accept on her behalf.**



content?" She put me in touch with Matt Caine, vice president and general *manager* of *White-oaks* Communications. We set up a phone call and Matt shared their vision: to reach a new generation who may never listen to the radio or watch TV. I shared my vision for a podcast offering young women a chance to grow while they commute, work out or vacuum. I presented my idea of beginning each program by conversing with my very creative and articulate daughter, Kevann, about a topic women struggle with, followed by a Bible teaching segment and ending with a question to encourage application. He loved it and invited us to produce a sample program. Out of that came the offer of a weekly radio show on Joy 1250 in the GTA which then goes onto [www.faithstrongtoday.com](http://www.faithstrongtoday.com) as a podcast to be accessed anytime.

Our first weekly show aired in early May. Kevann and I have had so much fun doing this together, and hearing how God is using it has really affirmed that this was God's leading for us. I lifted this quote out of an email from Matt Caine this week.



*"... your program was WONDERFUL today. Best yet and I learned a lot about Gideon myself. Thank you. I really think your program has been a GREAT addition to our Faith Strong Today lineup, along with JOY radio too! In our new digital platform, the launch of "Grow on The Go" provided one of our highest traffic days at [faithstrongtoday.com](http://faithstrongtoday.com). In only a few short weeks we know you and Kevann have been deeply connecting with our listeners, just as I had hoped! We're so happy to hear from them and read comments on Facebook, like the one recently by a mom who told us she set aside time to listen to your program with her own daughter. Beautiful."*

Thanks so much for your prayers. God is leading and we are doing our best to follow. He provided the vision and the platform. He is using us as a team to reach women who would never take the time to go to a conference or retreat. This new foray into the digital/broadcasting world is helping women **Grow on the Go.**

Spending of Funds is confined to board approved programs and projects. Each restricted contribution towards a board approved program or project will be used as designated, with the understanding that when the need for such a program has been met, or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the board, the remaining restricted contributions designated for such programs or projects will be used where needed most. Straight Talk Ministries finances are annually reviewed by an internal audit committee. Financial statement is available upon request. Tax Receipts are issued annually for gifts over \$10.00. Charitable Registration #0996611-49



I want to make a difference by investing in Straight Talk:

- With a gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- By Praying. Join our weekly prayer team. Email: [admin@straighttalkministries.com](mailto:admin@straighttalkministries.com)

I want to support Straight Talk monthly:

- \$250  \$100  \$75
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I have included post-dated cheques to Straight Talk Ministries

**Giving on line.**

You can give on line with Visa or Mastercard through Canada helps.

Go to Canada Helps at <https://www.canadahelps.org/CharityProfilePage.aspx?CharityID=d74727> and you can make your donation there today.

If your contact information has changed please let us know:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Donations can be mailed to:  
Straight Talk Ministries  
38 River Rock Crescent SE  
Calgary, Alberta T2C 4J4

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**heart change**

**life change**